Position Classification Flysheet for
Unemployment Insurance Series, GS-0106

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SERIES DEFINITION

This series covers positions involving the development, promotion and evaluation of unemployment insurance programs administered under Federal-State joint arrangement. Positions in this series require a knowledge of the history, concepts, methods and techniques of social insurance and of the social and economic conditions under which such programs operate.

EXCLUSIONS

1. Positions involving work in the administration of the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance programs in an assigned area or territory. Such positions are classifiable in the Social Insurance Administration Series, GS-0105.

2. Positions requiring the application of knowledge of a particular behavioral or social science in the performance of work which is specifically classifiable in an established specialized series in the Social Science, Psychology and Welfare Group, GS-0100.

3. Positions which involve developing policies, standards, programs and procedures for the overall problems of employment service (including labor) operations to promote effective organization, management, and operation of local employment offices.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Unemployment insurance is a program which compensates eligible workers for a portion of their wage loss when they lose their jobs. The objective is to aid unemployed men and women while they are looking for work, by providing weekly income for a stipulated period of time. By sustaining the purchasing power of consumers, unemployment insurance contributes significantly to the stabilization of the whole economy.

Unemployment insurance depends on both Federal and State laws. It was established by the Social Security Act of 1935 as a Federal-State program. Unemployment compensation for Federal civilian employees and unemployment insurance for ex-servicemen are based on Federal law alone. Congress sets the requirements which States must meet if they wish to receive Federal aid.

The payment of benefits to unemployed individuals is the responsibility of the States. The decision as to the amount and duration of benefits, the requirements an individual must meet to be eligible for benefits, the conditions under which disqualifications will be issued, what employers and employment will be covered, and the tax rates assessed on employers are prerogatives of the State, except where otherwise provided under Federal legislation.

The agency responsible for administering the Federal part of these programs has the duty of studying and making recommendations as to the most effective methods of providing economic security through unemployment insurance and as to legislation and matters of administrative policy concerning such insurance. That agency also is responsible for developing and revising rules and regulations deemed necessary to carry out those provisions of the Social Security Act and related statutes pertaining to unemployment insurance, unemployment compensation for Federal civilian employees and for ex-servicemen, training allowances, etc. This involves advising on, developing, and evaluating policies, methods, and procedures under which State agencies:

> --   collect and record taxes;

> --   pay benefits and training, subsistence, and transportation allowances;

> --   adjudicate disputes over benefits;

> --   manage State budgetary functions connected with the administration of unemployment insurance; and

> --   conduct research and special studies.

The State laws vary in coverage, benefit provisions, eligibility and disqualification requirements, employer experience ratings, and contribution rates.

TITLES

The title *Unemployment Insurance Program Specialist* is established for all positions covered by this series.

GRADE LEVELS

The Guide for the Evaluation of Program Specialist Positions will be used to evaluate nonsupervisory positions in this series.