

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 19-20
	DATE March 15, 2021

TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: JIM GARNER 
Acting Administrator
Office of Unemployment Insurance

SUBJECT: 2021 Unemployment Insurance (UI) State Information Data Exchange System (SIDES) Seminar

1. **Purpose.** To provide information regarding the virtual 2021 UI SIDES Seminar to be hosted by the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) on May 26 - 27, 2021.
2. **Action Requested.** State Administrators are encouraged to share this information with appropriate staff and support staff participation in the UI SIDES Seminar.

3. **Summary and Background.**

- a. Summary – This notice announces the annual UI SIDES Seminar that will be conducted virtually by NASWA in 2021.
- b. Background – NASWA, a national organization of state administrators of the publicly funded state workforce system, operates SIDES on behalf of the states. SIDES is a web-based system that allows electronic transmission of UI claims information between UI agencies and employers. In past years, NASWA has offered an annual in-person UI SIDES Seminar for states. For 2021, the UI SIDES Seminar will be hosted virtually and scheduled from 1:00 pm ET to 5:00 pm ET on May 26 and 27, 2021. The purpose of the seminar is to provide information on SIDES usage, operational issues, and to facilitate SIDES-related business and technical discussions between state UI agencies and employers or their third-party administrators (TPAs).

The UI SIDES Seminar will highlight promising state practices with a focus on improving UI integrity and implementation of SIDES exchanges. Some of the workshop topics include: exploring UI improper payments and root causes; implementation of various SIDES exchanges; state strategies for increasing employer participation in SIDES; incorporating SIDES into UI information technology modernization projects; and preparing for the transition to the new SIDES separation information exchange standard format.

The UI SIDES Seminar is intended for state workforce administrators, UI and information technology (IT) directors, UI benefits and tax managers, adjudication managers, appeals staff, state and employer/TPA SIDES liaisons, SIDES IT system analysts, programmers, and other appropriate staff.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) recognizes the importance of SIDES in reducing improper payments and supporting the efficient administration of the UI program. ETA encourages state participation in the UI SIDES Seminar.

4. **Seminar Details.** NASWA will host the 2021 UI SIDES Seminar virtually on May 26-27, 2021. Seminar registration is available on NASWA's website at [2021 SIDES Seminar | National Association of State Workforce Agencies \(naswa.org\)](#).
5. **Inquiries.** Direct any inquiries regarding the UI SIDES Seminar's content or participation to Jamie Abbott at jabbott@naswa.org. Direct any inquiries regarding registration information to naswa-meetings@naswa.org.
6. **References.** Not Applicable.
7. **Attachment(s).** Not Applicable.