

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210	CLASSIFICATION UI
	CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL DUIO
	DATE May 9, 2020

**ADVISORY: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM LETTER NO. 15-20
Change 1**

TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: JOHN PALLASCH /s/
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) Program Reporting Instructions and Questions and Answers

1. **Purpose.** As states have gained experience administering the FPUC program under the CARES Act, they have identified questions about aspects of the program’s operation. The purpose of this UIPL is to address those questions and provide further guidance about the FPUC program authorized by Section 2104 of the CARES Act, Public Law (Pub. L.) 116-136, and provide instructions for completing Form ETA 9178-P, Quarterly Narrative Progress Report – Employment and Training Supplemental Budget Request Activities.
2. **Action Requested.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s (Department) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) requests that state administrators provide the information contained in this Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) and its attachment to appropriate staff.
3. **Summary and Background.**
 - a. Summary – On March 27, 2020, the President signed into law the CARES Act, which includes the Relief for Workers Affected by Coronavirus Act set out in Title II, Subtitle A. Section 2104 of the CARES Act creates a new temporary federal program called Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), which provides an eligible individual with \$600 per week in addition to the weekly benefit amount he or she receives from designated unemployment compensation (UC) programs, provided he or she is otherwise eligible.
 - b. Background – The CARES Act was designed to mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in a variety of ways. The coordination of programs within the CARES Act is discussed in UIPL No. 14-20. On April 4, 2020, the Department issued UIPL No. 15-20, which focuses on Section 2104 of the CARES Act authorizing the temporary FPUC program. FPUC provides eligible individuals \$600 per week in addition to the weekly benefit amount they receive from the UC programs noted in Section 2104.

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4. **Questions and Answers.** The Department hosted a webinar with states on April 9, 2020, to discuss UIPL No. 15-20, which contained key provisions and operating instructions for the FPUC program. A recording of this webinar is available under the “Events” section on the Unemployment Insurance Community of Practice on the WorkforceGPS website (<https://ui.workforcegps.org/>). The Attachment to this UIPL contains answers to certain questions received during the webinar and through the Department’s designated e-mail address on all COVID-19 related inquiries (covid-19@dol.gov).

Additionally, the Department is revising form ETA 227 (OMB 1205-0173), which is the form states must use to report FPUC overpayments. More information about this can be found in Attachment I of UIPL No. 15-20, Section H. Reporting Instructions.

5. **Supplemental Budget Request Project Status Tracking.** ETA will use form ETA 9178-P as a monitoring instrument to track a grantee’s progress towards completing project activities for implementation of the FPUC program which are funded under the supplemental budget requests. Instructions for submitting supplemental budget requests are located in section 4(c) of UIPL No. 15-20.

As part of the monitoring process, grantees that receive supplemental grant awards must submit a Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) using the form ETA 9178-P. The form ETA 9178-P requires the grantee to provide ETA with narrative updates on supplemental grant activities and helps ensure that the grantee achieves the goals described in the supplemental grant applications. States that received supplemental grant awards to implement the FPUC program will need to submit reports as instructed. Attachments II and III in UIPL No. 16-20, Change 1, provide the ETA 9178-P report, the instructions for completing the report, and the timeline for the submission of the report.

6. **Inquiries.** States should direct inquiries to covid-19@dol.gov and copy the appropriate Regional Office.

7. **References.**

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Pub. L. 116-136), including Title II Subtitle A Relief for Workers Affected by Coronavirus Act;
- 5 U.S.C. Chapter 85;
- Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. § 3304 note);
- Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2291 et seq.);
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act (42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.);
- Sections 3304 and 3306(v) of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) (26 U.S.C. §§ 3304 and 3306(v));
- Section 303 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 503);
- 20 C.F.R. Part 603;
- ET Handbook No. 336 (18th Edition), *Unemployment Insurance State Quality Service Plan Planning and Reporting Guidelines*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/ETAHandbook/ET_Handbook_No.336_18th_Edition_Change_4_acc.pdf;

- ET Handbook No. 384, *Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=465;
- ET Handbook No. 391, *UCFE Handbook for State Agencies*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=2233;
- ET Handbook No. 401, *UI Report Handbook*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=7774;
- UIPL No. 05-13, *Work Search and Overpayment Offset Provisions Added to Permanent Federal Unemployment Compensation Law by Title II, Subtitle A of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*, issued January 10, 2013, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=3698;
- UIPL No. 14-20, *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 – Summary of Key Unemployment Insurance (UI) Provisions and Temporary Emergency State Staffing Flexibility*, issued on April 2, 2020, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=3390;
- UIPL No. 15-20, *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) Program Operating, Financial, and Reporting Instructions*, issued on April 4, 2020, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=9297; and
- UIPL No. 16-20, Change 1, *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 – Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Program Reporting Instructions and Questions and Answers*, issued on April 27, 2020, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=5899.

8. **Attachment.**

- Questions and Answers: Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) Program