



Overview of the Program

The Rural Jump-Start Zone program (based on Senate Bill 15-282) is a tax relief program for new businesses and new hires who locate into certain designated areas called Jump-Start zones. The program offers the following benefits:

- Relief from state income taxes for the new business
- Relief from the state sales & use tax for the new business
- Relief from county and municipal business personal property tax for the new business
- Relief from state income taxes for the employee

This program is jointly administered by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT), the Colorado Economic Development Commission (EDC), and the Colorado Department of Revenue.

The following counties are eligible to participate in the program: Mesa, Montrose, Las Animas, Logan. Logan county cannot offer program benefits until January 1, 2017.

Program Structure

This program is a joint effort between institutes of higher education, counties, municipalities, businesses and employees.

Institutes of Higher Education

The institutes of higher education (IHE's) are the two and four year public colleges in Colorado, as well as certain specialty schools. The IHE's play a key role in this program, as every business that applies to the program must apply through an IHE and be endorsed by that IHE. The IHE's have are associated with specific counties, so not every IHE can work in every zone.

Counties

In order to participate in this program, a county must be designated as economically distressed by the EDC. Having been so designated, the county must pass a resolution to offer tax relief. The list of counties and eligible IHE's is published on the web page.

Municipalities

In order to participate in this program, a municipality must first be located in a county that has passed a resolution to participate. Furthermore, the municipality must pass a resolution to participate as well. No municipality can be forced to participate in the program, and a municipality is not enrolled in the program simple because its county is.

Businesses

A business that wishes to participate in this program must be a new business that is locating into the Jump-Start zone. Furthermore, the business must apply to the IHE and be endorsed by the IHE.

Employees

Employees who wish to participate in the program must be working for a business that has been approved by the EDC. Employees must be making at least the county median wage, and must work for the new business for six months to receive benefits.

Learn more at www.choosecolorado.com