

Heidi Drygas  
Commissioner

[www.labor.alaska.gov](http://www.labor.alaska.gov)



P.O. Box 111149  
Juneau, AK 99811-1149  
907.465.2700  
[commissioner.labor@alaska.gov](mailto:commissioner.labor@alaska.gov)

## Press Release

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For more information: Sandra Burgess, Employment Security Analyst  
907-465-5947, [Sandy.Burgess@Alaska.Gov](mailto:Sandy.Burgess@Alaska.Gov)

### **State Will Offer Individualized Reemployment Services to Thousands of Unemployed Workers**

*Grant will focus on certain groups of Unemployment Insurance claimants*

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development has received grants totaling \$462,435 from the U.S. Department of Labor to expand statewide reemployment services to Unemployment Insurance claimants through December 2016. Services will focus on two groups of unemployed workers: Unemployment Insurance claimants most likely to exhaust benefits and all recently-separated military personnel. These two groups of job seekers stand to benefit extensively from the highly-individualized Reemployment Services provided through Job Centers in Alaska's most populated communities.

"These grants significantly expand our resources to help Alaska's unemployed workers and transitioning military service members," said Labor Commissioner Heidi Drygas. "Our staff will be able to provide targeted services to help them gain meaningful employment as quickly as possible."

Reemployment Services participants will be provided a full array of resources, including one-on-one time with reemployment staff. Participants will learn about available jobs in Alaska that match their skills and abilities, training opportunities including Registered Apprenticeships, and receive résumé writing and interviewing assistance to make them more marketable to employers.

The Reemployment Services program has helped many unemployed workers gain the confidence and knowledge they need to successfully reenter the job market. One participant who was reemployed after receiving assistance under this program wrote to convey his gratitude and express sentiments common to many unemployed workers. "Being unemployed has been difficult, depressing, and at times a feeling of being lost. I've always had a job so this was unfamiliar territory to me and you were very influential helping me refocus my efforts."

Individuals seeking more information about services available should contact the nearest Alaska Job Center: <http://www.jobs.state.ak.us/offices/>.

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