TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 37-15
	DATE June 3, 2016

TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: PORTIA WU /s/
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Availability of Assistance Building Profiling Models to Identify
Unemployment Insurance Claimants Most Likely to Exhaust Benefits

1. **Purpose.** To remind states of the availability of assistance in building and maintaining profiling models that identify claimants of unemployment insurance (UI) benefits that are most likely to exhaust their benefits.

2. **Background.** In 1993, Congress enacted Public Law 103-152 which amended the Social Security Act by requiring states to establish a system of profiling new UI claimants to identify those most likely to exhaust their UI benefits so they could be referred to reemployment services in a timely manner. More recently, the FY2015 appropriation provided funds for Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) targeting UI claimants identified as most likely to exhaust their UI benefits. To achieve this objective, most states have chosen to implement statistical models, since they offer both greater accuracy and greater procedural flexibility than do alternative approaches. To most effectively ensure that claimants that most need reemployment services are targeted, it is essential states have the capability to implement and use profiling models. To help state analysts sharpen model building skills, the Employment and Training Administration's Office of Unemployment Insurance (OUI) held seminars covering profiling techniques in May 2015 and April 2016. Training materials from the latest seminar along with additional resources as described in section 3 below, can be found in the following Dropbox.com directory:
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1xhkwpstecgcl7y/AAByhwPNfs3iirKcNYAhS7Wba?dl=0

3. **Additional Resources.** Various statistical packages can run logistical regressions used in profiling models including SAS, SPSS, and R which is a free software environment for statistical computing. The various free components of R include all of the functionality required for producing and analyzing state profiling models. The "Resources" folder in the Dropbox.com directory above includes additional information about SPSS and R resources and will soon also include a standard R script which can be used as a starting point for state analysts when building profiling models using R. Also in development is a video tutorial to walk users through setting up and working in R. The tutorial is expected to be available in late 2016.

   The resources section also includes information on the original Worker Profiling and Reemployment Services (WPRS) program, the current Reemployment Services and

Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) program, and other assorted related research. Additional information will continue to be added to this resource over time with the goal of providing a standalone guide to profiling model building that can be used by seminar attendees and non-attendees alike.

Lastly, a profiling focused topic area will be included in the discussion forums of the recently launched WorkforceGPS.org (ui.WorkforceGPS.org) web site under the Unemployment Insurance Community Group. This discussion forum will be aimed at engaging state analysts in directed discussions about modeling techniques and approaches, provide a forum for analysts to post questions and share ideas, and will be used to share additional information by the national office. Currently the forum may be found under the Worker Profiling and Reemployment Services topic area of the discussion forum here:
https://ui.workforcegps.org/Discussions

4. **Model Building Assistance.** Recognizing the complexity of profiling model building and that states continuously add staff that may have limited experience with profiling model building and maintenance, the OUI makes staff with appropriate expertise and experience available to states to provide model building assistance. Assistance is available on all aspects of profiling modeling including guidance on modeling issues, techniques and diagnostics, as well as complete model building assistance. To receive model building assistance, analysts should be prepared to provide data and allow for a minimum of two to three months for model turn-around from the date of data receipt. Models will be developed and returned to states on a first come first served basis.

5. **Action Requested.** State Administrators are requested to make this information available to appropriate staff.

6. **Inquiries.** To obtain assistance with profile model building and maintenance, please contact Kevin Stapleton at (202) 693-3009 or at stapleton.kevin@dol.gov, or Rob Pavosevich at (202) 693-2935 or at pavosevich.robert@dol.gov .