

or of participants that continue to work beyond normal retirement age (29 CFR 2530.203-3). In order for a plan to suspend benefits pursuant to the regulation, it must notify affected retirees or participants (by first class mail or personal delivery) during the first calendar month or payroll period in which the plan withholds payment, that benefits are suspended. This notice must include the specific reasons for such suspension, a general description of the plan provisions authorizing the suspension, a copy of the relevant plan provisions, and a statement indicating where the applicable regulations may be found (*i.e.*, 29 CFR 2530.203-3). In addition, the suspension notification must inform the retiree or participant of the plan's procedure for affording a review of the suspension of benefits. The ICR currently is scheduled to expire on May 31, 2011.

III. Focus of Comments

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the collections of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, by permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the ICRs for OMB approval of the extension of the information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 3, 2010.

Joseph S. Piacentini,

*Director, Office of Policy and Research,
Employee Benefits Security Administration.*

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of a Change in Status of an Extended Benefit (EB) Period for Alaska and Wisconsin

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a change in benefit period eligibility under the Extended Benefits program for Alaska and Wisconsin.

The following changes have occurred since the publication of the last notice regarding the States' EB status:

- The Total Unemployment Rate (TUR) data for August 2010, released on September 21, 2010, by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, brought the three-month average seasonally adjusted TURs in Alaska and Wisconsin below the 8.0% threshold to remain "on" for a High Unemployment Period (HUP) in the Extended Benefits program. As a result, Alaska and Wisconsin concluded their HUP on October 16 and eligibility for claimants has been reduced from a maximum potential entitlement of 20 weeks to a maximum potential entitlement of 13 weeks in the Extended Benefits program.

The trigger notice covering state eligibility for the Extended Benefit program can be found at: http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. A new trigger notice is posted at this location each week.

Information for Claimants

The duration of benefits payable in the EB Program, and the terms and conditions on which they are payable, are governed by the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970, as amended, and the operating instructions issued to the states by the U.S. Department of Labor. In the case of a state beginning an EB period, the State Workforce Agency will furnish a written notice of potential entitlement to each individual who has exhausted all rights to regular benefits and is potentially eligible for EB (20 CFR 615.13(c)(1)).

Persons who believe they may be entitled to EB, or who wish to inquire about their rights under the program, should contact their State Workforce Agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Gibbons, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Security, 200 Constitution Avenue,

NW., Frances Perkins Bldg. Room S-4231, Washington, DC 20210, telephone number (202) 693-3008 (this is not a toll-free number) or by *e-mail*: gibbons.scott@dol.gov.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 4th day of November 2010.

Jane Oates,

Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Announcement Regarding the Virgin Islands Triggering "on" to Tier Three of Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC08)

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Announcement regarding the Virgin Islands triggering "on" to Tier Three of Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC08).

Public Law 111-205 extended provisions in public law 111-92 which amended prior laws to create a Third and Fourth Tier of benefits within the EUC08 program for qualified unemployed workers claiming benefits in high unemployment states. The Department of Labor produces a trigger notice indicating which states qualify for EUC08 benefits within Tiers Three and Four and provides the beginning and ending dates of payable periods for each qualifying state. The trigger notice covering state eligibility for the EUC08 program can be found at: http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. A new trigger notice is posted at this location each week that the program is in effect.

Based on data published October 8, 2010 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the following trigger change has occurred for the Virgin Islands' EUC08 program:

- The seasonally-adjusted total unemployment rate for the 3-month period ending September 2010 for the Virgin Islands rose to 6.2 percent, causing the Virgin Islands to begin a payable period in the third tier of EUC effective October 24, 2010. Eligibility for claimants in the Virgin Islands will be increased from a maximum potential entitlement of 34 weeks to a maximum potential entitlement of 47 weeks in the EUC program.