



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

News Release

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DES Employment Service Program Poised to Match Employers to Employees as Arizona's Economy Improves

PHOENIX – Arizona's unemployment rate fell once again to 8.6 percent this week. While that's great news for our state and its economic recovery, there is improvement to be made and DES can help to ensure Arizona's employers thrive and citizens are gainfully employed.

The Department of Economic Security is renewing its commitment to help unemployed Arizonans by reaching out to employers around the state to offer its free Employment Service Program. The majority of the workers are between the ages of 22 and 54 and a large percentage of them have some sort of a college degree or professional certification.

"DES stands ready to collaborate with the Arizona Commerce Authority to create jobs for Arizonans," said Director Clarence Carter. "In coordination with that plan, we want Arizona businesses and citizens looking for work to know that we are ready and willing to assist. This collaboration will help to further the Person-Centric vision of moving the consumer beyond our system. In Arizona, economic development includes all Arizonans and DES is in an excellent position to join forces to promote the Arizona Comeback."

As part of its Employment Service Program, DES works closely with the Arizona Commerce Authority to help new businesses coming into Arizona recruit and retain workers. During a recent collaboration with Silicon Valley Bank, DES was able to help the company place a number of qualified workers.

"Each step of the way, everyone I have encountered or interacted with has been professional, accommodating, and ready to help in any way they can," said Monique Hollingsworth, a senior SVB recruiter. "The Business Service Team from the Department of Economic Security was there to assist us in coordinating candidates. Their presence helped to make the candidate experience positive."

The Employment Service Program serves more than 80,000 individuals each year. Some are underemployed, many are unemployed and all have the same goal: gainful employment. DES also works with the [Local Workforce Investment Areas](#) (LWIAs) to identify those looking for jobs with skill gaps to get them the training they need to meet the needs of employers.

The Department has found that most people seeking employment desire to get back to work as quickly as possible. These workers tend to be highly-educated and skilled. For various reasons, many have not been able to find new positions that fit with the skill-set they can offer an employer. DES can help.

The DES full-service Employment Service program includes:

- Posting free job listings on the [Arizona Job Connection](#) employment board, which is accessed by more than 200,000 people annually

- Cross-matching employer needs with current registered clients
- Screening cross-matched clients to identify the best-matched pool of candidates for employers to interview
- Providing interview space in select locations throughout the state
- Assisting employers with job fairs and recruitment efforts

The Department is ready to help employers throughout the state find qualified workers. Employers can contact the Employment Service Business Outreach staff at (602) 771-0889.

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