

## EUC 2013 Program Extension FAQs

### 1. What does the extension of the EUC Program mean?

The Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Program has been extended until **January 1, 2014**.

- None of the conditions of the program have changed.
- Congress **did not** add any additional weeks of benefits for claimants who have exhausted all eligibility for EUC benefits.
- The last payable week of EUC is the week ending **Saturday, December 28, 2013**.
- Individuals who were eligible to receive Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 benefits in the EUC08 program will remain eligible to receive benefits in the new extension.
  - However, Tier 4 benefits are no longer available or payable in the District of Columbia. **(SEE Question 5)**
  - If you were receiving Tier 4 benefits prior to December 29, 2012 and had a balance remaining in your account before the EUC Program 2013 extension legislation was signed, the balance of your remaining Tier 4 weeks is no longer available or payable. **(SEE Question 6)**
- If your benefits exhausted in the EUC08 Program, you **will not** be eligible to receive any additional EUC benefits until you return to work and requalify for the basic unemployment insurance (UI) program

### 2. I did not exhaust my EUC benefits. How do I get the balance of the benefits in my unemployment insurance account?

You must do three (3) things:

- 1) You **must** certify each week that you are unemployed.
- 2) You **must** look for work and document your job search efforts.
  - You are required to document that you sought at least two (2) jobs each week that you certify for benefits from the EUC program.
  - These contacts may be verified. If we are unable to verify your job search contacts or if you fail to make the required job search contacts, you will be held overpaid for the benefits you received that week.
- 3) You **must** also report any earnings from any work you performed in any week that you certify for benefits.

**3. I was on EUC and I have not received my check. What is going on?**

The Agency received official guidance on how to manage the new EUC program on Tuesday, January 8, 2013.

- We are working very hard to implement the new program and update our systems to accommodate the new legislation.
- Benefit payments may be delayed up to three (3) business days.

**4. I exhausted my EUC08 benefits. What can I do?**

Congress **did not** add any additional weeks of benefits for claimants who have exhausted all eligibility for EUC benefits.

- You can visit your nearest American Job Center and use our services for **re-employment** and **training assistance**.
- We actively recruit employers to list job openings. We also work with schools and employers who offer training opportunities.
- Our career placement specialists will attempt to offer job placement assistance and will be able to inform you of training programs for which you may qualify.

**5. How much money can I get? How many weeks of benefits are available to me?**

The number of weeks in the new EUC extension did not change. The amount of weeks that are payable on the EUC program is dependent upon a state's unemployment rate.

As of November 2012, DC has an unemployment rate of 8.4 percent. Therefore, DC benefit recipients may be eligible to receive up to three (3) Tiers, or a maximum of 63 weeks of benefits:

- 26 weeks of regular UI benefits and up to 37 weeks of EUC Program benefits

<b>Total Number of Weeks Available in the District of Columbia Effective October 2012</b>			
<b>Regular Benefits</b>	<b>EUC Tier 1</b>	<b>EUC Tier 2</b>	<b>EUC Tier 3</b>
Number of Weeks	Number of Weeks	Number of Weeks	Number of Weeks
<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>

**6. Why can't I receive Tier 4 of the EUC program or the remaining balance of my Tier 4 benefits?**

The amount of Tiers states are authorized to pay is based on the unemployment rate in the state. Currently, the District of Columbia's unemployment rate is below 9 percent.

- Tier 4 benefits are only available to states whose unemployment rate has been 9% or higher for a consecutive three-month period
- When the unemployment rate for the District of Columbia fell below the 9 percent threshold required to maintain eligibility for Tier 4 of the EUC08 program, the maximum potential entitlement for the District in the EUC08 program decreased to 37 weeks.
- As a result of the declining unemployment rate, Tier 4 of the EUC08 Program was discontinued in the District of Columbia after October 14, 2012.
- Phase-out provisions enabled claimants who had entered Tier 4 by or before the week ending October 13, 2012 to remain eligible to receive Tier 4 benefits through the end of 2012.
- However, since the District of Columbia no longer qualifies for Federal Tier 4 benefits, Tier 4 benefits are no longer available or payable, including remaining Tier 4 balances.

**7. If I find a job but get laid off before the end of the year, will EUC benefits still be available to me?**

The EUC program has been extended through **January 1, 2014**.

- The last payable week of EUC is the week ending **Saturday, December 28, 2013**.
- If you find employment but later become unemployed, you may be eligible to receive EUC if you establish the first EUC Tier on or before **Saturday, December 28, 2013**.

**8. How can I keep up-to-date on the changes in the EUC program?**

You can do two (2) things:

- 1) To avoid call wait times, please check for updates on our website, [www.does.dc.gov](http://www.does.dc.gov).
  - 2) Make sure your contact information is accurate and up-to-date with the Office of Unemployment Compensation (e.g., address, phone number, email address).
- The Agency will send out mailers, emails, and automated phone calls to inform you of any significant changes in the unemployment program that may affect you.