Policy Clarifications - Cash Assistance - All PCA-16091-104

Submitted: 02/29/12 Agency: CAOs

Citations:

Subject: Department of Labor & Industry (L&I) Unemployment Compensation Rule

Changes

We understand there are changes to the Department of Labor and Industry's requirements for an individual to maintain eligibility for Unemployment Compensation (UC) benefits. What are the changes and how do they affect the CAO?

Response By: Division of Welfare Reform Initiatives Date:02/29/12

There is no change to the policy that requires cash assistance applicants and recipients to apply for potential state and federal benefits, including UC.

CAO workers should be aware of the recent changes to Pennsylvania's UC eligibility requirements for general discussion with Diversion and cash applicants and recipients. If the client has questions about the UC requirement, they should contact the Career Link.

For UC application benefits date (AB Date) filed on or after January 1, 2012, certain UC recipients are required to do active work searches and may face penalties for not doing so. Specific information, including exceptions to the job search requirements, can be viewed by going to <u>L&I's UC website</u>; then clicking on this link:

<u>Updated: Active Search for Work Requirements for Applications Effective</u> <u>Jan. 1, 2012, and Thereafter.</u>

FAQs 1, 2 and 3 provide guidance on the new L&I work and work registration requirements.

The L&I **Record of Job Applications and Work Search** Form UC- 304 **will not** take the place of the required Employment and Training Activity Verification Form. Clients **must** submit the mandatory CAO Employment and Training Activity Verification Form to the CAO. Advise clients that jobs submitted to UC should also be listed on the CAO Employment and Training Verification Form.