



local labor market update for **TULSA AREA**



a publication from the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission and the Tulsa Skyline Workforce Center

Covering 2nd Quarter 2011

The **Tulsa Local Labor Market (LLM)**, located in northeastern Oklahoma, covers Creek, Osage, Pawnee and Tulsa counties.

During second quarter 2011, **Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC)** employees at the **Tulsa Skyline Workforce Center** served more than 4,000 customers with services including work registration, assessments, profiling, and job search workshops. The **Tulsa Skyline Workforce Center** has assisted 684 customers with job search workshops to help with interviewing and applications.

The **Center** also administers state merit exams for the Oklahoma Office of Personnel Management. Applicants for many state jobs must complete this testing to be considered for the position. This quarter, **Center** staff administered 136 of these tests.

SPOTLIGHT ON

WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT

The **Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)** program provides tax incentives to employers who hire from targeted groups that traditionally face significant barriers to employment. Depending on the certified target group to which a new hire belongs, an employer can receive a tax credit of \$2,400, \$4,800 or \$9,000 for each WOTC-eligible worker hired. Groups targeted by WOTC include recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Family (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food stamps, Supplement Security Income (SSI), long-term family assistance, and vocational rehabilitation as well as summer youth employees, designated community residents, ex-felons, disabled veterans, unemployed veterans and disconnected youth. Most workers who don't qualify for the maximum tax credit can receive a partial credit. There is no limit to the number of workers for whom an employer can claim the tax credit. For more information on the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, please call (405) 557-7128.

TULSA SKYLINE WORKFORCE CENTER

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OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION (OESC)

In 2010, OESC

- served **172,028 job seekers** through workforce centers
- assisted **65,199 customers** enter employment
- listed **106,497 job openings**
- processed **199,195 unemployment insurance (UI) claims**
- injected **just over \$1.0 billion** in UI benefits into Oklahoma's economy

EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT

June 2011	LLM	State
Labor force	344,970	1,730,411
Employment	322,289	1,637,924
Unemployment	22,681	92,487
Unemployment rate	6.6%	5.3%

Source: OESC Economic Research & Analysis

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

2Q 2011	LLM	State
Initial claims	15,241	64,836
Continued claims	161,219	648,931

Source: OESC Unemployment Insurance Division

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Tulsa Skyline Workforce Center

2Q 2011	Center	State
Registrations	2,780	40,396
Entered employment	5,406	65,071
Employer contacts	158	4,564
Job openings	1,713	16,755

Source: OESC Workforce Integrated Programs