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CONTACT: John Dipko, Communications Director, 608-266-6753

On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

Unemployment Rate Decrease Brings Change in WI Unemployment Insurance Benefit Eligibility

Maximum eligibility period will be 93 weeks starting August 15

MADISON – The improvement of Wisconsin's unemployment rate has brought the state's three-month average rate down to 8.2 percent (seasonally adjusted), triggering changes in Wisconsin's eligibility for federal Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits.

The drop below 8.5 percent means Wisconsin will no longer be eligible for Tier 4 of UI benefits, according to federal guidelines. As of August 15, 2010, the maximum number of weeks one can receive UI benefits in Wisconsin will be 93 weeks instead of 99 weeks.

DWD notifies affected claimants who are nearing the end of their eligibility for UI benefits. Should Wisconsin become eligible for Tier 4 benefits in the future, claimants will automatically be notified.

DWD encourages claimants to visit the UI website at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov> or call 1-800-UC CLAIM if they have questions.