## **EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR** Washington, D.C. 20210

CLASSIFICATION EUC08 CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL OUI/DUIO DATE

December 21, 2010

ADVISORY: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM LETTER NO. 04-10,

Change 6

TO:

STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM:

JANE OATES

and order Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT:

Extension of Temporary Provisions – Emergency Unemployment Compensation

and Extended Benefits, and New Temporary Extended Benefits Provisions

- 1. Purpose. To advise states of the latest extension of the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) program and temporary Extended Benefits (EB) provisions, and new temporary EB provisions.
- 2. References. The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (Act), House of Representatives (H.R.) 4853<sup>1</sup>, enacted December 17, 2010; the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2010, Public Law (P.L.) No. 111-205; the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008, P.L. No. 110-252; Sections 2002 and 2005 of Division B, Title II, the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, P.L. No. 111-5; Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) Nos. 23-08 and 23-08, Changes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; and UIPL Nos. 04-10 and 04-10, Changes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- 3. Summary of Provisions. The Act extends the phase-out periods and expiration dates of EUC08 and the temporary EB provisions, and establishes new temporary EB provisions. The changes made by the Act are outlined below:
  - a. Extend EUC08 Program.
    - The end of the period during which an individual may establish initial eligibility for the First Tier of EUC08 is extended to weeks of unemployment ending on or before January 3, 2012.
    - The end of the period during which an EUC08 account may be augmented is extended. Individuals must exhaust First, Second, or Third Tier EUC08 on or before January 3, 2012, to qualify for the next higher EUC08 tier.
    - The expiration date of the EUC08 program (i.e., the end of the "phase-out" period) is extended. Under the new expiration date, no EUC08 First, Second, Third, or Fourth-

The Public Law (	P.L.) number for this act has not been assigned a	
RESCISSIONS None		EXPIRATION DATE

Tier payments may be made for any week of unemployment beginning after June 9, 2012.

# b. Extend Temporary EB Provisions—100 Percent Federal Funding, Individual Eligibility Period, and Sharing for First Week.

- The Federal government will reimburse states for 100 percent of the benefit costs of sharable EB and sharable regular compensation for weeks of unemployment beginning before January 4, 2012.
- The phase-out period for states to receive 100 percent reimbursement for individuals who have established EB eligibility is extended. If an individual received EB with respect to one or more weeks of unemployment beginning after February 17, 2009, and before January 4, 2012, the Federal government will continue to pay 100 percent of the eligible (sharable) EB benefit costs for weeks of unemployment ending before June 11, 2012.
- The provision permitting certain individuals to qualify for EB following exhaustion of EUC08 (without an overlap between their benefit year and the EB period) is extended. States may continue to permit these individuals to qualify for EB after they have exhausted EUC08 during an EB period that began on or before the date the individuals exhausted EUC08, even if the benefit year of those individuals ended. (See UIPL No. 12-09, Q&A 6.) This option remains available to states for weeks of unemployment beginning after February 17, 2009, and before January 4, 2012.
- The suspension of the prohibition of Federal sharing for the first week of EB if state law permits individuals to be compensated for the first week of regular compensation eligibility at any time or under any circumstances is extended through weeks of unemployment ending on or before June 10, 2012.

## c. New Temporary EB Provisions—Optional Three-Year "Look-back."

- The Act permits states to amend their EB laws to temporarily modify the provisions concerning "on" and "off" indicators based on the insured unemployment rate and the total unemployment rate. Specifically, it permits states to make determinations of whether there is an "on" or "off" indicator by comparing current unemployment rates to the unemployment rates for the corresponding period in the three preceding years. This comparison is called a "look-back." (Under permanent EB law, the look-back is to unemployment rates during the last two years.) This modification to the look-back provisions will enable many states to remain "on" EB much longer.
- The new EB indicator provisions are effective with respect to compensation for weeks of unemployment beginning after the date of enactment of the Act (or, if later, the date established pursuant to state law) and ending on or before December 31, 2011.
- Additional guidance, including model legislative language, will be issued on this provision.

- 4. Effective Dates. The extensions are effective "as if included in the enactment of the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-205)." The Department interprets this phrase to mean that implementation of the amendments is retroactive and, therefore, there is no gap between the expiration of the provisions as described in UIPL No. 04-10, Change 3, and the extension of such provisions by the Act as described in this UIPL. Thus, benefits are payable retroactively to otherwise eligible individuals and the Department will reimburse states for the administrative costs of processing these claims.
- 5. <u>Interpretation</u>. The information in this document is issued to the states and cooperating state agencies as guidance provided by the Department in its role as the principal in the EUC08 program. As agents of the Federal government, the states and cooperating state agencies may not deviate from this guidance without the prior approval of the Department. To the extent that the prior guidance (as outlined in #2, *References* above) is inconsistent with this UIPL, this UIPL supersedes that guidance.
- 6. Action Requested. Administrators are to provide this guidance to the appropriate staff.
- 7. Inquiries. Questions should be directed to the appropriate Regional Office.

### 8. Attachments.

Attachment 1— Key Dates for the Act.

Attachment 2—Relevant statutory provisions in the Act.

# Attachment 1 to UIPL 04-10 Change 6

Key Dates for UI Programs Following Enactment of	nactment of the Tax Ro	elief, Unemployment Insur	ance Reauthorization, an	the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010
A	Last Date Eligibility New P:	Eligibility May Be Established for New Participants	Last Date Payable/Sh	Last Date Payable/Sharable Under Phase-Out
Frogram	Statutory End Date	Actual Week Ending Date <sup>1</sup>	Statutory End Date	Actual Week Ending Date
EUC08	January 3, 2012 <sup>2</sup>	December 31, 2011 <sup>3, 4</sup>	June 9, 2012 <sup>5</sup>	June 9, 2012 <sup>6</sup>
100% Federal sharing EB <sup>7</sup>	January 4, 2012 <sup>8</sup>	January 7, 2012 <sup>9</sup>	June 11, $2012^{10}$	June 9, $2012^{11}$
	Statuton	Statutory End Date	Actual Wee	Actual Week Ending Date
Federal sharing 1st week EB – compensable waiting week	June 10, 2012 <sup>2</sup>		June 9, 2012 <sup>11</sup>	
Three-year look-back option for EB triggers	December 31, 2011 <sup>2</sup>		December 31, $2011^{12}$	
With the state of				

<sup>1</sup> For states where week of unemployment ends on Saturday.

<sup>2</sup> Weeks of unemployment ending on or before this date.

<sup>3</sup> Last week of unemployment for which an individual may establish eligibility for EUC08. Individuals exhausting a tier of EUC08 on this date may have their accounts augmented with next higher tier.

<sup>4</sup> For New York, where week of unemployment ends on Sunday, actual week ending date is January 1, 2012.

<sup>5</sup>No compensation for weeks of unemployment beginning after this date.

<sup>6</sup> For New York, June 10, 2012.

<sup>7</sup>Also applies to provision permitting states to extend an individual's EB eligibility period.

8 Weeks of unemployment beginning before this date.

<sup>9</sup>For New York, January 8, 2012.

<sup>10</sup> Weeks of unemployment ending before this date.

<sup>11</sup> For New York, June 10, 2012.

<sup>12</sup> For New York, December 25, 2011.

# TITLE V--TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND RELATED MATTERS

# SEC. 501. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROVISIONS.

- (a) In General-- (1) Section 4007 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended--
  - (A) by striking "November 30, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "January 3, 2012";
  - (B) in the heading for subsection (b)(2), by striking "NOVEMBER 30, 2010" and inserting "JANUARY 3, 2012"; and
  - (C) in subsection (b)(3), by striking "April 30, 2011" and inserting "June 9, 2012".
- (2) Section 2005 of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in Public Law 111-5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 444), is amended-
  - (A) by striking "December 1, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "January 4, 2012"; and
  - (B) in subsection (c), by striking "May 1, 2011" and inserting "June 11, 2012".
- (3) Section 5 of the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-449; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended by striking "April 30, 2011" and inserting "June 10, 2012".
- (b) Funding.-- Section 4004(e)(1) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended--
  - (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking "and" at the end; and
  - (2) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:
    - "(G) the amendments made by section 501(a)(1) of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010; and".
- (c) Effective Date.-- The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-205).

# SEC. 502. TEMPORARY MODIFICATION OF INDICATORS UNDER THE EXTENDED BENEFIT PROGRAM.

(a) Indicator.-- Section 203(d) of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended, in the flush matter following paragraph (2), by inserting after the first sentence the following sentence: "Effective with respect to compensation for weeks of unemployment beginning after the

date of enactment of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (or, if later, the date established pursuant to State law), and ending on or before December 31, 2011, the State may by law provide that the determination of whether there has been a state 'on' or 'off' indicator beginning or ending any extended benefit period shall be made under this subsection as if the word 'two' were 'three' in subparagraph (1)(A).".

- (b) Alternative Trigger.-- Section 203(f) of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended--
  - (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and
  - (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:
- "(2) Effective with respect to compensation for weeks of unemployment beginning after the date of enactment of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (or, if later, the date established pursuant to State law), and ending on or before December 31, 2011, the State may by law provide that the determination of whether there has been a state 'on' or 'off' indicator beginning or ending any extended benefit period shall be made under this subsection as if the word 'either' were 'any', the word "both" were 'all', and the figure '2' were '3' in clause (1)(A)(ii)."