

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.
[FR Doc. 98-6576 Filed 3-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

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.

[FR Doc. 98-6574 Filed 3-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

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

Titles II-A, II-C, and III; JTPA Title II-B Summer Youth Employment and Training Program for Calendar Year (CY) 1998; and preliminary planning estimates for public employment service activities under the Wagner-Peyser Act for PY 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For JTPA Title II allotments, contact Mr. Haskel Lowery, Office of Employment and Training Programs, Room N4469, 2090 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; Telephone: 202-219-5305. For JTPA Title III allotments, contact Mr. Doug Holl, Office of Worker Retraining and Adjustment Programs, Room N5426, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; Telephone 202-219-5577. For Employment Service planning levels, contact Mr. John R. Beverly, Director, U.S. Employment Service, Room N4470, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; Telephone: 202-219-5257. (These are not toll-free numbers.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Labor (DOL or Department) is announcing Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) allotments for Program Year (PY) 1998 (July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999) for JTPA Titles II-A, II-C, and III, and for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program in Calendar Year (CY) 1998 for JTPA Title II-B; and, in accord with section 6(b)(5) of the Wagner-Peyser Act, preliminary planning estimates for public employment service (ES) activities under the Wagner-Peyser Act for PY 1998. The allotments and estimates are based on the appropriations for DOL for Fiscal Year (FY) 1998.

Attached is a listing of the allotments for PY 1998 for programs under JTPA Titles II-A, II-C, and III; allotments for the CY 1998 Summer Youth Employment and Training Program under Title II-B of JTPA; and preliminary planning estimates for public employment service activities under the Wagner-Peyser Act. The PY 1998 allotments for Titles II-A, II-C, and III and the ES preliminary planning estimates, are based on the appropriations for DOL for FY 1998.

These JTPA allotments will not be updated for subsequent unemployment data. The Employment Service preliminary estimates are based on averages for the most current 12 months ending September 1997 for each State's share of the civilian labor force and unemployment. Final planning estimates will be published in the **Federal Register** based on Calendar Year 1997 unemployment data.

Title II-A Allotments

The Attachment shows the PY 1998 JTPA Title II-A Adult Training Program allotments by State for a total appropriation of \$955,000,000. For all States, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, the following data were used in computing the allotments:

- Data for areas of substantial unemployment (ASU) are averages for the 12-month period; July 1996 through June 1997.
- The number of excess unemployed individuals or the ASU excess (depending on which is higher) are averages for this same 12-month period.
- The economically disadvantaged adult data (age 22 to 72, excluding college students and military) are from the 1990 Census.

The allotments for the Insular Areas, including the Freely Associated States, are based on unemployment data from 1990 Census or, if not available, the most recent data available. A 90 percent relative share "hold-harmless" of the PY 1997 Title II-A allotments for these areas and a minimum allotment of \$75,000 were also applied in determining the allotments.

Title II-A funds are to be distributed among designated service delivery areas (SDAs) according to the statutory formula contained in section 202(b) of the JTPA. This is the same formula that was used in the previous program year.

JTPA Title II-B Allotments

The Attachment shows the CY 1998 JTPA Title II-B Summer Youth Employment and Training Program allotments by State based on the total available appropriation for FY 1998 of \$871,000,000. These funds will be obligated as *Fiscal Year 1998* funds, not as Program Year 1998 funds. Notices of Obligation will be made in February, 1998 and States (SDAs) may begin using the funds when received.

The data used for these allotments are the same unemployment data as were used for Title II-A, except that data for the number for economically disadvantaged youth (age 16 to 21, excluding college students and military) from the 1990 Census was used. For the Insular Areas and for Native Americans funding, the allotments are based on the percentage of Title II-B funds each received during the previous summer.

Title II-B funds for the 1998 Summer Program are to be distributed among designated SDAs in accordance with the statutory formula contained in Section 252(b) of the JTPA, as amended by the JTPA Amendments of 1992. The Title II-B formula is the same as for Title II-

C. This is the same formula that was used in the previous program year.

JTPA Title II-C Allotments

The Attachment shows the PY 1998 JTPA Title II-C Youth Training Program allotments by State for a total appropriation of \$129,965,000. For all States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, the data used in computing the allotments are the same data as were used for Title II-B allotments.

The allotments for the Insular Areas are based on unemployment data from the 1990 census or, if not available, the most recent data available. Title II-C funds are to be distributed among designated SDAs in accordance with the statutory formula contained in Section 262(b) of the JTPA, as amended by Section 701 of the JTPA Amendments of 1992. The Title II-C formula is the same as for Title II-B. This is the same formula which was used in the previous program year.

JTPA Title III Allotments

The Attachment shows the PY 1998 JTPA Title III Dislocated Worker Program allotments by State, for a total of \$1,350,510,000. The total includes 80 percent allotted by formula to the States and 20 percent for the National Reserve, including funds allotted to the Insular Areas.

Title III formula funds are to be distributed to State and substate grantees in accordance with the provisions in Section 302(c) and (d) of JTPA, as amended.

Except for the Insular Areas, the unemployment data used for computing these allotments, relative numbers of unemployed and relative numbers of excess unemployed, are averages for the October 1996 through September 1997 period. Long-term unemployed data used were for CY 1996. Allotments for the Insular Areas are based on the PY 1998 Title II-A allotments for these areas.

A reallocation of these published Title III formula amounts, as provided for by Section 303 of JTPA, as amended, will be based on completed program year expenditure reports submitted by the States and received by October 1, 1998. The Title III allotment for each State will be adjusted upward or downward, based on whether the State is eligible to share in reallocated funds or is subject to recapture of funds.

Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service Final Planning Estimates

The Attachment shows preliminary planning estimates which have been produced using the formula set forth at Section 6 of the Wagner-Peyser Act, 29

U.S.C. 49e. These allotments are based on averages for the most current 12 months ending September 1997 for each State's share of the civilian labor force (CLF) and unemployment. Final planning estimates will be published in the **Federal Register**, based on Calendar Year 1997 data, as required by the Wagner-Peyser Act.

The total planning estimate includes \$18,000,000 of the total amount available, which is being withheld from distribution to States to finance postage costs associated with the conduct of Employment Service business for PY 1998.

The Secretary of Labor has set aside 3 percent of the total available funds to assure that each State will have sufficient resources to maintain statewide employment services, as required under Section 6(b)(4) of the Wagner-Peyser Act. In accordance with this provision, \$22,312,050 is set aside for administrative formula allocation. These set-aside funds are included in the total planning estimate. Set-aside funds are distributed in two steps to States which have lost in their relative share of resources from the prior year. In step one, States which have a CLF below one million and are below the median CLF density are maintained at 100 percent of their relative share of prior year resources. All remaining set-aside funds are distributed on a pro rata basis in step two to all other States losing in relative share from the prior year, but which do not meet the size and density criteria for step one.

Ten percent of the total sums allotted to each State shall be reserved for use by the Governor to provide performance incentives for public employment service offices, services for groups with special needs, and for the extra costs of exemplary models for delivering job services.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 6th day of March, 1998.

Raymond Uhalde,

Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training.

[FR Doc. 98-6575 Filed 3-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division

Minimum Wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction; General Wage Determination Decisions

General wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in

accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR Part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR Part 1, Appendix, as well as such additional statutes as may from time to time be enacted containing provisions for the payment of wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The prevailing rates and fringe benefits determined in these decisions shall, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing statutes, constitute the minimum wages payable on Federal and federally assisted construction projects to laborers and mechanics of the specified classes engaged on contract work of the character and in the localities described therein.

Good cause is hereby found for not utilizing notice and public comment procedure thereon prior to the issuance of these determinations as prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 553 and not providing for delay in the effective date as prescribed in that section, because the necessity to issue current construction industry wage determinations frequently and in large volume causes procedures to be impractical and contrary to the public interest.

General wage determination decisions, and modifications and supersedes decisions thereto, contain no expiration dates and are effective from their date of notice in the **Federal Register**, or on the date written notice is received by the agency, whichever is earlier. These decisions are to be used in accordance with the provisions of 29 CFR Parts 1 and 5. Accordingly, the applicable decision, together with any modifications issued, must be made a part of every contract for performance of the described work within the geographic area indicated as required by an applicable Federal prevailing wage law and 29 CFR Part 5. The wage rates and fringe benefits, notice of which is published herein, and which are contained in the Government Printing

Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon And Related Acts," shall be the minimum paid by contractors and subcontractors to laborers and mechanics.

Any person, organization, or governmental agency having an interest in the rates determined as prevailing is encouraged to submit wage rate and fringe benefit information for consideration by the Department. Further information and self-explanatory forms for the purpose of submitting this data may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Division of Wage Determinations, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room S-3014, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Modifications to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of decisions listed in the Government Printing Office document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts" being modified are listed by Volume and State. Dates of publication in the **Federal Register** are in parentheses following the decisions being modified.

Volume I

Connecticut

CT980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CT980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CT980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
CT980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)

Massachusetts

MA980001 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980007 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980008 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980009 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980010 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980013 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980017 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980018 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980019 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980020 (Feb. 13, 1998)
MA980021 (Feb. 13, 1998)

New Jersey

NJ980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)

New York

NY980002 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NY980003 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NY980004 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NY980005 (Feb. 13, 1998)
NY980007 (Feb. 13, 1998)
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NY980021 (Feb. 13, 1998)