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# **On the Fast Track: Making the Most of Reemployment Eligibility Assessments (REA)**

**Recovery and Reemployment Research Conference  
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# REA Beginnings

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- In 2005, ETA awarded grants to 21 states to pilot the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reemployment Eligibility Assessment (REA) Initiative.
- FY 2005 REA funding was \$18 million
- FY2010 REA funding request is \$50 million



# REA Requirements

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- Grant required a portion of a State's UI beneficiaries to attend in person interviews, which included:
  - review of UI eligibility,
  - provision of labor market information,
  - development of a work-search plan, and/or
  - referral to training and/or other re-employment services.



# REA Goals

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- Enhance the rapid re-employment of unemployed workers.
- Reduce potential overpayments.
- Reduce UI benefit outlays and therefore realize cost savings to UI trust Funds.



# Additional REA Structure

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- Assessments were to be conducted for UI claimants who do not have a definite return-to-work date.
- Does not have to be implemented state wide.
- State had to agree to measure the impact of the REA.

