

Attachment II to UIPL No. 15-20, Change 3

**ETA 227 - OVERPAYMENT DETECTION AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES (MEUC)**

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## A. Facsimile of Form

### ETA 227 - OVERPAYMENT DETECTION AND RECOVERY (MEUC)

STATE	REGION	REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING											
st	g_states.region	Rptdate											
<b>SECTION A. OVERPAYMENTS ESTABLISHED - CAUSES</b>													
Cause	Line No.	Number of Cases						Dollar Amounts					
		UI (1)	UCFE/UCX (2)	EB (3)	PEUC (4)	TRA (5)	DUA (6)	UI (7)	UCFE/UCX (8)	EB (9)	PEUC (10)	TRA (11)	DUA (12)
Fraud - Total	101												
Case of Agency Employee Benefit Fraud	102												
Nonfraud - Total	103												
Total - Fraud and Nonfraud	104												

<b>SECTION B. RECOVERY/RECONCILIATION</b>													
Item	Line No.	Dollar Amounts											
		Fraud						Nonfraud					
		UI (13)	UCFE/UCX (14)	EB (15)	PEUC (16)	TRA (17)	DUA (18)	UI (19)	UCFE/UCX (20)	EB (21)	PEUC (22)	TRA (23)	DUA (24)
Outstanding Beginning Period	201												
Recovered - Total	202												
Waived	203												
Written Off	204												
Additions	205												
Subtractions	206												
Outstanding at End of Period	207												
Recovered for Other States	208												

**Comments:**

**OMB No.:** NA

**OMB Expiration Date:** NA

**Estimated Average Response Time:** NA

OMB Approval. Section 2116(a), Division B, Title II of the CARES Act states that “Chapter 35 of Title 44, United States Code, (commonly referred to as the “Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995”) shall not apply to the amendments made under this subtitle.” As the OMB approval process is waived for these reporting instructions, these instructions should be considered final.

## B. Purpose

The Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation (MEUC) Program, ETA 227 Overpayment Detection and Recovery Activities report (referred to as the “ETA 227 MEUC report” in this Attachment) provides information on MEUC overpayments.

As stated in the accompanying Unemployment Insurance Program Letter, if an individual received at least \$5,000 of self-employment income (as defined in Section 1402(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), in the most recent tax year ending prior to the individual’s application for unemployment compensation (underlying benefits) and is receiving benefits from an applicable unemployment insurance (UI) program, the individual qualifies for the additional \$100 MEUC payment. The applicable UI programs are:

- The regular state unemployment compensation (UC) program;
  - Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE);
  - Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers (UCX);
  - Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC);
  - Permanent federal-state Extended Benefits (EB) program;
  - Short-Time Compensation (STC);
  - Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA);
  - Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); and
  - Payments under the Self-Employment Assistance (SEA) program.
- Overpayments from the underlying benefit must be reported on a separate report from the MEUC overpayments. On the ETA 227 MEUC report, state agencies must only report overpayments of MEUC.
  - Other UC program overpayments, concerning the underlying benefit, must be reported on the appropriate forms, as listed below:
    1. ETA 227, Overpayment Detection and Recovery Activities Report (OMB 1205-0173) for the UI, UCFE, UCX and EB programs;
    2. ETA PEUC 227 Overpayment Detection and Recovery Report for the PEUC program; and

State agencies must follow existing reporting instructions for overpayments of the TRA (ETA 9172 Participant Individual Record Layout (PIRL) (OMB 1205-0521)) and DUA (ETA 902 Disaster Unemployment Assistance Activities Report (OMB 1205-0268)) program benefits.

ETA 227 reports show state agency accomplishments in principal detection areas of benefit payment control. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and state agencies need such information to monitor the integrity of the benefit payment

processes in the UI system. On the ETA 227 MEUC report, data are provided regarding the establishment of MEUC overpayments and recoveries of MEUC overpayments.

### C. Due Date and Transmittal

The ETA 227 MEUC report is due quarterly on the first day of the second month after the quarter of reference.

Report for Quarter Ending	Due the Following
March 31	May 1
June 30	August 1
September 30	November 1
December 31	February 1

The ETA 227 MEUC report does not include an aging schedule, (*i.e.*, overpayments established on the report are not removed after a period of time) like what is shown in Section E of the ETA 227 report. State agencies must continue to report MEUC overpayment information on the ETA 227 MEUC report until there is no longer any activity.

### D. General Reporting Instructions

All applicable data on the ETA 227 MEUC report must be traceable to the data regarding MEUC overpayments and MEUC recoveries in the state's financial accounting system.

1. Amended Reports. If the information changes from that sent on the initial ETA 227 MEUC report covering the report period, the state agency will send an amended ETA 227 MEUC report electronically.
2. Coverage. Reported activity pertains to all overpayments created for the MEUC program. MEUC overpayments and MEUC recoveries occurring under the STC and SEA programs must be reported under the regular state UI program sections of the ETA 227 MEUC report.
3. Audits. Dollar figures must be traceable to data regarding MEUC overpayments and MEUC recoveries in the state agency's financial accounting system.
4. Checking the Report. Entries must be made for all items. If no activity corresponding to the items occurred during the report period, a zero must be entered. A report containing missing data cannot be sent to the National Office but can be stored on the state's system.

### E. Definitions

1. Cases of Agency Employee Benefit Fraud (Line 102). This line concerns fraudulent activity by agency personnel. Examples include when an agency employee:

- a. Continues to file weekly certifications and fails to report earnings on the employee's UI claim after being hired/rehired with the state UI agency or later reactivates the employee's claim while still working and fails to report earnings.
  - b. Diverts benefits from another's claim(s) that may be inactive, and which may involve changing the address and name on the claim to the employee's own address or issuing checks to a "drop address."
  - c. Establishes a claim(s) with fictitious wages and issues benefits to themselves or others.
  - d. Processes a claim(s) for another or others knowing they do not meet eligibility requirements.
  - e. Extorts money from a claimant(s) for authorizing benefits to which the claimant(s) may or may not be entitled.
  - f. Participates in other activities, which leads to the employee receiving UI benefits to which he or she is not entitled.
2. Cases Established. Any single issue that results in a determination that MEUC was overpaid to a claimant within a single calendar quarter and for which a formal notice of determination has been issued is a case established. An MEUC overpayment that covers one or more weeks (or partial weeks) of benefits shall be counted as one case if all weeks of MEUC overpayments are included in the same notice of determination. An MEUC overpayment covering consecutive weeks of benefits that span two calendar quarters must be reported for the calendar quarter in which the notice of decision is issued.
  3. Fraud Overpayment. Section 2104(f)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136) defines fraud as occurring when an individual knowingly has made, or caused to be made by another, a false statement or representation of a material fact, or knowingly has failed, or caused another to fail, to disclose a material fact, and as a result of such false statement or representation or of such nondisclosure such individual has received an amount of MEUC to which such individual was not entitled.
  4. Non-fraud Overpayment. An MEUC overpayment that the state agency determines is not due to fraud. Non-fraud MEUC overpayments may include MEUC overpayments resulting from reversals, state agency errors, employer errors, and claimant errors.
  5. Overpayment. Benefits paid to an individual who is not legally entitled to these benefits, whether or not the amount is later recovered or waived. Losses through embezzlement or by theft may not be counted as overpayments, unless the embezzlement or theft was conducted through the benefit payment process.
  6. Recovered for Other States (Line 208). MEUC overpayments recovered for and transferred to another state.
  7. Waived (Line 203). A non-fraud MEUC overpayment for which the state agency, in accordance with section 2104 of the CARES Act, officially relinquishes the obligation of the claimant to repay. Section 2104(f)(2) authorizes states to waive an overpayment when the overpayment was not the fault of the claimant and requiring repayment would be against equity and good conscience.

8. Written-Off (Line 204). An amount of a MEUC overpayment not subject to further recovery because of a state law provision authorizing cancellation of the overpayment may be written off. Usually, write-offs are applied after the statute of limitations expires, bankruptcy has been approved by a court, or the claimant has died.

## F. Item by Item Instructions

Reporting instructions for specific items are given only as necessary to supplement headings on the form and the definitions provided in Section E of these instructions.

1. Section A. Overpayments Established – Causes. MEUC overpayments established are classified into two main categories – fraud and non-fraud.
  - a. Line 101. Fraud – Total. Enter the total number of cases and dollar amounts for all MEUC overpayments classified as fraud, including and in addition to those reported on line 102.
  - b. Line 102. Cases of Agency Employee Benefit Fraud. Report those MEUC fraud cases and MEUC dollar amounts that included agency staff as a recipient of the UI benefits, and those where an agency staff member acted in collusion with others to set up fraudulent claims and benefit payments and/or schemes.
  - c. Line 103. Non-fraud – Total. Enter the total number of cases and dollar amounts for all MEUC overpayments classified as non-fraud.
  - d. Line 104. Total – Fraud and Non-fraud. Sum the totals for lines 101 and 103.
2. Section B. Recovery/Reconciliation. For recoveries, waivers, and write-offs, enter the amounts applicable during the quarter, regardless of when MEUC overpayments were established. Any repayment received from a claimant that is refunded during the quarter because of a redetermination, etc., must be subtracted from the amount shown if the original amount had already been entered.
  - a. Line 201. Outstanding at the Beginning of Period. Enter amounts of MEUC overpayments outstanding at the beginning of this report period. The amounts entered will always be the same as the amounts outstanding at the end of the preceding report period (line 207 of the preceding period's report).
  - b. Line 202. Recovered –Total. Enter the amounts of all MEUC overpayments recovered for the reporting period.
  - c. Line 203. Waived. Enter the MEUC overpayment recoveries waived under federal law during the report period. Include only MEUC overpayments reported in Section A, either for the current quarter or a previous quarter. Do not include MEUC overpayments that the state agency no longer has the authority to recover because of expired statute of limitations (write-offs).
  - d. Line 204. Written-Off. Enter the dollar amounts of all MEUC overpayments written-off under the state law during the report period.
  - e. Line 205. Additions. Enter the dollar amounts of MEUC overpayments adjusted upward which have been included in Section A for this report or any prior report

period. Such adjustments may be the result of redeterminations or appeal decisions that increase the amount of MEUC overpayments previously reported.

- f. Line 206. Subtractions. Enter the dollar amounts of MEUC overpayments adjusted downward which have been included in Section A for this report or any prior report period. Such adjustments may be the result of redeterminations or appeals decisions that decrease the amount in part or in total of MEUC overpayments previously reported.
- g. Line 207. Outstanding at the End of Period. Calculate the dollars outstanding as follows:
  - 1) UI Fraud Column 13.
    - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 101, Column 7.
    - ii. Add lines 202, 204, and 206.
    - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
  - 2) UI Non Fraud Column 19.
    - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 103, Column 7.
    - ii. Add lines 202, 203, 204, and 206.
    - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
  - 3) UCFE/UCX Fraud Column 14.
    - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 101, Column 8.
    - ii. Add lines 202, 204, and 206.
    - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
  - 4) UCFE/UCX Non Fraud Column 20.
    - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 103, Column 8.
    - ii. Add lines 202, 203, 204, and 206.
    - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
  - 5) EB Fraud Column 15.
    - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 101, Column 9.
    - ii. Add lines 202, 204, and 206.
    - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).

- 6) EB Non Fraud Column 21.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 103, Column 9.
  - ii. Add lines 202, 203, 204, and 206.
  - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
- 7) PEUC Fraud Column 16.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 101, Column 10.
  - ii. Add lines 202, 204, and 206.
  - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
- 8) PEUC Non Fraud Column 22.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 103, Column 10.
  - ii. Add lines 202, 203, 204, and 206.
  - iii. Subtract (ii) and (i).
- 9) TRA Fraud Column 17.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 101, Column 11.
  - ii. Add lines 202, 204, and 206.
  - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
- 10) TRA Non Fraud Column 23.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 103, Column 11.
  - ii. Add lines 202, 203, 204, and 206.
  - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
- 11) DUA Fraud Column 18.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 101, Column 12.
  - ii. Add lines 202, 204, and 206.
  - iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
- 12) DUA Non Fraud Column 24.
  - i. Add lines 201 and 205 to line 103, Column 12.

- ii. Add lines 202, 203, 204, and 206.
- iii. Subtract (ii) from (i).
- h. Line 208, Recovered for Other States. Enter the MEUC amounts recovered by the state for other state agencies under the Combined Wage Claims (CWC) requirements or the Interstate Reciprocal Offset Recovery Arrangement (IRORA) requirements and transferred out during the quarter. MEUC payments must be reduced to recover UC overpayments for other states if the state has signed the IRORA agreement. However, a state may not offset more than 50 percent from the MEUC payment to recover overpayments for other unemployment benefit programs. Note: figures on this line are not included in the calculations for line 207.

Comments. Explain significant variations from the norm.