

<b>TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE</b>	<b>NO.</b> 12-25
	<b>DATE</b> June 30, 2026

**TO:** STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

**FROM:** HENRY MACK, ED.D. /s/  
Assistant Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Announcement of the Fiscal Year 2026 National Benefit Accuracy  
Measurement Paid Claims Peer Review

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this Training and Employment Notice (TEN) is to provide states with information on the logistics details for the 2026 Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM) Paid Claims Peer Review, which will be conducted August 24, 2026, through August 28, 2026, in Fort Worth, TX.
2. **Action Requested.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) asks that State Workforce Administrators share the information and instructions in this TEN with all BAM and other appropriate state staff and make appropriate arrangements to facilitate participation in this event.
3. **Summary and Background.**
  - a. Summary – This TEN announces the 2026 BAM Paid Claims Peer Review for all states.
  - b. Background – ETA is taking aggressive steps to hold states accountable for reducing fraud, waste, and abuse in the unemployment insurance (UI) program. ETA monitors state programs to: (1) ensure consistent interpretation of the criteria and guidelines for quality; (2) verify consistent reporting; (3) identify areas where training or technical assistance may be needed; and (4) hold states accountable for meeting performance metrics.

The BAM program evaluates the accuracy of state UI paid and denied claims by identifying deficiencies in state UI systems and to estimate the improper payment rate for the UI program. The BAM Paid Claims Peer Review assesses whether states are correctly processing paid and denied claims under federal and state laws, rules, and policies. Beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, the BAM Peer Review process started a three-year cycle for the evaluation of the state BAM program to include paid claims for one-half of states in Year 1, paid claims for the other half of states in Year 2, and denied claims for all states in Year 3. Using a national approach for conducting reviews, the BAM Peer Review process provides more uniformity in the review process and provides an important avenue for training all states in a similar manner on BAM procedures. In addition to BAM Peer Reviews, ETA conducts regular reviews of state methods and

procedures (M&P). The results from the BAM Peer Review and M&P reviews are included in an annual BAM Administrative Determination Letter (ADL) issued to each state. While the issuance of M&P reviews has continued in recent years, the cadence of BAM Peer Reviews was disrupted due to events surrounding the pandemic and other activities. The most recent BAM Peer Review was conducted in FY 2024.

4. **2026 BAM Paid Claims Peer Review.** ETA is prioritizing efforts to evaluate the accuracy of state UI claims, identify deficiencies, and hold states accountable to address such areas. Given the remaining time in FY 2026, ETA is forgoing the cadence of one-half states at a time and instead facilitating a nationwide BAM Peer Review of paid claims, to be conducted August 24, 2026 through August 28, 2026, in Fort Worth, TX.
  - a. **Notification of State Participants.** Please provide the names, title, email address, and phone number of the BAM staff participating in this Paid Claims Peer Review to [RO4UI@dol.gov](mailto:RO4UI@dol.gov) and copy their Regional Office BAM Coordinator by **Friday, June 26, 2026**. This request was communicated via email and the Regional Office will follow up with any state that did not meet this deadline.
  - b. **Travel Reimbursement to States.** ETA agrees to reimburse states for travel expenses for two (2) BAM staff per state to participate in the review announced in this TEN. The state staff selected to attend must have the knowledge and skills necessary to review BAM Paid Claims Accuracy (PCA) cases. Since all case issues are resolved and finalized as part of the review process, experienced state staff are needed to negotiate the final acceptance of any exception during the close-out of the review.

The review will be conducted at the:

**Hilton Fort Worth**  
815 Main Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

This review will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026, and conclude at 5:00 pm on Friday, August 28, 2026. The review participants are authorized to travel on Sunday, August 23, 2026, and Saturday, August 29, 2026, to ensure they are available to start the review on Monday morning and stay for the entire review.

Travel arrangements should be made to facilitate participation for the entire review. Please note that ETA will reimburse states for **actual** travel costs, and per diem expenses. States will submit their requests for reimbursements **after** completing travel for participation in the review. Travel costs should not exceed the maximum federal approved rates.

The Hilton Fort Worth has guaranteed a government room rate for conference attendees of \$170.00 per night plus applicable taxes and fees, unless tax-exempt. (Please note that any guests claiming tax exemption must provide a tax exemption form prior to or at check-in.) This rate is available for hotel stays starting Sunday, August 23, 2026, and ending Saturday, August 29, 2026. The hotel also guaranteed this rate for a limited number of attendees arriving on August 22, 2026, or departing on August 30, 2026, as

agreed upon with the respective regions. To guarantee the per diem rate, participants must make reservations with the hotel by **Friday, August 7, 2026**. Participants or state agencies must make their own reservations by using this link: [Link to Make Reservations at Ft. Worth Hilton](#). The dress code for the review is business casual.

- c. **Materials Provided by ETA Staff.** ETA staff will provide the following materials on-site:
  - i. Exception Code Summary Sheets handouts;
  - ii. UI Database Data Collection Instrument (DCI) reports; and
  - iii. Assistance with the Monitor Discussion Forms for use during the review and how to record exception(s).
  
- d. **Materials Provided by State BAM Staff.** In addition to the case files described in Section 4.d. of this TEN, state BAM staff will provide the following:
  - i. One complete copy of each PCA case selected for the review.
  - ii. A short summary of state UI laws, policies, rules, etc., as they relate to benefits eligibility, and claimants' responsibilities. The summary should contain:
    - o How case files are organized and where to find key information (i.e., issue codes, initial claims filing method, claimed week filing method, and appeal status information);
    - o Background information on any unique interpretation of the state law that may come up during the case review; and
    - o Copies of states' policies and procedures manual.
  
- e. **Sample of State Case Files.** Selected sample cases for this BAM Paid Claims Review should be pulled on Tuesday, July 7, 2026. Copies of the BAM Paid cases and all supporting materials must be delivered to the Dallas Regional Office no later than **Wednesday, August 19, 2026**.
  - i. ***Redaction of Personally Identifiable Information (PII).*** Prior to sending/taking the selected case files to the hosting location of the upcoming BAM Peer Review, states **must** redact PII that does not affect the reviewer's ability to verify information in the case files. For this review process, the PII that states must redact at a minimum includes:
    - Claimant social security number (redacting all numbers except the last four digits)
    - Employer federal/state tax ID numbers
    - Bank and/or other financial account numbers
  
  - ii. ***Transmission Instructions.*** Please ensure that all packages are sent using a tracking number. State participants also have the option to personally transport the selected BAM Paid cases and all supporting materials to the review.

If transmitting via mail, the case material should be sent to:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment Training and Administration  
Attn: Catherine “CLR” Rolling  
525 South Griffin Street, Room 317  
Dallas, TX 75202

States mailing their cases must provide their tracking information to [RO4UI@dol.gov](mailto:RO4UI@dol.gov) and copy their Regional Office BAM Coordinator.

5. **Inquiries.** For questions concerning this review, states should contact their Regional Office.

6. **References.**

- Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA), Pub. L. 116-117, enacted March 2, 2020, <https://congress.gov/116/plaws/publ117/PLAW-116publ117.pdf>;
- 20 C.F.R. Part 602, Quality Control in the Federal-State Unemployment Insurance System, <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-20/chapter-V/part-602>;
- TEN No. 02-24, *Announcement of the Second Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 National Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM) Paid Claims Peer Review*, issued July 23, 2024, <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/ten-02-24>;
- TEN No. 20-23, *Announcement of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 National Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM) Paid Claims Peer Review*, issued February 14, 2024, <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/ten-20-23>;
- TEN No. 03-15, *Reengineering Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefits Program Accountability Processes: Update on Implementation Progress and State Impacts*, issued July 27, 2015, <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/training-and-employment-notice-no-03-15>;
- Employment and Training (ET) Handbook No. 395, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, *Benefit Accuracy Measurement State Operations Handbook* (November 17, 2009) <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/handbooks/et-handbook-no-395-5th-edition>;  
and
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-123, Appendix C, *Requirements for Payment Integrity Improvement* (March 5, 2021) <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/M-21-19.pdf>.

7. **Attachment(s).** N/A