

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

EMERGENCY ORDER 21-015

WHEREAS, the Governor issued Executive Order 20-52 on March 9, 2020, pursuant to the authority vested in him by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution, the State Emergency Management Act, section 252.31, Florida Statutes, *et al.*, as amended, and all other applicable laws, and declared a state of emergency for the State of Florida as a result of the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the Governor, in Executive Order Number 20-52, authorized each State agency to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute of that agency, if strict compliance with that statute would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Economic Opportunity executed Emergency Orders 20-011, 20-014, 20-016, 20-019, 20-020, 20-024, 20-026, 20-028, 20-034, 20-040, 20-055, 20-060, and 21-005, each of which suspended for various durations certain provisions of regulatory statutes related to the online work registration requirement of section 443.091(1)(b), Florida Statutes; the “actively seeking work” requirement of section 443.091(1)(d), Florida Statutes; the licensure requirement for Appeals Referees in section 443.151(4)(a)2., Florida Statutes; the purchasing requirements of section 287.057, Florida Statutes; and the “waiting week” requirement of section 443.091(1)(f), Florida Statutes; all of which may prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions to assist Florida’s Reemployment Assistance Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DANE EAGLE, Director of the Department of Economic Opportunity, pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order No. 20-52, as extended, find the timely execution of the mitigation, response, and recovery aspects of the State’s emergency management plan, as it relates to COVID-19, is negatively impacted by the application of certain regulatory statutes related to the Department of Economic Opportunity (“the Department”).

Therefore, I order the following:

1. The online work registration requirement in section 443.091(1)(b), Florida Statutes, is hereby suspended. This paragraph shall remain in effect through May 29, 2021, and the suspension is retroactive to April 24, 2021.

2. The “actively seeking work” requirement in section 443.091(1)(d), Florida Statutes, is hereby suspended. This paragraph shall remain in effect through May 29, 2021, and the suspension is retroactive to April 24, 2021.

3. The requirement for each Appeals Referee appointed by the Department to be an attorney in good standing with The Florida Bar or be successfully admitted to The Florida Bar within eight months of employment in section 443.151(4)(a)2., Florida Statutes, is hereby suspended. This paragraph shall remain in effect through June 27, 2021.

4. The requirements of section 287.057, Florida Statutes, applicable to the Department for purposes of making purchases necessary to address the increase in reemployment assistance claims, are hereby suspended. This paragraph shall remain in effect through June 27, 2021.

5. The “waiting week” requirement of section 443.091(1)(f), Florida Statutes, is hereby suspended. This paragraph shall remain in effect through June 26, 2021, and the suspension is retroactive to April 24, 2021.

6. This Order shall take effect on the date of filing.

7. Nothing herein shall be construed to effect or implicate any other requirements under federal law.

Executed this 26th day of April, 2021, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Dane Eagle, Director
Department of Economic Opportunity

Filed on this 26th day of April, 2021, with the designated Agency Clerk,
receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.



Agency Clerk