Chester J. Culver, Governor

Patty Judge, Lt. Governor

Elisabeth Buck, Director

May 4, 2009

Cheryl Atkinson, Administrator
Office of Workforce Security
200 Constitution Ave NW Room S-4231
Washington DC 20210



Smart, Result



Re: Application for UI Modernization Incentive Payment

Dear Ms. Atkinson:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I submit Iowa's application for UI Modernization Incentive Payments pursuant to the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5 enacted on February 17, 2009. This letter contains an application based upon the provision of Iowa law for an alternate base period (ABP) using recent wages and an application for incentive payment based upon lowa's treatment of part-time employment and training extension benefits. On March 25, 2009, Governor Chet Culver signed into law Senate File 197, an official enrolled copy of which is attached and marked Exhibit "A", which had been passed by both chambers of the lowa legislature during the 2009 regular session of the general assembly. The Iowa Constitution provides that July 1, 2009 is the effective date of these new laws except for the effective date of the sections contained in Section 9 of the enrolled law which states that the training extension benefits apply to any week of unemployment benefits beginning on or after July 5, 2009 and the alternative base period is applicable to any new claim for unemployment benefits with an effective date on or after July 5, 2009. These provisions of Iowa law are permanent, neither temporary nor subject to any condition, and cannot be discontinued under any circumstances other than repeal by the Iowa legislature. This application is submitted in good faith with the intention of providing benefits to unemployed workers who meet the eligibility provisions on which the application is based. Senate File 197 states that the UI Modernization Incentive Payment will be placed in Iowa's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. During the interim period, Iowa will study whether it is prudent to recommend to the legislature that a portion of the incentive payment be used to build a new unemployment insurance benefit computer system and examine whether there are other administrative expenditure's which would enhance the lowa unemployment insurance system. Otherwise, the incentive funding will be used to pay lowa unemployment benefits.

ALTERNATE BASE PERIOD (ABP)

lowa adopted the alternate base period which provides that an individual who is not monetarily eligible using the standard oldest four completed quarters of the most recent five quarters prior to the quarter in which the claim is filed shall use a base period of four quarters which includes the most recent completed calendar quarter, commonly referred to as the "lag" quarter. Section 3 of the enrolled Senate File 197 adopts the alternate base period into lowa law. Section 9 provides that it shall apply to any new initial claim for unemployment benefits with an effective date on of after July 5, 2009. The alternate base

period is permanently in Iowa law and cannot be repealed except by future legislative action. The law provides that the most recent quarter used in a new base period is not available for another claim. There are no other strings, conditions or requirements.

II. PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

This section of the application addresses the second incentive payment for part-time employment and training extension benefits. Section 2 of Senate File 197 provides in Iowa law that an individual is a parttime worker if the majority of the weeks of work in the individual's base period include part-time work. Part-time workers are not required to be available for, seek, or accept full-time employment. Senate File 478 which was passed by the legislature and will be signed by the Governor at Section 45 which is attached and marked Exhibit "B" and Iowa Code section 3.7(1) and the 1986 40th Amendment of the lowa Constitution provide that the part-time provision shall take effect on July 1, 2009. Section 3.7(1) provides that all acts passed at the session of the Iowa General Assembly take effect on the 1st day of July following their passage. The part-time provision is permanent in Iowa law and is not subject to discontinuation and the incentive payment will be placed in the Iowa Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund; the Department will study a recommendation to the legislature for the next year of the General Assembly suggesting a portion of the incentive payment be used for a new unemployment insurance computer system and other administrative purposes unspecified at this time to improve the unemployment insurance program in lowa, otherwise the incentive funds will be used for the payment of unemployment benefits. This application is provided in good faith with the intention of providing benefits to individuals who meet these requirements.

The part-time language is identical to the Federal part-time incentive payment statute. If an individual has a majority of weeks of work in the individual's base period which include part-time work then the part-time worker is required to be available for the number of hours per week that are comparable to the individual's part-time work experience in the base period. If the individual worked 16 hours a week in the majority of the base period then the individual is required to seek jobs offering at least 16 hours of work. If the individual worked 31 hours per week then the individual is required to be available for work and seek jobs offering at least 31 hours of work per week. Part-time workers are not required to be available for or accept full-time employment for a greater number of hours than the number of hours in which they worked for a majority of weeks in the base period. A majority of weeks of work in the base period is defined as 50% or more of the total weeks worked in the base period. A majority for an individual who worked 40 weeks in the base period is 20 weeks or more. The above guidelines for implementing the part-time statutory language are included in our unemployment insurance manual which is on-line and available to unemployment insurance staff administering the program and field staff as well. The availability section of the manual is attached and marked Exhibit "C". This section was recently revised to the current form which is provided with this application in anticipation of the July effective date of this part-time provision for the purpose of clarification for unemployment insurance staff in that the Department has applied it's part-time provision as indicated above in the past and this is not a change in policy or interpretation of part-time employment.

III. TRAINING EXTENSION BENEFITS (TEB)

Section 1 of Senate File 197 enacted into of Iowa law the training extension benefit (TEB) which will apply to any week of unemployment benefits beginning on or after July 5, 2009. This section of Iowa law is permanent and not subject to discontinuation under any circumstances except repeal by the lowa legislature and the incentive payments may be used for a new unemployment insurance computer system and other uses to be proposed in the future to enhance the unemployment insurance program in lowa, otherwise incentive payments will be used to pay lowa's regular unemployment insurance benefits. The training extension benefit is given to an individual who separated from a declining occupation which would include a voluntary quit or for individuals involuntarily and indefinitely separated from employment as a result of a permanent reduction of operation at the individual's place of employment. The weekly benefit amount shall be under the same terms and conditions as regular lowa unemployment benefits including calculation of the dependency allowance and the benefits shall be a maximum of 26 times the weekly benefit amount on the claim which resulted in the eligibility. This application is filed in good faith with the intent of paying eligible individuals these benefits. The training must be a State approved training program or a job training program authorized under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) which is reasonably expected to lead to employment in a high-demand occupation or high technology occupation. High-demand occupation is defined as an occupation in the labor market area or state in which work opportunities are available and there is a lack of qualified applicants. The individual must be enrolled in training no later than the end of the benefit year in which the base period include the separation that makes the individual eligible for the training benefits. The individual must be enrolled and making satisfactory progress to continue eligibility for the temporary training extension benefits. Individuals will be notified of the need to apply by the end of the benefit year via the "Facts About Unemployment Insurance" booklet which is provided to all Iowa claimants. A declining or high demand occupation will be determined by using Iowa Labor Market information. The training benefits end upon completion of the training. The training extension benefits shall cease to be available if not previously exhausted or the training completed, 1 year following the end of the benefit year. These policies are outlined in the training extension benefit amendment to Iowa's Unemployment Insurance manual which is used by our unemployment insurance and field staff. The policies regarding temporary extended benefits are included in the manual in the section which is attached and marked Exhibit "D". The manual is on-line and available to all Iowa Workforce Development employees.

The alternate base period, part-time availability, and training extension benefits make lowa eligible for the full incentive payment. If you need further clarification or information please feel free to contact a member of my staff, Joe Bervid at 515-281-8117. Iowa will look forward to approval of our UI Modernization components and will use the funding to improve administration of the unemployment insurance program and the payment of regular lowa unemployment benefits.

Sincerely, Elisabeth Buck

Elisabeth Buck

Director



CHESTER J. CULVER GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE LT. GOVERNOR

March 25, 2009

The Honorable Michael Mauro Secretary of State State Capitol Building LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

Senate File 197, an Act relating to unemployment insurance benefits and compliance with federal law regarding and in order to qualify for funding, and including effective and applicability dates.

The above Senate File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely

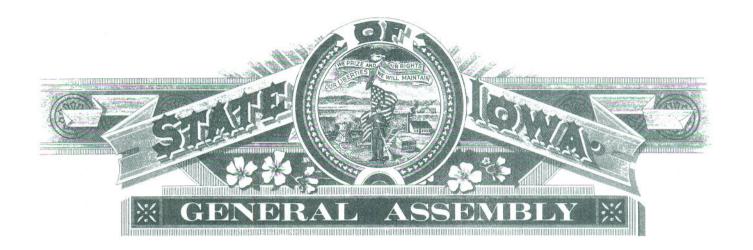
Governor

CJC:bdj

cc: Secretary of the Senate Chief Clerk of the House







SENATE FILE 197

AN ACT

RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS AND COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW REGARDING AND IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR FUNDING, AND INCLUDING EFFECTIVE AND APPLICABILITY DATES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 96.3, subsection 5, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

5. a. DURATION OF BENEFITS. The maximum total amount of benefits payable to an eligible individual during a benefit year shall not exceed the total of the wage credits accrued to the individual's account during the individual's base period, or twenty-six times the individual's weekly benefit amount, whichever is the lesser. The director shall maintain a separate account for each individual who earns wages in insured work. The director shall compute wage credits for each individual by crediting the individual's account with one-third of the wages for insured work paid to the individual during the individual's base period. However, the director shall recompute wage credits for an individual who is laid off due to the individual's employer going out of business at the factory, establishment, or other premises at which the individual was last employed, by crediting the individual's account with one-half, instead of one-third, of the wages for insured work paid to the individual during the individual's base period. Benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged against the base period wage credits in the individual's account which have not been previously charged, in the inverse chronological order as the wages on which the wage credits are based were paid. However if the state "off

indicator" is in effect and if the individual is laid off due to the individual's employer going out of business at the factory, establishment, or other premises at which the individual was last employed, the maximum benefits payable shall be extended to thirty-nine times the individual's weekly benefit amount, but not to exceed the total of the wage credits accrued to the individual's account.

- b. TRAINING EXTENSION BENEFITS.
- (1) An individual who has been separated from a declining occupation or who has been involuntarily separated from employment as a result of a permanent reduction of operations at the last place of employment and who is in training with the approval of the director or in a job training program pursuant to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Pub. L. No. 105-220, at the time regular benefits are exhausted, may be eligible for training extension benefits.
- (2) A declining occupation is one in which there is a lack of sufficient current demand in the individual's labor market area for the occupational skills for which the individual is fitted by training and experience or current physical or mental capacity, and the lack of employment opportunities is expected to continue for an extended period of time, or the individual's occupation is one for which there is a seasonal variation in demand in the labor market and the individual has no other skill for which there is current demand.
- (3) The training extension benefit amount shall be twenty-six times the individual's weekly benefit amount and the weekly benefit amount shall be equal to the individual's weekly benefit amount for the claim in which benefits were exhausted while in training.
- (4) An individual who is receiving training extension benefits shall not be denied benefits due to application of section 96.4, subsection 3, or section 96.5, subsection 3.

 However, an employer's account shall not be charged with benefits so paid. Relief of charges under this paragraph "b" applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.
- (5) In order for the individual to be eligible for training extension benefits, all of the following criteria must be met:

- (a) The training must be for a high-demand occupation or high-technology occupation, including the fields of life sciences, advanced manufacturing, biotechnology, alternative fuels, insurance, and environmental technology. "High-demand occupation" means an occupation in a labor market area in which the department determines work opportunities are available and there is a lack of qualified applicants.
- (b) The individual must file any unemployment insurance claim to which the individual becomes entitled under state or federal law, and must draw any unemployment insurance benefits on that claim until the claim has expired or has been exhausted, in order to maintain the individual's eligibility under this paragraph "b". Training extension benefits end upon completion of the training even though a portion of the training extension benefit amount may remain.
- (c) The individual must be enrolled and making satisfactory progress to complete the training.
- Sec. 2. Section 96.3, subsection 6, paragraph b, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:
- b. The director shall prescribe fair and reasonable general rules applicable to part-time workers, for determining their full-time weekly wage, and the total wages in employment by employers required to qualify such workers for benefits.

 An individual is a part-time worker if a majority of the weeks of work in such individual's base period includes part-time work. Part-time workers are not required to be available for, seek, or accept full-time employment.
- Sec. 3. Section 96.4, subsection 4, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:
- 4. a. The individual has been paid wages for insured work during the individual's base period in an amount at least one and one-quarter times the wages paid to the individual during that quarter of the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest; provided that the individual has been paid wages for insured work totaling at least three and five-tenths percent of the statewide average annual wage for insured work, computed for the preceding calendar year if the individual's benefit year begins on or after the first full week in July and computed for the second preceding calendar year if the individual's benefit year begins before

the first full week in July, in that calendar quarter in the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest, and the individual has been paid wages for insured work totaling at least one-half of the amount of wages required under this subsection paragraph in the calendar quarter of the base period in which the individual's wages were highest, in a calendar quarter in the individual's base period other than the calendar quarter in which the individual's wages were highest. The calendar quarter wage requirements shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of ten dollars.

- b. For an individual who does not have sufficient wages in the base period, as defined in section 96.19, to otherwise qualify for benefits pursuant to this subsection, the individual's base period shall be the last four completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of the individual's benefit year if such period qualifies the individual for benefits under this subsection.
- (1) Wages that fall within the alternative base period established under this paragraph "b" are not available for qualifying benefits in any subsequent benefit year.
- (2) Employers shall be charged in the manner provided in this chapter for benefits paid based upon quarters used in the alternative base period.
- c. If the individual has drawn benefits in any benefit year, the individual must during or subsequent to that year, work in and be paid wages for insured work totaling at least two hundred fifty dollars, as a condition to receive benefits in the next benefit year.
- Sec. 4. Section 96.7, subsection 2, paragraph a, subparagraph (2), Code 2009, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph division:

NEW SUBPARAGRAPH DIVISION. (e) The account of an employer shall not be charged with benefits paid to an individual who is laid off if the benefits are paid as the result of the return to work of a permanent employee who is one of the following:

(i) A member of the national guard or organized reserves of the armed forces of the United States ordered to temporary duty, as defined in section 29A.1, subsection 3, 11, or 12,

for any purpose, who has completed the duty as evidenced in accordance with section 29A.43.

- (ii) A member of the civil air patrol performing duty pursuant to section 29A.3A, who has completed the duty as evidenced in accordance with section 29A.43.
- Sec. 5. Section 96.20, subsection 2, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:
- The department may enter into arrangements with the appropriate agencies of other states, or a contiguous country with which the United States has an agreement with respect to unemployment compensation or of the federal government (a) whereby wages or services, upon the basis of which an individual may become entitled to benefits under the unemployment compensation law of another state or of the federal government, shall be deemed to be wages for employment by employers for the purposes of section 96.3 and section 96.4, subsection 5; provided such other state agency or agency of the federal government has agreed to reimburse the fund for such portion of benefits paid under this chapter upon the basis of such wages or services as the department finds will be fair and reasonable as to all affected interests, and (b) whereby the department will reimburse other state or federal agencies charged with the administration of unemployment compensation laws with such reasonable portion of benefits, paid under the law of any such other states or of the federal government upon the basis of employment or wages for employment by employers, as the department finds will be fair and reasonable as to all affected interests. Reimbursements so payable shall be deemed to be benefits for the purposes of section 96.3, subsection 5, paragraph "a", and section 96.9, but no reimbursement so payable shall be charged against any employer's account for the purposes of section 96.7, unless wages so transferred are sufficient to establish a valid claim in Iowa, and that such charges shall not exceed the amount that would have been charged on the basis of a valid claim. The department is hereby authorized to make to other state or federal agencies and receive from such other state or federal agencies, reimbursements from or to the fund, in accordance with arrangements pursuant to this section. The department shall participate in any arrangements for the payment of

compensation on the basis of combining an individual's wages and employment covered under this Act with the individual's wages and employment covered under the unemployment compensation laws of other states which are approved by the United States secretary of labor in consultation with the state unemployment compensation agencies as reasonably calculated to assure the prompt and full payment of compensation in such situations and which include provisions for: Applying the base period of a single state law to a claim involving the combining of an individual's wages and employment covered under two or more state unemployment compensation laws, and avoiding the duplication use of wages and employment by reason of such combining.

- Sec. 6. Section 96.23, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:
- b. The individual did not receive wages from insured work for two calendar quarters and did not receive wages from insured work for another calendar quarter equal to or greater than the amount required for a calendar quarter, other than the calendar quarter in which the individual's wages were highest, under section 96.4, subsection 4, paragraph "a".
- Sec. 7. Section 96.40, subsection 8, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:
- 8. An individual shall not be entitled to receive shared work benefits and regular unemployment compensation benefits in an aggregate amount which exceeds the maximum total amount of benefits payable to that individual in a benefit year as provided under section 96.3, subsection 5, paragraph "a". Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, an individual shall not be eligible to receive shared work benefits for more than twenty-six calendar weeks during the individual's benefit year.
- Sec. 8. FUTURE APPROPRIATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS. Any funds received by this state from the federal government pursuant to section 903 of the federal Social Security Act as a result of the enactment of this Act are appropriated by the general assembly to the department of workforce development to be placed in the unemployment compensation trust fund. The computation date provided in section 96.19, subsection 8, shall be delayed until the funds pursuant to section 903 of

the federal Social Security Act are received by the state but the computation date shall be no later than September 5, 2009, if the funds are not received on or before that date. The contribution rate table calculation shall use data as of July 1, 2009, except for inclusion in the unemployment compensation trust fund balance of funds received pursuant to section 903 of the Social Security Act.

Sec. 9. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES. The section of this Act amending section 96.3 applies to any week of unemployment benefits beginning on or after July 5, 2009. The section of this Act amending section 96.4 applies to any new claim of unemployment benefits with an effective date on or after July 5, 2009.

JØHN P. KIBBIE

President of the Senate

PATRICK J. MURPHY

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and is known as Senate File 197, Eighty-third General Assembly.

MICHAEL E. MARSHALL

Secretary of the Senate

Approved /V

2009

CHESTER J. CULVER

Governor

4-25-09

Senate Amendment 3328

PAG LIN

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1 1
       Amend Senate File 478 as follows:
         By striking everything after the enacting
1 3 clause and inserting the following:
                          <DIVISION I
                   MH/MR/DD SERVICES ALLOWED
1 6
                GROWTH FUNDING == FY 2010=2011
1
       Section 1. COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL
  8 RETARDATION, AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ALLOWED
1 9 GROWTH APPROPRIATION AND ALLOCATIONS == FISCAL YEAR
1 10 2010=2011.
        1. There is appropriated from the general fund of
1 12 the state to the department of human services for the
1 13 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, and ending June
1 14 30, 2011, the following amount, or so much thereof as
1 15 is necessary, to be used for the purpose designated:
       For distribution to counties of the county mental
1 17 health, mental retardation, and developmental
1 18 disabilities allowed growth factor adjustment for
1 19 fiscal year 2010=2011:
1 20 ...... $ 62,157,491
     2. The amount appropriated in this section shall
1 22 be allocated as provided in a later enactment of the
1 23 general assembly.
1 24
                          DIVISION II
1 25
                    STANDING APPROPRIATIONS
1 26
                      AND RELATED MATTERS
1 27
       Sec. 2. BUDGET PROCESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010=2011.
      1. For the budget process applicable to the fiscal
1 29 year beginning July 1, 2010, on or before October 1,
1 30 2009, in lieu of the information specified in section
1 31 8.23, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph 1, and
1 32 paragraph "a", all departments and establishments of
1 33 the government shall transmit to the director of the
1 34 department of management, on blanks to be furnished by
1 35 the director, estimates of their expenditure
1 36 requirements, including every proposed expenditure,
1 37 for the ensuing fiscal year, together with supporting
1 38 data and explanations as called for by the director of
1 39 the department of management after consultation with
1 40 the legislative services agency.
       2. The estimates of expenditure requirements shall
1 42 be in a form specified by the director of the
1 43 department of management, and the expenditure
1 44 requirements shall include all proposed expenditures
1 45 and shall be prioritized by program or the results to
1 46 be achieved. The estimates shall be accompanied by
1 47 performance measures for evaluating the effectiveness
1 48 of the programs or results.
     Sec. 3. GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
1 49
1 50
      1. The appropriations made pursuant to section
2 1 2.12 for the expenses of the general assembly and
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15 36 principal to income to the extent the internal income 15 37 of the separate fund exceeds payments made from the 15 38 separate fund to the trust during the accounting 15 39 period. 15 40 Sec. 44. Section 915.86, subsections 8 and 12, 15 41 Code 2009, are amended to read as follows: 8. In the event of a victim's death, reasonable 15 43 charges incurred for counseling the victim's spouse, 15 44 children, parents, siblings, or persons cohabiting 15 45 with or related by blood or affinity to the victim if 15 46 the counseling services are provided by a psychologist 15 47 licensed under chapter 154B, a victim counselor as 15 48 defined in section 915.20A, subsection 1, or an 15 49 individual holding at least a master's degree in 15 50 social work or counseling and guidance, and reasonable 16 1 charges incurred by such persons for medical care 16 2 counseling provided by a psychiatrist licensed under 3 chapter 147 or 150A 148. The allowable charges under 16 4 this subsection shall not exceed five thousand dollars 16 5 per person. 12. Reasonable charges incurred for mental health 16 6 16 7 care for secondary victims which include the services 16 8 provided by a psychologist licensed under chapter 16 9 154B, a person holding at least a master's degree in 16 10 social work, counseling, or a related field, a victim 16 11 counselor as defined in section 915.20A, or a 16 12 psychiatrist licensed under chapter 147, 148, or 150A. 16 13 The allowable charges under this subsection shall not 16 14 exceed two thousand dollars per secondary victim. Sec. 45. 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 197, section 16 15 16 16 9, is amended to read as follows:

16 17 SEC. 9. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES. The
16 18 section of this Act amending section 96.3, subsection
16 19 5, applies to any week of unemployment benefits
16 20 beginning on or after July 5, 2009. The section of 16 21 this Act amending section 96.4 applies to any new 16 22 claim of unemployment benefits with an effective date 16 23 on or after July 5, 2009. Sec. 46. 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 364, section 16 25 17, subsection 5, is amended to read as follows: 5. The section of this Act enacting section 16 27 654.4B, subsection 1, and the sections of this Act 16 28 amending sections 626.81, 654.5, and 654.17 apply to 16 29 judgments entered on or after the effective date of 16 30 this Act. Sec. 47. 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 445, section 16 32 10, amending section 294A.9, subsection 9, if enacted, 16 33 being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect 16 34 upon enactment. Sec. 48. 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 446, section 16 35 16 36 82, is repealed. 16 37 Sec. 49. CONTINGENT REPEAL. If 2009 Iowa Acts, 16 38 Senate File 438, is enacted and amends section 235B.2, 16 39 subsection 5, paragraph "a", subparagraph (3), 2009 16 40 Iowa Acts, Senate File 446, sections 95 and 96, are 16 41 repealed. Sec. 50. EFFECTIVE DATES AND RETROACTIVITY. The

REFERENCE INFORMATION

SCM-1 - 04/09

Section 2-403 Part-Time Availability - Administrative Rule 871-24.22-Law Section 96.3(6)b

If a majority of the weeks worked out of the total number of weeks worked in the base period included part-time work, then the individual must be available for, seek, or accept part-time employment. Part-time employment is defined as the number of hours that the individual worked in the majority of weeks in the base period. The individual must be available for work for the number of hours per week that are comparable to the individual's part-time work experience in the base period. For example, if the individual works 16 hours per week in the base period, the individual is required to be available and seek jobs offering at least 16 hours of work. If the individual worked 31 hours per week, then the individual must be available for and seek jobs offering at least 31 hours of work per week. The individual does not have to be available for a particular shift. Provided, that any limitations placed by the individual on his or her availability does not constitute a withdrawal from the Labor Market. An individual has not withdrawn from the Labor Market if after considering the restrictions as to the hours of work or other factors imposed by the individual there exists a reasonable expectation of securing employment in the local or commuting area.

REFERENCE INFORMATION

SCM-1 - 04/09

Section 2-405 Training Extension Benefits – Law Section 96.3(5)b

Training extension benefits are available to an individual meeting the eligibility requirements for unemployment benefits, who is separated from a declining occupation which would include a voluntary quit or for individuals involuntarily and indefinitely separated from employment as a result of a permanent reduction of operations at the individual's place of employment. The weekly benefit amount shall be under the same terms and conditions as regular Iowa unemployment benefits including the dependency allowance and benefits shall be for a maximum of 26 times the weekly benefit amount of the claim which resulted in the eligibility. The training must be a Department Approved Training Program or a Job Training Program authorized under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) which is reasonably expected to lead to employment in a high-demand occupation or high-technology occupation. High-demand occupation means an occupation in a Labor Market area or the state in which the Department determines work opportunities are available and there is a lack of qualified applicants. The individual must be enrolled in the training no later than the end of the benefit year that contained a base period which included the separation making the individual eligible for training benefits. The individual must be enrolled and making satisfactory progress to complete the training in order to continue being eligible for training extension benefits. A declining or high-demand occupation will be determined by using Iowa Labor Market information data for each region in the State. The training extension benefits shall cease to be available if the training is not completed upon exhaustion of the benefits or 1 calendar year following the end of the benefit year.