

<b>EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION          ADVISORY SYSTEM          U. S. Department of Labor          Washington, D.C. 20210</b>	<b>CLASSIFICATION</b> UI
	<b>CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL</b> OWS/DUIO
	March 27, 2009

**ADVISORY:** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM LETTER NO. 19-09

**TO:** STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

**FROM:** DOUGLAS F. SMALL *Douglas F. Small*  
 Deputy Assistant Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Increase in Social Security Annuities and Federal Civilian Pensions

1. Purpose. To provide corrected information on the 2009 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increases in social security survivors and old age retirement annuities and Federal civilian pensions and to rescind Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) No. 8-09.
2. Background. The 2009 COLA increases for social security survivors and old age retirement annuities and Federal civilian pensions were effective December 1, 2008. UIPL 8-09 was issued on January 6, 2009, to ensure states were aware of the increases; however, data contained in the attachment about the amount of prorated COLA increases was incorrect.

Federal civilian retirees who received benefits for at least one year under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Organization Retirement and Disability System (ORDS) will receive a 5.8 percent COLA increase, and Federal civilian retirees who received benefits for at least one year under the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) will receive a COLA increase of 4.8 percent. Federal civilian employees who have received benefits for less than one year under CSRS, ORDS and FERS will receive prorated COLA increases. All COLA increases were effective December 1, 2008, and paid in the January 2, 2009, annuity check.

3. Summary. States with laws that provide for reduction of the weekly unemployment insurance benefit amount by the prorated weekly amount of retirement pay and pensions should review claimant records to identify those who are affected by these COLA increases. The exact percentages of prorated COLA increases may be found at: <http://www.opm.gov/retire/annuity/cola/2009cola.asp>.

<b>RESCISSIONS</b> Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 8-09	<b>EXPIRATION DATE</b> March 27, 2010
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States must take action to make the appropriate deductions based on the increased retirement or annuities amount in accordance with their state law.

4. Action Requested. State Administrators are requested to provide this information to appropriate staff.
5. Inquiries. Direct inquiries to the appropriate Regional Office.