

**EMPLOYMENT APPEALS BOARD DECISION**  
**2026-EAB-0288**

*Modified*  
*Initial Claim Effective November 30, 2025*

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:** On January 20, 2026, the Oregon Employment Department (the Department) served notice of an administrative decision denying claimant's request to backdate her initial claim for unemployment insurance benefits to be effective November 23, 2025 (decision # L0015451005). Claimant filed a timely request for hearing. On March 11, 2026, ALJ Contreras conducted a hearing, and on March 16, 2026 issued Order No. 26-UI-323778, affirming decision # L0015451005. On March 24, 2026, claimant filed an application for review with the Employment Appeals Board (EAB).

**WRITTEN ARGUMENT:** EAB considered claimant's written argument in reaching this decision.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:** (1) During the week of November 23, 2025, claimant considered filing an initial claim for unemployment insurance benefits. Claimant did not attempt to file an initial claim that week because she mistakenly believed she was required to wait until the week was over before filing the claim.

(2) On December 5, 2025, claimant attempted to file an initial claim online but was unable to do so until she established a Frances Online account. Claimant contacted the Department that day and requested that a code be mailed to her, which was a necessary step in establishing the account. The Department documented that contact, and on December 8, 2025, mailed claimant the code.

(3) On December 15, 2025, claimant received the code in the mail. On December 20, 2025, claimant successfully established a Frances Online account and filed an initial claim for benefits. The Department determined that the claim was monetarily valid with an effective date of December 14, 2025.

(4) On December 24, 2025, claimant requested that the effective date of the initial claim be backdated to November 23, 2025. The Department denied the backdating request.

**CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS:** Claimant is entitled to backdate the effective date of her initial claim to November 30, 2025.

OAR 471-030-0040 (January 11, 2018) provides:

(1) As used in these rules, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) “Claimant” is an individual who has filed an initial, additional, or reopened claim for unemployment insurance purposes within a benefit year or other eligibility period;

(b) An “initial claim” is a new claim that is a certification by a claimant completed as required by OAR 471-030-0025 to establish a benefit year or other eligibility period;

(c) “Additional claim” is a claim certification by a claimant completed as required by OAR 471-030-0025 that restarts a claim during an existing benefit year or other eligibility period and certifies to the end of a period of employment;

(d) “Reopened claim” is a certification by a claimant completed as required by OAR 471-030-0025 that restarts a claim during an existing benefit year or other eligibility period and certifies that there was no employment in any week since last reporting on this claim;

(e) “Backdating” occurs when an authorized representative of the Employment Department corrects, adjusts, resets or otherwise changes the effective date of an initial, additional or reopened claim to reflect filing in a prior week. Backdating may occur based upon evidence of the individual's documented contact on the prior date with the Employment Department or with any other state Workforce agency, or as otherwise provided in this rule.

\* \* \*

(3) An initial, additional, or reopened claim must be filed prior to or during the first week or series of weeks for which benefits, waiting week credit, or noncompensable credit is claimed and prior to or during the first week of any subsequent series thereafter. An initial claim is effective the Sunday of the calendar week in which it is filed. An authorized representative of the Employment Department will backdate an additional or reopened claim to the calendar week immediately preceding the week in which the request to backdate was made when a claimant requests backdating of the additional or reopened claim.

\* \* \*

Claimant filed her initial claim for benefits on December 20, 2025, and under OAR 471-030-0040(3), the effective date of the claim is therefore December 14, 2025. While that provision provides entitlement to backdate the effective date of an *additional or reopened* claim by one week, the entitlement does not apply to an *initial* claim. However, backdating an initial claim is permitted under OAR 471-030-

0040(1)(e) based upon evidence of claimant’s documented contact with the Department on an earlier date.

The order under review concluded that claimant was not entitled to backdate the effective date of her initial claim to November 23, 2025 because she had no documented contact with the Department that week. Order No. 26-UI-323778 at 3. While the record supports that conclusion, it also shows that claimant did have documented contact with the Department on December 5, 2025 while attempting to file the initial claim. Therefore, under OAR 471-030-0040(1)(e), claimant is entitled to backdate the effective date of the initial claim to Sunday of that week, November 30, 2025.

The Department’s representative at hearing testified that, to account for delays in filing attributable to the account setup process or system downtime, the Department’s practice was to “potentially” backdate the effective date of an initial claim by one week, to the date a Frances Online account creation code was requested, if the claim was ultimately filed within seven days of the code request. Audio Record at 16:23. The representative also suggested that backdating of more than one week was possible if the code was never received, causing the claim to be filed more than one benefit week after the code was requested. Audio Record at 18:11. Claimant’s situation did not precisely fit either scenario, in that she ultimately received the code two benefit weeks after it was requested and filed her claim the same week she received the code. However, the intended effect of the policy outlined in the Department representative’s testimony should apply with equal force to claimant’s situation, and the policy outlined in the testimony does not preclude the backdating authorized by OAR 471-030-0040(1)(e). Accordingly, the effective date of claimant’s initial claim is backdated to November 30, 2025 (week 49-25).

**DECISION:** Order No. 26-UI-323778 is set aside, as outlined above.

S. Serres and A. Steger-Bentz;  
D. Hettle, not participating.

**DATE of Service:** May 7, 2026

**NOTE:** You may appeal this decision by filing a Petition for Judicial Review with the Oregon Court of Appeals **within 30 days of the date of service stated above**. See ORS 657.282. For forms and information, visit <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/appellate/forms/Pages/appeal.aspx> and choose the appropriate form under “File a Petition for Judicial Review.” You may also contact the Court of Appeals by telephone at (503) 986-5555, by fax at (503) 986-5560, or by mail at 1163 State Street, Salem, Oregon 97301.

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# Understanding Your Employment Appeals Board Decision

## English

Attention – This decision affects your unemployment benefits. If you do not understand this decision, contact the Employment Appeals Board immediately. If you do not agree with this decision, you may file a Petition for Judicial Review with the Oregon Court of Appeals following the instructions written at the end of the decision.

## Simplified Chinese

注意 – 本判決會影響您的失業救濟金。如果您不明白本判決，請立即聯繫就業上訴委員會。如果您不同意此判決，您可以按照該判決結尾所寫的說明，向俄勒岡州上訴法院提出司法複審申請。

## Traditional Chinese

注意 – 本判決會影響您的失業救濟金。如果您不明白本判決，請立即聯繫就業上訴委員會。如果您不同意此判決，您可以按照該判決結尾所寫的說明，向俄勒岡州上訴法院提出司法複審申請。

## Tagalog

Paalala – Nakakaapekto ang desisyong ito sa iyong mga benepisyo sa pagkawala ng trabaho. Kung hindi mo naiintindihan ang desisyong ito, makipag-ugnayan kaagad sa Lupon ng mga Apela sa Trabaho (Employment Appeals Board). Kung hindi ka sumasang-ayon sa desisyong ito, maaari kang maghain ng isang Petisyon sa Pagsusuri ng Hukuman (Petition for Judicial Review) sa Hukuman sa Paghahabol (Court of Appeals) ng Oregon na sinusunod ang mga tagubilin na nakasulat sa dulo ng desisyon.

## Vietnamese

Chú ý - Quyết định này ảnh hưởng đến trợ cấp thất nghiệp của quý vị. Nếu quý vị không hiểu quyết định này, hãy liên lạc với Ban Kháng Cáo Việc Làm ngay lập tức. Nếu quý vị không đồng ý với quyết định này, quý vị có thể nộp Đơn Xin Tái Xét Tư Pháp với Tòa Kháng Cáo Oregon theo các hướng dẫn được viết ra ở cuối quyết định này.

## Spanish

Atención – Esta decisión afecta sus beneficios de desempleo. Si no entiende esta decisión, comuníquese inmediatamente con la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo. Si no está de acuerdo con esta decisión, puede presentar una Aplicación de Revisión Judicial ante el Tribunal de Apelaciones de Oregon siguiendo las instrucciones escritas al final de la decisión.

## Russian

Внимание – Данное решение влияет на ваше пособие по безработице. Если решение Вам непонятно – немедленно обратитесь в Апелляционный Комитет по Трудоустройству. Если Вы не согласны с принятым решением, вы можете подать Ходатайство о Пересмотре Судебного Решения в Апелляционный Суд штата Орегон, следуя инструкциям, описанным в конце решения.

**Khmer**

ចំណុចសំខាន់ – សេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះមានផលប៉ះពាល់ដល់អត្ថប្រយោជន៍គ្មានការងារធ្វើរបស់លោកអ្នក។ ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នកមិនយល់អំពីសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះ សូមទាក់ទងគណៈកម្មការឧទ្ធរណ៍ការងារភ្លាមៗ។ ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នកមិនយល់ស្របចំពោះសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះទេ លោកអ្នកអាចដាក់ពាក្យប្តឹងសុំឲ្យមានការពិនិត្យរឿងក្តីឡើងវិញជាមួយតុលាការឧទ្ធរណ៍រដ្ឋ Oregon ដោយអនុវត្តតាមសេចក្តីណែនាំដែលសរសេរនៅខាងចុងបញ្ចប់នៃសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះ។

**Laotian**

ເອົາໃຈໃສ່ – ຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້ມີຜົນກະທົບຕໍ່ກັບເງິນຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອການຫວ່າງງານຂອງທ່ານ. ຖ້າທ່ານບໍ່ເຂົ້າໃຈຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້, ກະລຸນາຕິດຕໍ່ຫາຄະນະກຳມະການອຸທອນການຈ້າງງານໃນທັນທີ. ຖ້າທ່ານບໍ່ເຫັນດີນຳຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້, ທ່ານສາມາດຍື່ນຄໍາຮ້ອງຂໍການທົບທວນຄໍາຕັດສິນນຳສານອຸທອນລັດ Oregon ໄດ້ໂດຍປະຕິບັດຕາມຄໍາແນະນຳທີ່ບອກໄວ້ຢູ່ຕອນທ້າຍຂອງຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້.

**Arabic**

هذا القرار قد يؤثر على منحة البطالة الخاصة بك، إذا لم تفهم هذا القرار، إتصل بمجلس منازعات العمل فوراً، و إذا كنت لا توافق على هذا القرار، يمكنك رفع شكوى للمراجعة القانونية محكمة الاستئناف بأوريغون و ذلك بإتباع الإرشادات المدرجة أسفل القرار .

**Farsi**

توجه - این حکم بر مزایای بیکاری شما تاثیر می گذارد. اگر با این تصمیم موافق نیستید، بلافاصله با هیأت فرجام خواهی استخدام تماس بگیرید. اگر از این حکم رضایت ندارید، می‌توانید با استفاده از دستور العمل موجود در پایان آن، از دادگاه تجدید نظر اورگان درخواست تجدید نظر کنید.

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