
Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments

A One-Stop - UI Collaboration

Ron Wilus
Office of Workforce Security
September 13, 2005
wilus.ronald@dol.gov

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

- Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments (REAs):
 - Promote quicker reemployment of UI beneficiaries; and
 - Verify continued eligibility for benefits, reducing overpayments.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

- What are REAs?

- In person interviews periodically in One-Stop centers that include:

- UI eligibility review

- Labor market information

- Work-search plan

- Referral to reemployment services/training when needed

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

- In February 2005, grants totaling \$17.8 million awarded to 21 states.
- States given great flexibility in designing their REA initiatives.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

Variety of Approaches

- Number of REAs vary from 1,900 to 45,000.
 - Most states will conduct between 10,000 and 40,000.
- Single or multiple REAs per claimant.
- Staff – UI; One-Stop; both; ES/UI; contract staff.
- Length of REA – ranges from 15 minutes to nearly 5 hours. [Most states = ½ hr to 2 hrs.]
- Sites: statewide or specific site.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

- Differences in design include:
 - Targeting
 - Timing/frequency
 - Services provided.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

Variations in Target Groups

- Profiled as most likely to exhaust.
- Skills in high demand occupations.
- Likely to exhaust within 5th week.
- Profiled with mid range scores probability to exhaust.
- Between weeks 8-11; highest benefit amount.
- Not eligible for WPRS services.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

Variations in Timing/Frequency

- Every 10 days.
- Repeat interviews if remain unemployed.
- Between 7th and 22nd week of claim.
- Multiple REAs if still unemployed.
- Random selection.
- Telephone follow-up after 14 and 30 days.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments

Variations in Services Provided

- Matching skills with high demand jobs.
- Review qualifications vs. labor market and refer to employer-targeted placement assistance.
- Group work readiness assessment and work search planning.
- Review of barriers to reemployment.
- One state using 2-step process. UI staff assesses eligibility by telephone and 1-Stop staff does in-person needs assessment and referral to services.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments Variations in Services Provided (con't)

- One-on-one assessments using a self-completed work search plan.
- Mandatory workshop on how to get and keep a job.
- Group orientation and then staff-assisted services.
- Update claimant's O*Net code.

Reemployment & Eligibility Assessments Analytical Data

- States will provide claimant data on:
 - Number who report or failed to report for REAs.
 - Numbers and types of disqualifications.
 - Types of reemployment services.
 - Numbers with wage credits in calendar quarter of REA or quarter immediately following REA.

Evaluation of Effectiveness of REAs

- An evaluation of REA program is being done by IMPAQ International as part of ongoing UI Benefits Evaluation.
- 9 of the 21 states are participating in the evaluation.
 - CA, CT, MN, SC, WA, OH, NV, FL, ND
- Results of study scheduled to be available in March 2007.

Evaluation of Effectiveness of REAs

Study Design

- Measure impact of REAs in 9 REA states versus comparison groups.
- Collect follow-up information from claimants who fail to show up for REA because they have stopped collecting benefits.
 - Return to work (employer, occupation, wages)
 - Withdrawal from labor force
 - Other reasons to cease claiming UI benefits
- Document procedures and processes of states' implementation of REA initiative.
- Analyze data on REA activities and outcomes reported by states.

REA Grants in FY 2006

- FY 2006 budget request includes additional funds for REAs.
- If funding is approved and grants awarded, IMPAQ will provide some technical assistance to most, if not all, states receiving REA funding