

Click Bishop
Commissioner

P.O. Box 111149
Juneau, AK 99811-1149

www.labor.alaska.gov



Beth Leschper
Communications Director

907.465.2700
cell: 907.723.1321

beth.leschper@alaska.gov

Press Release

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For more information: **Bill Kramer, Chief of Unemployment Insurance**
907-465-2712, Bill.Kramer@Alaska.Gov

Alaska 'triggers' onto extended benefits

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska will “trigger” onto two federally funded programs that extend unemployment benefits to those eligible beginning this week – up to 13 weeks of federal extended benefits and up to 6 weeks of emergency unemployment compensation, known as EUC Tier IV.

The federal measure which triggers these additional benefits is based on the insured unemployment rate rising to six percent or higher, according to Paul Dick, director of the Employment Security Division.

The Employment Security Division, which administers the Unemployment Insurance program, will notify potentially eligible claimants by mail. The first payable week of EB and EUC Tier IV is the week ending Jan. 28. Entitlement for EB and EUC benefits is based on an individual's eligibility.

Alaska is currently paying some EUC benefits to those qualified. This program is federally funded under the Supplemental Appropriations Act signed into law in June 2008. Individuals who are currently filing should continue to do so and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development will determine the correct program for each filer.

Those collecting benefits are strongly encouraged to read the instructions sent by the department, as work search requirements will be in place for workers claiming extended benefits.

Application for unemployment benefits is online through myAlaska at <https://myalaska.state.ak.us/home/app> by choosing “Unemployment Insurance Benefits.”

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Alaska Job Center Network

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