# REEMPLOYMENT AND ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT (REA)

In February 2005, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, announced that Florida was one of twenty-one states awarded a grant to provide reemployment and eligibility assessments to UC claimants. The purpose of the pilot project is to determine the effectiveness of more intensive services (in-person reemployment eligibility assessments) in helping claimants find employment, thereby resulting in shorter claims durations and fewer erroneous payments.

The REA program is operated in those regions which applied to operate the program.

## Program Overview

The grant requires One-Stop Career Center staff to conduct individual, in-person reemployment assessments. The assessments must include:

- providing labor market information;
- assisting claimants in developing work search or Employability Development Plans (Attachment I); and
- referring claimants to reemployment services and training when appropriate.

## Program Operation

- One-Stop Career Centers select a certain number of participants for REA from the PREP pool.
- The REA participants must be <u>randomly</u> selected from the PREP pool.
- The One-Stop Career Centers enter the participant information into EFM and designate the participant as an "REA" in the EFM drop down box.
- The One-Stop Career Center sends an appointment letter scheduling the participant for an in-person, one-on-one assessment interview. This letter can be manually developed or system generated.
- During the interview:

  - The REA participant must be provided labor market information unique to their area of work experience. If the labor market information shows the participant's occupation to be in decline, the participant should be referred for training.
  - One-Stop staff must assist the REA participant in developing an Employability Development Plan (EDP).

- o One-Stop staff should provide several job referrals at the time of the interview (unless the participant is referred to training) as well as information on other services the One-Stop offers.
- o It is recommended that One-Stop staff regularly follow-up with participants who remain unemployed after a reasonable period of time to see if they can be further assistance in the participant's employment efforts.
- o One-Stop staff should enter the following three service codes (at a minimum) in EFM for each REA participant who attends their scheduled assessment interview:    Initial Assessment: Code #102; Provision of Labor Market Research: Code #107; and Develop Service Strategies (IEP/ISS/EDP) Code #205.

- If an REA participant doesn't show up for their assessment appointment, the participant "no show" information is sent to UC Adjudication for fact-finding. (This is done via an automated system developed for the REA pilot project).
- If the participant has "good cause," UC will issue a determination which automates a notice to the One-Stop Career Center indicating the participant should be rescheduled for another appointment.
- Once the participant has been rescheduled for their interview, if the participant is a "no show" again, the information is sent to UC for adjudication, but the participant is not rescheduled a second time.  The program only requires they be rescheduled once.
- When the assessment is completed at the One-Stop Career Center, an automated notice is generated to UC to conduct an Eligibility Review.

A number of electronic documents on the REA Program, such as Q&A, Quick Tips, and User guides are available at: http://intra.awi.state.fl.us/REA/index.htm.

Regions should include REA initiatives as an integral part of their Reemployment Services (RES) strategies under the ARRA.  Although services such as résumé writing or interviewing workshops and job placement activities as well as training are not permissible uses of REA funds, One-Stop staff should utilize its WP and WIA resources (ARRA and regular formula funds) to assist REA participants with these services.