

NEW Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Extensions November 2009

Two new EUC extensions were passed by Congress and signed by the President on Friday, November 6, 2009.

Background

- **State unemployment** provides up to 26 weeks of benefits, based on a worker's earnings prior to becoming unemployed.
- **EUC Tier I** began in July 2008 and provides an unemployed worker with up to 20 weeks of federally funded unemployment benefits, once they exhaust their state benefits. EUC Tier I = 80% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 20 weeks.
- **EUC Tier II** began in November 2008 and provides up to 13 weeks of federally funded benefits after a person exhausts EUC Tier I. Tier II = 50% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 13 weeks.
- **Extended Benefits (EB)** began in January 2009 and provides up to 20 weeks of federally funded benefits after a person exhausts EUC Tier II. EB = 80% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 20 weeks.

EUC Tiers I and II have expiration dates of 12-31-2009. Please see "Important Notes about EUC and EB" below.

Changes to the EUC Extensions

- First, there is a change in **EUC Tier II** effective November 8, 2009. Tier II = 54% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 14 weeks. For a person who has already exhausted Tier II benefits, or is now on Tier II, a redetermination will be issued and mailed to add up to one more week of benefits (ranging from \$48 to one full week of \$387).
- **EUC Tier III** is effective November 8, 2009 and provides up to 13 weeks of federally funded EUC benefits after a person exhausts EUC Tier II. Tier III = 50% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 13 weeks.
- **EUC Tier IV** is also effective November 8, 2009 and provides up to 6 weeks of federally funded EUC benefits after a person exhausts Tier III. Tier IV = 24% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 6 weeks. Tier IV is payable in Michigan because Michigan is a high unemployment state.

EUC Tiers III and IV have expiration dates of 12-31-2009. Please see "Important Notes about EUC and EB" below.

Important Notes about EUC and EB

- **EUC Tiers I–IV have an expiration date.** As of now, all EUC benefits (Tiers I–IV) are due to expire 12-31-2009. If you are already collecting EUC benefits that week, you may continue collecting the weeks for which you are entitled. You will be unable to begin the next EUC tier after that week – the week of expiration. You may apply for EB, if payment under the EB extension program is still available.
- **EB claims can only be set up and paid if Michigan's unemployment rate remains high.** At the end of 2009, EB may drop to (up to) 13 weeks of benefits.

Who is Eligible for the New EUC Extension and How Will They Be Notified?

- Those who exhaust their Extended Benefits (EB) in 2009 may qualify for the EUC extension.
- UIA anticipates that 70,000-80,000 unemployed workers who have exhausted all unemployment benefits may qualify for the new EUC extension.
- Payments will be made retroactive to the new EUC extension's effective date of November 8, 2009.
- UIA expects to begin making payments on the new EUC extension by mid-December.
- **If you have exhausted all benefits, you will receive a letter in the mail by November 21, 2009** with information and instructions about the new EUC benefits and reporting for benefit payments.
- **If you are currently collecting state unemployment, EUC Tier I or Tier II,** continue to report using MARVIN. You will receive information, instructions and decisions as you continue reporting.

UIA will update information about the EUC and EB extensions on this website.