

September 30, 2020 Department Update for the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council

1. Trust Fund Update

- Trust fund balance as of September 26, 2020: \$1,210,546,023
- Tax contributions January 1 through September 26, 2020: \$430,320,977
- As of September 28, 2020, there are 449 active work-share plans with 14,066 worker participants.

2. Unemployment Insurance Benefits Update

- [Current unemployment insurance claims statistics](#)
- 523,515 claimants have been paid over \$3.8 billion since March 15, 2020.
- Total benefit payments for 3/15/2020 - 9/26/2020: **\$3,806,179,074** (includes federal programs like UCX, UCFE, TRA, etc.)

Benefit Program	Total paid 3/15/20 - 9/26/20
Regular UI (excludes fed programs like UCX, UCFE, TRA, etc.)	\$ 1,190,719,198
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance	\$ 121,948,387
Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation	\$ 2,444,350,112
Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation	\$ 46,211,804

CLAIMS STATUS: Weekly Claims 3/15/20 - 9/26/20	
Weekly Claims Received* (includes all programs)	6,914,571
Weekly Claims in Process (includes claims awaiting wage verification, adjudication, etc.)	598,466 (8.66%)
Weekly Claims Resolved (paid + denied)	6,316,105 (91.34%)

*Weekly claims received are not a count of people filing claims.

- [Lost Wages Assistance \(LWA\)](#)
 - Wisconsin was approved for the federal LWA program, which provides a flat \$300 weekly benefit to claimants with a compensable week of federal or state unemployment benefits who meet certain eligibility criteria.
 - LWA is payable starting with the week ending August 1, 2020, and payable for up to six weeks. FEMA will not fund any weeks after the week ending September 5, 2020.
 - DWD expects to begin paying LWA benefits after it completes the necessary computer programming, which is expected to be completed mid-October 2020. Payments will be made retroactively after programming is finished.
- [Extended Benefits \(EB\)](#)
 - The US Department of Labor advised Wisconsin that, due to an increase in the state's unemployment rate, we met the criteria to trigger onto the EB Program. EB pays up to 13 additional weeks of benefits to claimants after they exhaust both

Regular UI and PEUC. (EB is not available to individuals who receive Pandemic Unemployment Assistance).

- DWD still needs to program its system to address EB. This will be done after programming for the Lost Wages Assistance program is completed. While this may delay the payment of EB to those who quickly exhaust both regular UI and PEUC, when they can file for EB, they will be able to file for past weeks and receive benefits due.

3. Administrative Rules Update

- [Emergency Rule 2006](#) - DWD 127 & 128 – eff. May 9, 2020; expires December 4, 2020
 - Relating to work search actions during the public health emergency and provides certain treatment of available for work and work available during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - JCRAR approved a 60-day extension of this rule on September 17, 2020.
 - If the rule is not extended, work searches will be required starting with the week of **December 6, 2020**, unless a waiver applies.
- [Emergency Rule 2011](#) – DWD 113 – eff. June 5, 2020; expires December 31, 2020
 - Waives interest in limited circumstances for employers subject to reimbursement financing when reimbursements are delinquent due to COVID-19.
 - JCRAR approved a 60-day extension of this rule on September 17, 2020.
 - If this rule is not extended, interest will begin to accrue on **January 1, 2021**.
- [Emergency Rule 2018](#) – DWD 102 – eff. June 29, 2020; expires November 25, 2020
 - Ensures that employer contribution rates for 2021 will be set based on the Department disregarding certain benefit claims during the pandemic.
 - The Department submitted a request for a 60-day extension of this rule to JCRAR.
- Emergency Rule – DWD 120 – eff. November 2, 2020
 - Requires employers to give employees notice of the availability of unemployment insurance at the time of separation.
 - The Governor approved the rule, which was published September 29, 2020.
 - [Employer information is available on our website.](#)
 - The Department will hold a hearing on the rule on November 10, 2020 at 10:00 am by WebEx. Hearing information will be provided when it is available.

4. Future Meetings by WebEx – Links to be provided

- UIAC Meeting: October 15, 2020 at 10:00 am by WebEx
- Public Hearing Dates
 - Monday, November 9, 2020, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 - Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.