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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 22, 2013

No. 13-39

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Tier 3 Extended Unemployment Benefits to Phase Out

JUNEAU, Alaska—Due to falling unemployment rates, Alaska will end Tier 3 of the federally funded Emergency Unemployment Compensation program. The week ending Aug. 24, 2013 will be the last week that individuals can establish eligibility.

The federal measure that affects the benefits is based on the Insured Unemployment Rate decreasing to below 4 percent, according to James Harvey, Employment Security Division acting director.

ESD, which administers the Unemployment Insurance Program, will notify unemployed workers claiming EUC of these changes.

The federal EUC program is available to eligible Alaskans after they have exhausted up to 26 weeks of regular state-funded unemployment compensation benefits. Eligible Alaskans may continue to receive federal EUC Tiers 1 and 2.

Alaska's EUC Tier 3 benefits began in November 2009. Under the phase-out provisions, unemployed workers with EUC Tier 3 claims established prior to Aug. 24, 2013 may continue to draw remaining balances until they are exhausted, or through the week ending Dec. 28, whichever occurs first.

Alaskans collecting UI benefits are strongly encouraged to read instructions sent by the department that highlight work search requirements in effect for all individuals claiming EUC benefits.

Job seekers are encouraged to contact the nearest Alaska Job Center for re-employment assistance, resume development, career planning, job search skills and more.

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Alaska Job Center Network
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