

2023 Kansas Statutes

44-704b. Same; disqualification conditions; suitable work defined. (a) *Cessation of extended benefits when paid under an interstate claim in a state where an extended benefit period is not in effect:*

(1) Except as provided in subsection (a)(2), an individual shall not be eligible for extended benefits for any week if:

(A) Extended benefits are payable for such week pursuant to an interstate claim filed in any state under the interstate benefit payment plan; and

(B) no extended benefit period is in effect for such week in the state where the claim for extended benefits was filed.

(2) Subsection (a)(1) shall not apply with respect to the first two weeks for which extended benefits are payable, determined without regard to this subsection, pursuant to an interstate claim filed under the interstate benefit payment plan to the individual from the extended benefit account established for the individual with respect to the benefit year.

(b) *Disqualification conditions.* (1) An individual shall be disqualified for payment of extended benefits for any week of unemployment in the individual's extended entitlement period and until the individual has been employed in each of four subsequent weeks, whether or not consecutive, and has had earnings of at least four times the weekly extended benefit amount if the secretary of labor finds that during such period:

(A) The individual failed to accept any offer of suitable work, as defined under subsection (b)(2), or failed to apply for any suitable work as defined in subsection (b)

(2) to which the individual was referred by the secretary of labor; or

(B) the individual failed to actively engage in seeking work as prescribed under subsection (b)(4).

(2) For purposes of this subsection (b), the term "suitable work" means, with respect to any individual, any work which is within such individual's capabilities, provided, however, that the gross average weekly remuneration payable for the work must exceed the sum of:

(A) The individual's weekly extended benefit amount, plus the amount, if any, of supplemental unemployment benefits, as defined in section 501(c)(17)(D) of the internal revenue code of 1954, payable to such individual for such week; and further,

(B) pays wages not less than the higher of:

(i) The minimum wage provided by section 6(a)(1) of the fair labor standards act of 1938, without regard to any exemption; or

(ii) the applicable state or local minimum wage;

(C) except that no individual shall be denied extended benefits for failure to accept an offer of or apply for any job which meets the definition of suitability as described above if:

(i) The position was not offered to such individual in writing by an employing unit or was not listed with the employment service; or

(ii) such failure could not result in a denial of benefits under the definition of suitable work for regular benefit claimants in subsection (c) of K.S.A. 44-706, and amendments thereto, to the extent that the criteria of suitability in that section are not inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection (b)(2); or

(iii) the individual furnishes satisfactory evidence to the secretary of labor that the individual's prospects for obtaining work in the individual's customary occupation within a reasonably short period are good. If such evidence is deemed satisfactory for this purpose, the determination of whether any work is suitable with respect to such individual shall be made in accordance with the definition of suitable work for regular benefit claimants in subsection (c) of K.S.A. 44-706, and amendments thereto, without regard to the definition specified by this subsection (b)(2).

(3) No work shall be determined suitable work for an individual which does not accord with the labor standard provisions required by section 3304(a)(5) of the internal revenue code of 1954. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this act, an otherwise eligible individual shall not be disqualified for refusing an offer of suitable employment, or failing to apply for suitable employment when notified by an

employment office, or for leaving such individual's most recent work accepted during approved training, if the acceptance of or applying for suitable employment or continuing such work would require the individual to terminate approved training and no work shall be deemed suitable and benefits shall not be denied under this act to any otherwise eligible individual for refusing to accept new work under any of the following conditions:

(A) If the position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, lockout or other labor dispute;

(B) if the remuneration, hours or other conditions of the work offered are substantially less favorable to the individual than those prevailing for similar work in the locality; or

(C) if as a condition of being employed, the individual would be required to join or to resign from or refrain from joining any labor organization.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (b)(1)(B), an individual shall be treated as actively engaged in seeking work during any week if:

(A) The individual has engaged in a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work during such week; and

(B) the individual furnishes tangible evidence that the individual has engaged in such effort during such week.

(5) The employment service shall refer any individual entitled to extended benefits under this act to any suitable work which meets the criteria prescribed in subsection (b)(2).

History: L. 1981, ch. 204, § 3; L. 1982, ch. 214, § 2; L. 1987, ch. 191, § 3; L. 1993, ch. 251, § 3; L. 2003, ch. 158, § 5; L. 2004, ch. 105, § 1; L. 2004, ch. 179, § 56; July 1.