

Fernando Lecuona III
Commissioner



Dave Heineman
Governor

September 29, 2006

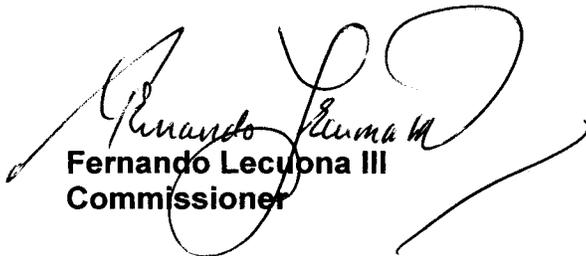
**Administrator
Office of Workforce Investment, Room S-4231
Attn: Gene Tichenor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210**

Dear Mr. Tichenor:

Reference Training and Employment Guidance Letter NO. 07-05, please find enclosed the PY 2005 Re-employment Services Program Performance Report for Nebraska.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact Cecilia Coatney at (402) 471-1932.

Sincerely,



**Fernando Lecuona III
Commissioner**

Enclosures

Cc: Joan Modrell, Office of Workforce Services

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

REEMPLOYMENT SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT

STATE: NEBRASKA 2005

DATE: 9/23/06

STATE SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE REPORT (Add additional sheets if necessary.)

Describe activities and an overview of how the activities were accomplished. Include milestones, and positive outcomes achieved. Compare accomplishment of planned performance goals with the attainment of the performance indicators identified by the State in the annual plan.

PY 2005 Overview:

Nebraska's rural and urban economy continued to report small, consistent growth during 2005. The Unemployment Rate in Nebraska leveled out at an average of 3.8 % in 2005 with little change in the number of Unemployment Insurance weekly claims. Unemployment Insurance benefit payments, however, continued to decline another 10% from 2004 to 2005. Further, the average number of unemployed Nebraskans decreased from 38,426 in 2004 to 37,226 in this same year. Nebraskans continue to struggle to find adequate jobs at a sustainable and livable wage; however, this continued trend of economic rebound in 2005 provides a positive impact on the number of Unemployment Insurance weekly claims, as well as the number of unemployed Nebraskans.

PY 2005 Reemployment Services Overview:

As the formal submission of a PY 2005 Reemployment Services Plan was not required, Nebraska was pleased with the manner in which the Re-employment Services program evolved during PY 2004 and felt that maintaining the program with the expansion of the three categories of claimants would continue to provide Nebraska the ability to serve a larger population of UI claimants and sustain the goal of increasing claimant employability through early intervention in PY 2005.

Continued review of the U.I. Eligibility Review Program (ERP) and the Re-employment Services Program confirmed the unpredictability in the distribution of profiled claimants across the rural counties. Therefore, during PY 2005, to insure that re-employment services were not only available but actually delivered in all Workforce Development Career Centers, Nebraska continued to focus efforts toward the target population of Category Two of Unemployment Insurance claimants by increasing the number of clients invited to orientation by an additional 20% in addition to the 66% increase in PY 2004.

Category Two is a claimant not selected through profile who has received at least two weeks of U.I. benefits. This was previously a claimant who had received five weeks of benefits; however, it was determined during PY 2004 that referring these claimants to Re-Employment Services sooner in their claim would ultimately allow for quicker transition to the goal of employment.

New procedures and enhanced technical assistance to the Workforce Development Career Centers and Unemployment Insurance Claim Centers staff continued to be a focus during PY 2005. The unification of Career Center Operations and the Unemployment Insurance Benefit Program Division under the management of the Office of Workforce Security launched the development of a new benefits payment system, placing renewed emphasis on the creation of a better, more effective reporting interface between the two divisions. As the need for enhanced reporting capacities regarding reemployment services continues to grow, Nebraska remains committed to building the necessary framework that allows for the reflection of positive outcomes coupled with continuous improvement.

Outcome: The expansion of the Reemployment Services program in Nebraska continued to prove to be a worthy endeavor during PY 2005. During PY 2005 all Career Centers received and served Unemployment Insurance Claimants profiled through the Category 1 system or Category 2 referral system that was established in a joint effort between The Office of Workforce Services and The Unemployment Insurance Office. During PY 2005 Nebraska served 1240 Category 1 claimants, 70% of whom reported to receive services. Likewise, 2463 Category 2 claimants were scheduled to participate in the Reemployment services program, with 1434 reporting to receive services.

Performance Goals:

The goal established for PY 2004 to maintain or increase the number of UI claimants reported to Reemployment Services as reflected on the ETA 9048 report and the SASi information system was satisfied in PY 2005. It should also be noted that during PY 2005, 58% of the Category 2 clients that were invited to orientation reported for services, for a total of 1434 additional clients reporting to and receiving Reemployment Services.

The goal to reduce the duration of profiled UI claimants receiving benefits by one week as reflected on the ETA 9049 report is unable to be measured at this time as the UI 9049 quarterly reports for PY 2004 are not yet available.

The goal to reduce the rate of UI benefit exhaustion by 5% as reflected on the ETA 9049 report is unable to be measured at this time as the UI 9049 quarterly reports for PY 2004 are not yet available

As both the Unemployment Insurance rate and the number of unemployed Nebraskans decreased during PY 2005, Nebraska believes that the Reemployment Services program for PY 2005 was successful overall. This success can be attributed to the foundation established through six years of administering reemployment services to 10,000 Unemployment Insurance claimants defined as the hardest to serve or the most likely to exhaust their benefits. In the eventual phase out of the Reemployment Services program, Nebraska Workforce Development, Office of Workforce Security will continue to sustain an increasingly focused approach toward reporting and performance outcomes in future endeavors. In conjunction with a growing economy, Nebraska is confident the infrastructure and partnerships established by the Re-Employment Services program will continue to reflect positively in the outcomes of those Unemployment insurance claimants served, thereby decreasing the length of Unemployment Insurance benefit weeks claimed.

ETA 9100