



**Agency for Workforce Innovation
Monthly Accomplishments for September 2009
October 1, 2009**

Below is a brief summary of the major activities, events, projects and accomplishments of the Agency for Workforce Innovation for September 2009.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION SERVICES

Program Enhancements – Added 552 lines dedicated for customers to claim weeks for payments using the automated self-service system. This addition increases the number of customers who can enter the queue.

Extended Benefits (EB):

- AWI announced on June 2 that an estimated 250,000 unemployed Floridians will be eligible for Extended Benefits as a result of legislation signed by Governor Charlie Crist. Senate Bill 810 allows eligible Floridians to receive additional temporary unemployment compensation made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The cumulative claims processed as of September 23, 2009 totals 113,917 and \$308,961,299.

New Temporary Federal Additional Compensation (FAC) Program:

- The Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, provides a \$25 weekly supplement to the unemployment compensation of eligible claimants. FAC is payable to individuals who are otherwise entitled to regular unemployment compensation for weeks of unemployment.
- The first additional \$25 weekly payments were processed March 19, 2009. The cumulative total paid as of September 23, 2009 is \$360,352,786 on 882,295 claims.

Extended Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) - The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act extends the time period individuals can qualify for EUC benefits from March 29, 2009 to December 20, 2009. The cumulative total paid as of September 23, 2009 is \$682,507,392 to 708,067 Tier I and Tier II individuals as a result of this extension.

OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

- As part of the federal economic stimulus package, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) appropriates an additional \$2 billion in Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) discretionary funds. The ARRA makes this funding available to state, territory, and tribal

lead agencies for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. The ARRA helps the Agency and early learning coalitions by providing funds for maintaining and expanding services to children and families facing difficult economic circumstances.

- In coordination with staff across the Agency and the state's 31 Early Learning Coalitions, the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) developed and released technical guidance so coalitions could quickly start using ARRA funds to serve school readiness clients. It was important to provide guidance in a timely manner as coalitions strive to meet the growing demand for child care services.

WORKFORCE SERVICES

- **Subsidized Employment Pilot Project meeting** - AWI, DCF and the Citrus, Levy, Marion Regional Workforce Development Board met to discuss the possibility of a Subsidized Employment Pilot Project to draw down TANF reimbursement funds available as a part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Stimulus Package. Florida may be reimbursed for 80 percent of the increase in funds spent on Subsidized Employment from its chosen base year. The pilot project provides subsidized employment to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families TANF eligible individuals while providing them with valuable transferrable work skills.