



Subscribe

Memorial Day Sale - Unlimited Digital Access - Start Today for 50% Off

Advertisement

OHIO POLITICS

JobsOhio offers \$15K incentive for companies to lure out-of-state STEM workers

Updated: May. 23, 2025, 2:16 p.m. | Published: May. 23, 2025, 1:46 p.m.



A billboard in Seattle that's part of the Ohio Is for Leaders ad campaign from JobsOhio.



By [Mary Frances McGowan, cleveland.com](https://www.cleveland.com/author/mfmcgowan/)

GROVEPORT, Ohio – JobsOhio on Thursday rolled out a new workforce development initiative designed to attract fresh talent to the state by offering companies \$15,000 for every out-of-state worker they bring to Ohio.

The Jobs Ohio Relocation Incentive (JORI) program, which launches in July, targets companies operating within “priority industries,” such as those in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

Advertisement

The program comes as states across the country are competing for skilled workers, particularly in technology and advanced manufacturing sectors.

Kristi Clouse, JobsOhio senior managing director of talent, explained during JobsOhio's second-quarter public meeting that the demand for STEM jobs is expected to grow "at three times the rate of non-STEM jobs" over the next 10 years.

To keep up with the demands, Ohio will need 540,000 STEM and technically skilled workers through 2032.

"In short, JORI lets us reframe national interests into Ohio," Clouse said.

JobsOhio, the state's economic development nonprofit, is funded by a lease of state liquor profits that earlier this year was extended for 15 more years, through 2053. It uses that money to help attract and subsidize economic-development projects.

Under the incentive program announced Thursday, eligible companies can receive \$15,000 per qualifying hire, with incentives capped at \$225,000 per company or a maximum of 15 employees. Companies must successfully recruit and relocate employees from out of state to Ohio.

The program includes a total investment of \$50 million and is available to companies of all sizes, "whether it's a two-person biotech startup or a Fortune 100 manufacturer," according to Clouse. The incentives are paid after the out-of-state new hire is on payroll and has established residency in Ohio.

The goal of the program is to attract 3,000 new workers to Ohio. In addition to attracting STEM talent to the state, the incentive program also aims to discourage companies from poaching talent in-state by making out-of-state recruitment as cost-effective as local hiring. The program allows companies to use the funds however they see fit – from signing bonuses, relocation packages, or out-of-state recruiting campaigns, "so long as the result is a net new Ohioan in a priority occupation."

Clouse said that the full JobsOhio board approved the plans on Wednesday. Between now and the summer launch, JobsOhio plans to integrate the incentive program with its existing services like Find Your Ohio, and their talent acquisition programs to create "a seamless front door for employers."

"It stakes out a clear call to action for the engineers, data scientists, and advanced technicians everywhere that the fastest path to the future runs through Ohio," Clouse said.

"And JobsOhio is willing to help them get here, so they can have it all in the heart of it all."

Organizations such as the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and Ohio Business Roundtable lauded JobsOhio for the new initiative

“Across the state, businesses of all sizes in virtually every industry are facing real challenges in attracting and retaining workforce talent. With tens of thousands of jobs already in the pipeline over the next 3-5 years, the need for a qualified workforce has never been more urgent,” Ohio Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Steve Stivers said in a statement.

RECOMMENDED

New Girl Scouts STEM Center to help youth develop critical skills for in-demand careers (photos) May, 23, 2025, 8:22 a.m.

3 Reasons to see Lily Heidinger and Hooked Like Helen at Mahall's Friday, May 23 May, 20, 2025, 3:42 p.m.

Ohio Business Roundtable CEO Pat Tiberi said in a statement that the incentives will help businesses grow and innovate.

“Employers across the state are actively seeking top-tier talent in fields like engineering and science. This program will be a catalyst for helping Ohio companies attract that talent from outside of our state, rather than competing against each other,” he continued.

Note: Artificial intelligence aided in the writing of this story.

If you purchase a product or register for an account through a link on our site, we may receive compensation. By using this site, you consent to our [User Agreement](#) and agree that your clicks, interactions, and personal information may be collected, recorded, and/or stored by us and social media and other third-party partners in accordance with our [Privacy Policy](#).

Around the Web

Business Sneakers CEOs Actually Swear By

Shoes Much More Comfortable Than Traditional Dress Shoes. Italian Leather and Running Shoe Technology Providing First Class Comfort All Day Long.

Wolf & Shepherd | Sponsored

Shop Now

A Must-Have for Jaws Fans.

Jaws fans rejoice! This limited edition bottle is crafted with detailed artistry. Secure yours before it's gone.

MIGILIFE | Sponsored

Shop Now

Engraved Noah's Ark Water Globe

FREE SHIPPING over \$35

Personalization Mall | Sponsored

Shop >

This may be of interest to you!

xfinity.com | Sponsored



Want to know more? click here

Sponsored

Would you like to know more?

wsj.com | Sponsored

Neurologists: These Shoes Are the Best Thing You Can Do for Your Body After 60

Barefoot Shoes are the Ultimate Weight Loss Tool for 2025!

Barefoot Vitality | Sponsored

[Learn More](#)

God's people need you

Your monthly support can provide nourishing meals at a soup kitchen for God's people who are hungry and destitute.

IFCJ | The Fellowship | Sponsored

[Donate Now](#)

Jaylen II Terracotta Fabric Chaise Lounge

Shop Now - \$395

Living Spaces | Sponsored

[Buy now](#)

Neurologists Amazed: These Barefoot Shoes Help Seniors Lose Weight and Live a Life with Less Pain

Barefoot Shoes are the Ultimate Weight Loss Tool for 2025.

Barefoot Vitality | Sponsored

[Learn More](#)

Seniors Can Now Fly Business Class For the Price Of Economy

Americans, you'll want to check this out ASAP

Insider | Travel Deals | Sponsored

The Business Sneaker Loved by CEOs and NFL Stars

Premium full-grain leather and marathon running shoe technology providing first class comfort all day long. Loved and worn by NFL athletes and coaches. Shoes much more comfortable than traditional dress shoes.

Wolf & Shepherd | Sponsored

[Shop Now](#)

Limited Prefab Homes For Less (Find Now)

Prefab Homes | Search Ads | Sponsored

Costco Shoppers Say This Fat-Burning Patch Triggers Weight Loss "Unlike Any Other"

Shocking results without diets or lifestyle changes

Health Advice Today | Sponsored

Longtime meteorologist abruptly leaves News 5 Cleveland

cleveland.com

Dear Abby: I gave my son \$25K for new car but my grandkids showed no gratitude

cleveland.com



▼ About Us

[Advertise with us](#)

[About Cleveland.com](#)

[About Advance Ohio](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Career Opportunities](#)

[Delivery Opportunities](#)

[Audience FAQ](#)

[Accessibility Statement](#)

▼ Subscriptions

[cleveland.com](#)

[The Plain Dealer](#)

[Newsletters](#)

[Sun News](#)

▼ Already a Subscriber

[Make a Payment](#)

[Manage your Subscription](#)

[Place a Vacation Hold](#)

[Delivery Feedback](#)

▼ Cleveland.com Sections

[News](#)

[Sports](#)

[Entertainment](#)

[Politics](#)

[Opinion](#)

[Living](#)

[Betting](#)

[Rentals](#)

[Obituaries](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Deals in Your Area](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Autos](#)

[Real Estate](#)

▼ Mobile

[Mobile Apps](#)

▼ Your Regional News Pages

[Lakewood](#)

[Beachwood](#)

[Brunswick](#)

[Strongsville](#)

[Parma & Parma Heights](#)

[More Communities](#)

▼ More on Cleveland.com

[Sponsor Content](#)

[Sell your car](#)

[Post a job](#)

[Sitemap & search](#)

[Post a classified ad](#)

[Sell/rent your home](#)

[Videos](#)

[Archives](#)

▼ Follow Us

[Twitter](#)

[Pinterest](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[RSS](#)

| [Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [!\[\]\(9c4f697052545ae4fab36076e03db94f_img.jpg\) Ad Choices](#)

ADVANCELOCAL

Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#), (updated 8/1/2024) and acknowledgement of our [Privacy Policy](#), and [Your Privacy Choices and Rights](#) (updated 1/1/2025).

© 2025 Advance Local Media LLC. All rights reserved ([About Us](#)).

The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of Advance Local.

[Community Rules](#) apply to all content you upload or otherwise submit to this site.

YouTube's privacy policy is available [here](#) and **YouTube's terms of service** is available [here](#).

[!\[\]\(d3d0bc9cbc0b5499f7bfafd3278057f7_img.jpg\) Ad Choices](#)