

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO.	4-10
	DATE	August 13, 2010

**TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
STATE WORKFORCE ADMINISTRATORS
STATE UI DIRECTORS**

**FROM: JANE OATES /s/
Assistant Secretary**

SUBJECT: 75th Anniversary of Unemployment Insurance

- 1. Purpose.** To announce upcoming activities and events to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the unemployment insurance (UI) program, and to announce the UI Hall of Fame and UI Innovation Awards.
- 2. Background.** August 14, 2010, marks the 75th anniversary of the UI program. The Department of Labor (DOL) is planning to celebrate this event in a number of ways, including issuing a Secretary's Statement to the press, developing a new UI video and a commemorative poster, and recognizing the outstanding work of individuals and state UI agencies via two new awards. In addition, we are collaborating with the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) to celebrate this important anniversary at the 2010 National Conference on Unemployment Insurance to be held October 18 – 21 in the Washington D.C. area. The conference, jointly sponsored by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and the NASWA, will focus on key policy issues for UI moving forward and will include a celebratory event on October 19 that you will not want to miss. Information on the conference can be found at <http://www.workforceatm.org/ui75dc/index.cfm>.

The Secretary's Statement was issued on Wednesday, August 11, 2010; a copy is available online at <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/opa/opa20101117.htm>. In the coming days, states will be receiving copies of the commemorative poster, and the new UI video will be debuted at the conference in October. We hope states will find these useful in shaping their own celebrations of this important anniversary.

- 3. Awards.** At the conference, the ETA will also honor one or more individual(s) with a UI Hall of Fame Award for significant lifetime achievements in furthering the aims of the UI program. We will also recognize states with UI Innovation Awards for significant innovations to improve integrity, service delivery, and reemployment.

Nominations must be submitted by September 17, 2010, at 5:00 P.M. EST. Award criteria, eligibility, and the process for selecting the recipients are discussed in the attached documents.

4. **Action Requested.** Please distribute throughout the UI community and to interested stakeholders.
5. **Inquiries.** Comments or questions about these awards should be sent to Daniel L. Hays at 202-693-3011 or at hays.daniel@dol.gov. Comments and requests may also be mailed to the following address: U.S. Department of Labor; Employment and Training Administration; OUI – UI Awards; Room S-4231; Washington, D.C. 20210.
6. **Attachments.** Unemployment Insurance Hall of Fame Award
Unemployment Insurance Innovation Awards

Unemployment Insurance Hall of Fame

Award Criteria, Eligibility, and Selection

Unemployment Insurance Hall of Fame

The United States Department of Labor, Office of Unemployment Insurance, presents the Unemployment Insurance Hall of Fame award to honor one or more individual(s) or groups of individuals for significant lifetime achievements that further the aims of the unemployment insurance program.

CRITERIA

One or more of the following achievements is required for the award:

A. Promoting Legislation or Public Policy

Nominee has made important contributions to the achievement of significant federal legislation or public policies that have improved and strengthened the unemployment insurance program.

B. Improved System Performance

Nominee has made significant contributions to major improvements in services to workers and/or employers or system performance in the unemployment insurance program.

ELIGIBILITY

Any individual or group of individuals, living or dead, may be nominated for this award.

Note: In any year, based on the quality of nominations, the selection team may select no Hall of Fame recipient or select multiple recipients.

SELECTION

Nominations shall be reviewed by a panel of judges appointed by the Administrator of the Office of Unemployment Insurance.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

- Nominations must be made in writing emailed to OUI.Anniversary@dol.gov or hand delivered or sent and received via courier (e.g. Fed-Ex, UPS, etc...) to the following address by Friday, September 17, 2010 at 5:00 P.M. EST. (Note: Please do **not** send your nomination via USPS as security measures related to USPS mail will delay delivery.)

Office of Unemployment Insurance
Attn: Hall of Fame Award
200 Constitution Ave, N.W.
Frances Perkins Bldg. Room S-4231
Washington, DC 20210

- The nomination and documentation must be in English or translated into English.
- The nomination must include: 1) the full name (and title if appropriate) of each individual nominated; 2) a description of the significant legislative/policy or customer service achievement(s) for which the individual or group is nominated; and 3) the role that the individual or group played in making the achievement a reality.
- Nomination narratives must be limited to 2 pages.

Unemployment Insurance Innovation Awards

Award Criteria, Eligibility, and Selection

Unemployment Insurance (UI) Innovation Awards

The United States Department of Labor, Office of Unemployment Insurance, presents the Unemployment Insurance Innovation Awards to honor states for significant innovations in three categories.

CRITERIA

One winner will be chosen for each of the following three categories:

A. Integrity – Innovations to improve program integrity by reducing erroneous UI benefit payments, preventing the avoidance of unemployment tax liability and/or misclassification of workers, and improving the collection of overpayments and tax assessments.

B. Improved Worker and Employer Services – Innovations to improve service delivery in the areas of benefit payments, claims processing, adjudication, and tax processing.

C. Reemployment – Innovations to improve the employment outcomes of individuals receiving UI.

Nominations must demonstrate outcomes achieved as a result of these innovations.

ELIGIBILITY

Any state unemployment insurance agency may be nominated for this award. States may nominate themselves or be nominated by another individual or entity.

Note: In any year, based on the quality of nominations, the selection team may select no recipient or select multiple recipients.

SELECTION

Nominations shall be reviewed by a panel of judges appointed by the Administrator of the Office of Unemployment Insurance.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

- Nominations must be made in writing emailed to OUI.Anniversary@dol.gov or hand delivered or sent and received via courier (e.g. Fed-Ex, UPS, etc...) to the following address by Friday, September 17, 2010 at 5:00 P.M. EST. (Note: Please do **not** send your nomination via USPS as security measures related to USPS mail will delay delivery.)

Office of Unemployment Insurance
Attn: U.I. Innovation Awards
200 Constitution Ave, N.W.
Frances Perkins Bldg. Room S-4231
Washington, DC 20210

- The nomination and documentation must be in English or translated into English.
- The nomination must include: 1) the name of the state agency being nominated; 2) a description of the innovation implemented by the state to improve program integrity, worker and employer services, or reemployment; and 3) documented outcomes as a result of the innovation.
- Nomination narratives must be limited to 2 pages.