

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Initiative

This initiative is an element of the Job Creation Act of 2012 that was signed into law on February 22, 2012. It requires the US Department of Labor to ensure that all customers that are on unemployment extensions of any type have the tools and resources available for them to return to work. In order for the customer to maintain their eligibility and continue to receive emergency unemployment compensation benefits they need to participate in mandatory activities and meet appointments, goals and tasks at their local career center.

Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) anticipates sending 200,000 letters to unemployment customers state-wide between June and December 2012 to notify them of their responsibility to schedule and attend a new mandatory EUC Orientation and one-on-one Status Review meeting within a prescribed time period at their local One-Stop Career Centers. The initial round of letters was sent out by the DUA to a state-wide cohort of approximately 5,000 customers on May 19th. Each weekend a new group of letters is sent outlining the timeline for the customer work with the career center staff to:

- **Develop a Career Action Plan**
- **Register with the JobQuest job bank**
- **Review their weekly Work Search Log**
- **Establish a Strategy to meet the Career Action Plan**

In the North Shore region it is anticipated that we will need to accommodate 300 customers per week for orientation sessions and then within two weeks of the orientation meet individually with at least 80% (240) of those participating in the orientation sessions. During the initial ramp-up weeks of this program we have seen the following customers:

- **Orientation**
 - **Salem** **256**
 - **Lynn** **218**
 - ***Total*** **474**
- **Status Review**
 - **Salem** **116**
 - **Lynn** **106**
 - ***Total*** **222**

We are developing reporting that will allow us to track the following characteristics for EUC customers in an effort to gain a better understand who are our long-term unemployed customers in this region:

- **Gender**
- **Age**
- **Education Level**
- **Duration on UI**
- **Last Occupation Grouping**
- **Community of Residence**