

paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed.

In response to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning state UI agencies' notifying UI beneficiaries that they may be able to obtain training using Pell Grants while continuing to collect UI and to give them information about how to apply. This notice utilizes standard clearance procedures in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR 1320.12. This information collection follows an emergency review that was conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR 1320.13. The submission for OMB emergency review was approved on May 8, 2009. A copy of this Information Collection Request (ICR) can be obtained from the *RegInfo.gov* Web site at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee's section below on or before November 27, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments to U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Employment Security, attn: Scott Gibbons, Room S-4231, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone number: 202-693-3008 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

To enable more individuals to obtain job training while receiving unemployment benefits, so they can develop their skills while the economy recovers, states are strongly encouraged to widen their definitions of the types of training and the conditions under which education or training are considered "approved training" for purposes of the state's UI law.

States are also encouraged to notify unemployed individuals of their

potential eligibility for Pell Grants and to assist individuals with applications. Pell Grants are awarded based on financial need and other factors. Many UI beneficiaries are potentially eligible for Pell Grants, and the Department of Education is currently undertaking a major effort to encourage student financial aid administrators to use the discretion available to them in determining if UI beneficiaries are eligible for Pell Grants. Through information dissemination, the Department of Labor is encouraging state UI agencies to notify UI beneficiaries that they may qualify for Pell Grants and to give them information about how to apply. States are strongly encouraged to determine if their approved training requirements are appropriate to the current economy. Post-secondary education and training are increasingly important for success in the job market. Periods of unemployment, particularly in the current economic climate, provide opportunities for laid-off workers to develop new skills, so that employers will benefit from a skilled workforce when the economy recovers. In particular, states are asked to consider approval of courses at community colleges with significant job skills components, courses leading to general equivalency degrees, courses in adult basic education, language courses, or other courses of study, including degree and certificate courses that are likely to increase the individual's long-term employability.

**II. Review Focus**

*The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:*

- \* Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is 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 burden of the proposed collection 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., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

**III. Current Actions**

*Type of Review:* Extension without changes.

*Title:* Pell Grants and the Payment of Unemployment Benefits to Individuals in Approved Training.

*OMB Number:* 1205-0473.

*Affected Public:* State Workforce Agencies.

*Total Respondents:* 53.

*Frequency of Collection:* Once.

*Total Responses:* 53.

*Average Time per Respondent:* 40 hours.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 2120.

*Total Annual Costs Burden:* \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated This 23rd day of September, 2009.

**Jane Oates,**

*Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.*

[FR Doc. E9-23372 Filed 9-25-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-FN-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Employment and Training Administration**

**Notice of a Change in Status of an Extended Benefit (EB) Period for Alabama.**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a change in benefit period eligibility under the EB program for Alabama.

The following change has occurred since the publication of the last notice regarding Alabama's EB status:

- Alabama has enacted a retroactive TUR trigger for their EB program. Alabama would have triggered on with the release of state total unemployment rates (TURs) for January 2009, released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on March 11, 2009. This means their current EB period began March 29, 2009. In addition, the three month average seasonally adjusted TUR rose above the 8.0 percent threshold for a High Unemployment Period (HUP) with the release of March TURs on April 17, 2009. As a result, a HUP in the EB program began in Alabama on May 3. Eligible claimants will be able to receive up to 20 weeks of additional benefits.

**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 a HUP period, the State Workforce Agency will furnish a written notice of potential entitlement to each individual who may be eligible for increased benefits due to the HUP (20 CFR 615.13 (c) (1)).

Persons 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](mailto:gibbons.scott@dol.gov).

Signed in Washington, DC, this 23rd day of September, 2009.

**Jane Oates,**

*Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.*

[FR Doc. E9-23353 Filed 9-25-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-FW-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Employment and Training Administration****Notice of a Change in Status of an Extended Benefit (EB) Period for West Virginia.**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a change in benefit period eligibility under the EB program for West Virginia.

The following change has occurred since the publication of the last notice regarding West Virginia's EB status:

- West Virginia has enacted a retroactive TUR trigger for their EB program. West Virginia would have triggered on with the release of state total unemployment rates (TURs) for April 2009, released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on May 22, 2009. This means their current EB period began June 7, 2009. In addition, the three month average seasonally adjusted TUR rose above the 8.0 percent threshold for a High Unemployment Period (HUP) with the release of June TURs on July

17, 2009. As a result, a HUP in the EB program began in West Virginia on August 2. Eligible claimants will be able to receive up to 20 weeks of additional benefits.

**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 a HUP period, the State Workforce Agency will furnish a written notice of potential entitlement to each individual who may be eligible for increased benefits due to the HUP (20 CFR 615.13 (c) (1)).

Persons 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 email: [gibbons.scott@dol.gov](mailto:gibbons.scott@dol.gov).

Signed in Washington, DC, this 23rd day of September, 2009.

**Jane Oates,**

*Assistant Secretary,*

*Employment and Training Administration.*

[FR Doc. E9-23355 Filed 9-25-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-FW-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Employment and Training Administration****Notice of a Change in Status of an Extended Benefit (EB) Period for Idaho**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a change in benefit period eligibility under the EB program for Idaho.

The following change has occurred since the publication of the last notice regarding Idaho's EB status:

- Idaho has modified its law by adding a total unemployment rate (TUR) trigger. As a result, Idaho triggered "on" to a high unemployment period (HUP) for weeks of unemployment beginning September 6, 2009, and eligible unemployed workers will be able to

collect up to an additional 20 weeks of unemployment insurance benefits.

**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 a HUP, 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](mailto:gibbons.scott@dol.gov).

Signed in Washington, DC, this 23rd day of September, 2009.

**Jane Oates,**

*Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.*

[FR Doc. E9-23354 Filed 9-25-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-FW-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Employment and Training Administration****Announcement Regarding States Triggering "on" to the second-tier of Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC08)**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Announcement regarding the Virgin Islands triggering "on" to the second-tier of Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08).

Public law 110-449 created a second-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 this second-tier of EUC08 benefits and provides the beginning and ending dates