



SEP - 4 2014

Mr. Jesse Panuccio
Executive Director
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Caldwell Building, Suite 212
107 East Madison Street, MSC 100
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4120

Dear Executive Director Panuccio:

Your agency's request for the 2014 Supplemental Budget Request (SBR) funds to continue operation of your Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) program has been approved in the amount of 4,933,760 to schedule 60,000 REAs. These funds are limited to expenditures for REA activities described in Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) No. 10-14 and in your state's 2014 REA SBR. REA expenditures must be charged to an REA project code to document the proper expenditure of these funds.

REAs help to facilitate unemployed workers' reentry into the workforce and help ensure the integrity of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program. We are pleased that your agency will continue this worthwhile program which benefits both claimants and employers in your state.

It is required that a UI staff member be involved in the REA program to provide guidance, training as needed, and assistance with the REA required reports. Data quality will continue to be a priority area. There is a need to focus on improving the data on these important reports since they are used to evaluate the effectiveness of the REA program and as justification for our annual funding request(s) for the REA program.

The Federal Grant Officer has issued a Notice of Obligation to provide these funds under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 UI Annual Funding Agreement. As a condition of this award, quarterly and cumulative expenditures during the life of the REA program must be reported in the remarks section of the ETA 9130 Financial Report.

Please coordinate your state's reporting with your Regional Federal Project Officer (FPO) including notifying the FPO at the end of any calendar quarters in which the number of REAs scheduled is less than 22 percent of the total REAs funded. If this occurs, the state and the FPO should address any problems that might prevent the state from reaching the number of scheduled REAs funded.

These FY 2014 funds should be obligated by the state in adherence with the proposed expenditures and the timeline contained in the state's REA proposal, which covers the period ending March 31, 2015. However, to allow for potential changes that might occur, the obligation date specified by the Grant Officer on the Notice of Obligation for these funds is September 30, 2015. Funds are to be liquidated within 90 days of the obligation deadline.

We recognize that proposals include cost estimates that may change. If changes of 20 percent or more in any specific budget category on the Standard Form 424A occur, a letter signed by the agency's signatory official requesting approval of the change along with a revised SF 424A must be submitted electronically to the Department of Labor (DOL) at ows.sbr@dol.gov with a copy to your DOL Regional Office. Because approval by the Grant Officer is required, requests for these proposed changes, including an explanation of the changes and applicable budgetary information, should be submitted as soon as the necessary information is available. Pursuant to 29 CFR 97.23, requests to amend the plan/budget should be submitted at least 30 days prior to the end of the obligation period, and requests to extend the expenditure/liquidation period should be submitted at least 30 days prior to the end of the liquidation period. Please reference the SBR name (2014 REA SBR), the state, and the UI agreement grant number in any future correspondence relating to this SBR.

We remain eager to identify best practices for the REA program and welcome information about your successes through our Reemployment Strategies Community of Practice on Workforce3One at <https://reemploymentworks.workforce3one.org>. Future webinars will identify successful practices in the states. Please share your ideas and efforts and also take the opportunity to review valuable information from states facing similar challenges.

Best wishes for the continued success of your REA program.

Sincerely,



Gay M. Gilbert
Administrator
Office of Unemployment Insurance

cc: Les Range
Regional Administrator
Atlanta