Hi Everyone.

Yesterday afternoon, the Employment and Training Administration published operating guidance and preliminary funding allotments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) grants. The RESEA guidance was published as both a Training and Employment Guidance Letter (**TEGL No. 08-22**) and Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (**UIPL No. 02-23**). This joint publication reflects the continuing shared responsibilities across the Unemployment Insurance (UI) and workforce programs in conducting RESEA activities. RESEA state plans are due no later than **April 10, 2023**. State plans will be reviewed in the order they are received, and we welcome early submissions.

To further support states with the development of their FY 2023 RESEA grant programs and submission of the required state plans, ETA will host a webinar in March. This webinar will provide a detailed walk-through of the FY 2023 RESEA operating guidance, an overview of the recently revised RESEA state plan template, and introduce a series of new resources and tools intended to assist state RESEA staff through-out the state plan process. More details on the date, registration, and other information about this webinar will be shared soon.

Since the RESEA program was permanently authorized in 2018, we have been in a period of transition and implementation as new program provisions were implemented, tools and resources developed, training conducted, and internal and external challenges were successfully addressed. In FY 2023, RESEA is funded at its full authorized level of $375 million. This is a 67 percent increase from FY 2022 and a 220 percent increase since RESEA's permanent authorization in FY 2018. This funding represents an opportunity for significant investments in the expansion and further integration of RESEA into states' broader workforce and reemployment strategies and service delivery. This is especially significant for states that have historically operated smaller scale RESEA programs. To assist states in identifying possible activities that can be pursued with RESEA funding, we have attached a list of various allowable program activities and enhancements that we encourage all states consider during the development of their FY 2023 RESEA state plans.

The levels of the preliminary funding allotments announced in this guidance vary widely by individual state. The statute establishing the permanent RESEA program required ETA to implement formula funding for RESEA grants in FY 2021. The statute requires the RESEA formula funding to be based on each state's Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR). Also, the transition from a discretionary grant program to a formula-funded program has resulted in instances of some states having small reductions from their FY 2022 funding level. Please note that the current funding allocations are preliminary and there are a couple of opportunities where funding levels may change. First, the current funding table does not account for the 60 percent carry-over limit which may result in funds shifting from states with high carry-over balances to states that have expended the majority of their previous RESEA grant awards. Second, in December 2022, the Department implemented a change to the RESEA formula that allows for redistribution of any unobligated base-funds among states that request additional funds. So, if some states do not request the full amount of their preliminary allotment, the unrequested funds will be available for distribution to other states. Additionally, in March 2023, approximately $25 million in FY 2022 RESEA funds will be awarded to states as outcome payments based on FY 2022 RESEA performance. We will provide additional information on any changes to the FY 2023 funding allocations and the FY 2022

RESEA outcome payments over the next few weeks.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the RESEA program and its important role in the workforce system. RESEA continues to grow and become a major workforce program focused on connecting UI claimants to the services of the public workforce system. Please reach out to your Regional Office if you have questions or need assistance with developing your state plans for FY 2023.

Jim Garner
Administrator
ETA's Office of Unemployment Insurance

Attachment

Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA): Expanded Activities to Consider

- Dedicated RESEA staffing: As part of the transition to a permanent RESEA program we encourage states to consider assigning dedicated RESEA staff rather than staff members that divide their time across multiple programs.

- Reimbursement for Reemployment Service Costs: The costs incurred by a workforce system partner in providing reemployment/career services that directly result from a claimant's participation in RESEA (referrals) can often be reimbursed with RESEA funds. We encourage states to explore processes and procedures to facilitate such reimbursements.

- Broadened Eligibility: FY 2023 Federal Appropriations continue the expansion of RESEA eligibility to any recipient of regular unemployment benefits. States that are currently limiting RESEA services to claimants identified as likely or exhaust benefits or other targeted populations can consider expansion of RESEA eligibility.

- Case-Management/Intensive Services: Current evidence suggests that more intensive services such as case management or intensive work-search workshops can lead to better outcomes. States may consider increases to the intensity of RESEA services.

- Subsequent RESEAs: There is no longer a limit on the number of subsequent RESEA sessions a claimant may receive. States may revisit their service-models to assess if one or more subsequent RESEA sessions would be beneficial.

- Staff Training: Unemployment Insurance requirements and work search best practices are constantly evolving and RESEA staff training should be updated frequently and conducted routinely.

- Infrastructure Costs: As a workforce system partner, UI/RESEA can contribute its proportionate share of American Job Center infrastructure costs

- Hybrid/In-Person Services: In response to the pandemic, many states transitioned exclusively to virtual and remote RESEA services. States that are continuing to exclusively provide services virtually/remotely may wish to consider hybrid or restoration of in-person services.

- Mobile/ Pop-up RESEA Services: States with rural or other areas that have limited broadband access and no physical American Job Center (AJC) locations may consider mobile service strategies that temporary locate RESEA and reemployment services in designated areas.

- Rapid Response: States should identify opportunities to further integrate RESEA into workforce system business services, including collaboration with Rapid Response teams to identify potential industries or areas that may have increased demand for reemployment assistance.

- Self-Scheduling: Self-scheduling systems are a well-established strategy for reducing no-show rates. Implementation or modification of RESEA self-scheduling systems is an allowable activity.

- Plain Language Activities: As part of plain language best practices, RESEA communications should be routinely reviewed, tested, and revised to ensure that they clearly convey information for everybody, regardless of reading level or English fluency.

- RESEA Focused Recruitment Events/Job Fairs: Several states have begun piloting recruitment events and jobs fairs targeted directly to RESEA participants or conducted concurrently with scheduled RESEA sessions.

- IT System Improvements: States may consider changes to their IT infrastructure to support the expansion and permanent authorization of RESEA activities.