## STATE OF ARIZONA EXECUTIVE ORDER

## **Executive Order 2021-12**

## Resuming Work Search Requirements for Unemployment Recipients

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-303 and 36-787, a declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency was issued to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the United States Department of Labor issued guidance allowing states increased flexibilities in administering unemployment insurance programs to provide vital economic assistance to Americans affected by the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, following state and national declarations of emergency, many businesses greatly reduced their hours and operations in an effort to protect public health and slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, based on the federal guidance, on March 20, 2020, Executive Order 2020-11, Ensuring Individuals Whose Employment Is Affected by COVID-19 Have Access to Unemployment Insurance, was issued to ensure that people were not denied unemployment when there were not jobs to apply for and to limit the risk of exposure to COVID-19 by waiving the requirement that unemployment insurance recipients actively search for work; and

WHEREAS, Arizona businesses have been resilient and companies large and small across Arizona are open and hiring; and

WHEREAS, all Arizonans aged 16 and above are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine; and

WHEREAS, sufficient supply of the COVID-19 vaccine is available such that anyone who wants to be vaccinated has the ability to receive a vaccine; and

WHEREAS, with the availability of employment opportunities and COVID-19 vaccines readily available, the need to suspend work search and other requirements addressed by Executive Order 2020-11 no longer exist; and

WHEREAS, the work search requirements for unemployment insurance are a long standing part of both federal and state law; and

WHEREAS, individuals may continue to receive unemployment insurance payments while actively searching for work.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State, including but not limited to A.R.S. §§ 26-303 and 36-787, hereby order as follows:

Executive Order 2020-11, Ensuring Individuals Whose Employment Is Affected by COVID-19 Have Access to Unemployment Insurance is rescinded.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

**GOVERNOR** 

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this third day of May in the year Two Thousand and Twenty One and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fifth.

ATTEST:

Secretary of State