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# NOTICE: December 22, 2010

# Extended federal jobless benefits to continue in Michigan Federal legislation extends benefits through 2011

On December 17, 2010, President Obama signed into law legislation extending the ending date for the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program to **January 3, 2012**, from November 30, 2010.

However, the legislation does not add any new benefits. The maximum number of weeks for which the **Unemployment Insurance Agency** can pay state and federal unemployment benefits remains at 99 weeks. UIA now pays up to 26 weeks of state unemployment benefits, up to 53 of EUC and up to 20 weeks of Extended Benefits (EB).

# **EUC** to continue providing four tiers of benefits

No new tiers have been added to the EUC program nor have any new extension programs been established. Under the new federal EUC law, the agency will accept applications for EUC Tier I until December 31, 2011. Claims for Tiers II, III, and IV cannot be established after January 7, 2012.

The EUC program will continue to provide four tiers of federally-funded benefits in Michigan to the long-term unemployed:

- Tier I Provides up to <u>20 weeks</u> of EUC benefits to those who exhaust their regular state unemployment benefits and equals 80% of a person's regular unemployment benefits, up to 20 weeks.
- Tier II Provides up to <u>14 weeks</u> of EUC after a person exhausts EUC Tier I and equals 54% of what a person received in regular state unemployment benefits, up to 14 weeks.
- Tier III\* Provides up to <u>13 weeks</u> of EUC after a person exhausts EUC Tier II and equals 50% of a person's regular state unemployment benefits, up to 13 weeks.
- o **Tier IV\*** Provides up to <u>6 weeks</u> of EUC after a person exhausts Tier III and equals 24% of a person's regular state unemployment benefits, up to 6 weeks.

<sup>\*</sup>Tiers III and IV are payable in states with high rates of unemployment, such as Michigan.

#### **Extended Benefits to continue**

In addition to continuing the EUC program, the federal legislation also continues federal funding to the Extended Benefit program, which provides up to 20 weeks of unemployment benefits to those who exhaust their EUC benefits.

The EB program will continue until December 31, 2011, when its 100% federal funding ends.

# Federal Additional Compensation (FAC) payments have ended

The extra \$25 per week federal supplement to unemployment benefit payments were no longer available to new unemployment claims filed May 30, 2010, and after. Those still receiving FAC payments will be issued their final payments with the week ending December 11, 2010.

# If you are collecting benefits

Continue to contact MARVIN bi-weekly at your scheduled appointment day and time. No additional action on your part is necessary at this time, unless you are otherwise notified. However, if you need other assistance, you can contact the agency using your online account or at 1-866-500-0017.

### **UIA** is updating its information

The agency has updated its website and telephone lines with information about the continuation of federal extensions. Prerecorded messages on UIA's **1-866-MI HELPS** telephone number are updated along with "on hold" messages on the agency's toll-free claims line – **1-866-500-0017**.