

South Dakota Department of Labor  
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[www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org)

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## **Labor Department prepared for extended unemployment benefits**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – The South Dakota Department of Labor (DOL) is prepared to assist unemployment claimants in receiving 14 additional weeks of benefits. Last Friday, President Obama signed the legislation passed by Congress to extend unemployment benefits for jobless Americans.

DOL's Unemployment Insurance (UI) Division will directly notify all claimants who have exhausted their claims. Those claimants will need to contact the UI Call Center at 605.626.3179 to reinstate their claims.

Applicants still claiming benefits will be notified by the UI Division when those benefits are exhausted. They can then contact the Call Center for the extension. There will be no waiting week.

Eligibility to start new extended unemployment compensation claims will end Dec. 26, 2009. Workers who exhaust their regular claims after that date will not be eligible unless Congress acts to extend the program.

If claimants have questions, they should call the UI Benefits Section at 605.626.2452. Information is also available at [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org)