Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program

Gay Gilbert, Administrator
Unemployment Insurance
U.S. Department of Labor
A Permanently Authorized RESEA Program

• Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (BBA) enacted new Section 306 of the Social Security Act (SSA)
  • Establishes a permanent authorization for the RESEA program.
  • Maintains RESEA as a voluntary program.
  • Provides authorized funding levels and “funding cap” adjustments through FY 2027
  • Introduces several new requirements
  • Phased implementation starting at enactment.

• Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018
  • Postponed immediate implementation of BBA/SSA requirements.
  • Phased implementation of new program requirements now start in FY 2019.
Program Purposes

1. “To improve employment outcomes of individuals that receive unemployment compensation and to reduce average duration of receipt of such compensation through employment.”

2. To strengthen program integrity and reduce improper payments of unemployment compensation

3. To promote alignment with the vision of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of increased program integration and service delivery.

4. Establishes RESEA as an entry point to other workforce system partners.
New Requirements

• Use of evidence-based strategies and evaluations.
• Increased state discretion in participant selection.
• Submission and approval of annual RESEA state plan.
• Formula allocation of funding and incentive funding for high performing states
Evidence-based Strategies & Evaluations

- Funds must be used for interventions or strategies demonstrated to reduce claim duration by improving employment outcomes.
- FY 2019 operating guidance will provide instructions and resources to help states satisfy this requirement.
- Interventions and strategies not backed by evidence must be under evaluation.
- Up to 10 percent of a State’s funds may be used for evaluations.
Evidence-based Strategies: DOL Support

- Defining “highly/moderately” causal
- Synthesis of reemployment evaluations in CLEAR
- Capturing/Adding non-DOL sources (states/other Federal agencies)
- Technical assistance to states on conducting evaluations
- RESEA implementation study
More Evaluations and Research at
http://clear.dol.gov/
Targeting Participants

- States will have significant discretion in how RESEA is targeted.
- State may opt to continue targeting current populations:
  - UI claimants determined to be most likely to exhaust benefits under the methods established for the state’s Worker Profiling and Reemployment Services (WPRS) program; and
  - transitioning veterans receiving Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers (UCX)
- WPRS remains a separate statutorily required program
- RESEA programs that do not include WPRS profiling models will not satisfy WPRS requirements
Annual State Plan

• Annual RESEA State Plan that must include:
  • Assurance/description of proper notification and scheduling accommodations;
  • Assurance/description of how the program design meets the 4 goals of RESEA, including evidence-based requirements; and
  • Description of any evaluations conducted during previous year.
• Standardized fillable template is in development.
Formula Allocation / Funding Requirements

• Beginning in FY 2021 ETA must allot funding to states under two categories:
  • Base funding: Distributed via formula
  • Outcome Payments: Distributed to states that meet or exceed outcome goals
  • Technical Assistance: 1% reserved by USDOL
  • DOL will be requesting input on the formula

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base</td>
<td>89%</td>
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<td>89%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcome</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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Formula Allocation / Funding Requirements

- Beginning in FY 2023 states will be required to use a percentage of their grant funds on evidence-based strategies with high or moderate causal evidence rating.
- This rate will increase over time from 25% to 50%
- The Department will define “high” and “moderate” causal evidence ratings.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evidenced-Based</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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When do new requirements take effect?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Evidence-based requirement</td>
<td>• RESEA State Plan will be implemented</td>
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<td>• Flexibility in targeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>• ETA will seek input on base funding formula allocation</td>
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<td>• Formula published by September 30, 2019</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Formula allocation begins</td>
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<td>• DOL reports to Congress on promising reemployment practices</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Evidence-based funding restriction</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 25% FYs 2023 and 2024</td>
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<td>• 40% FYs 2025 and 2025</td>
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<td>• 50% FY 2027 and later</td>
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Funding Outlook

- FY 2019 funding increased to $150 million
- FY 2019 RESEA guidance is being expedited
  - Will also include further technical assistance

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<tr>
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Next Steps

• FY 2019 Guidance Coming Soon
• Technical Assistance for Evidence Based Requirements Under Development
• Federal Register Notice Seeking Public Comment on Funding Allocation Methodologies
• Federal Register Notice with State Plan Requirements Coming Soon
Any Questions?

Enter your questions in the chat window (lower left of screen)