

# Texas Workforce Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Unemployed Texans Will be Paid Benefits for Past Weeks**

AUSTIN – The deadline for jobless Texans to qualify for emergency unemployment benefits has been extended to the week ending November 27, 2010. Congress passed HR 4213, the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2010, on Thursday setting this new filing deadline which allows long-term claimants to continue receiving unemployment benefits. President Barack Obama signed the bill shortly after it was passed.

Approximately 150,000 unemployment claimants in Texas had exhausted all available benefits due to the previous deadline. Congress extended the deadlines to qualify for all extended benefit programs; however, it did not add additional weeks for claimants who previously had exhausted all benefits. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has been advising claimants to continue requesting payment, so they now can receive payment for weeks since the last expiration date.

Claimants who are eligible for the federally funded extensions will receive statements from TWC with their new benefit amounts. TWC expects to begin sending payments to claimants in seven to 10 days. Claimants should continue to request unemployment benefit payments on their scheduled day. You do not need to contact TWC about the extension unless we send you a letter asking for information. When you exhaust your current benefits, TWC will send you a letter if you are eligible for additional benefits.

Claimants can find updated information on their claims at <http://ui.texasworkforce.org>, or by calling UI Tele-Serv at 1-800-558-8321 and pressing option 2. TWC is working quickly to issue payments to customers who continued to submit payment requests.

Emergency unemployment benefits are entirely federally funded, so Texas employers will not be charged for any claims paid on this extension.

TWC and the 28 local workforce development boards remain committed to providing work search assistance, training and other services to unemployed Texans. Thousands of job postings are available on WorkInTexas.com, TWC's online, job-matching Web site.

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*The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).*