

concerning the proposed extension of the collection of the ETA 218, Benefits Rights and Experience.

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before May 12, 1998.

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Cynthia Ambler, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Room S-4231, 200 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20210. Phone number: 202-219-6209 ext. 129. (This is not a toll free number.) E-mail: amblerc@doleta.gov. Fax: 202-219-8506.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Attachment to the labor force, usually measured as amount of past wages earned, is used to determine eligibility for State unemployment compensation programs. The data in the ETA 218, Benefit Rights and Experience Report,

includes numbers of individuals who were and were not monetarily eligible, those eligible for the maximum benefits, those eligible classified by potential duration categories, and exhaustees classified by actual duration categories. This data is used by the National Office in solvency studies, cost estimating and modeling, and to assess State benefit formulas.

II. Current Actions

If this data were not available, cost estimating and modeling would be less accurate.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration, Unemployment Insurance Service.

Title: ETA 218, Benefit Rights and Experience.

OMB Number: 1205-0177.

Agency Number: ETA 218.

Recordkeeping: 3-year record retention.

| Cite/reference | Total respondents | Frequency | Total response's | Average time per response hours | Burden hours |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| ETA 218 regular | 53 | Quarterly | 212 | 1/2 | 106 |
| ETA 281 extended benefits | 2 | Quarterly | 4 | 1/4 | 1 |
| Totals | | | 216 | | 107 |

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$2,140.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 6, 1998.

Grace A. Kilbane,

Director, Unemployment Insurance Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of a Change in Status of an Extended Benefit (EB) Period for Alaska

This notice announces a change in benefit period eligibility under the EB Program for Alaska.

Summary

The following change has occurred since the publication of the last notice regarding the State's EB status:

- February 22, 1998 Alaska triggered "on" EB. Alaska's 13-week insured unemployment rate rose above the 6.0 percent threshold necessary to be triggered "on" to EB for the week ending February 7, 1998.

Information for Claimants

The duration of benefits payable in the EB Program, and the terms and conditions on which they are payable, are governed by the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970, as amended, and the operating instructions issued to the States by the U.S. Department of Labor. In the case of a State beginning an EB period, the State employment security agency will furnish a written notice of potential entitlement to each individual who has exhausted all rights to regular benefits and is potentially eligible for EB (20 CFR 615.13(c)(1)).

Persons who believe they may be entitled to EB, or who wish to inquire about their rights under the program,

should contact the nearest State employment service office or unemployment compensation claims office in their locality.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on March 9, 1998.

Raymond Uhalde,

Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Job Training Partnership Act Allotments; Wagner-Peyser Act Preliminary Planning Estimates; Program Year (PY) 1998

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces States' Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) allotments for Program Year (PY) 1998 (July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999) for JTPA