

Unemployment Insurance

The economic recovery package includes federal funding for a \$25 per week increase in unemployment benefits. The package also extends the deadline to qualify for the Emergency Unemployment Compensation extensions through December 31, 2009.

The National Employment Law Project (NELP) has estimated the number of people that will benefit from these two provisions. These estimates can be found here:

<http://www.nelp.org/page/-/UI/RecoveryPlanEstimates.pdf>

The recovery package also includes the provisions in the Unemployment Insurance Modernization Act (UIMA). Those provisions provide financial incentives to states to adopt reforms to their Unemployment Insurance programs that would make the program accessible to more low-wage workers and part-time workers. (The recovery package also includes \$500 million in new funding to help states address the administrative demands of fielding claims from the growing number of workers applying for benefits.) NELP's estimates of the state-by-state distribution of additional unemployment benefits and administrative funds can be found here:

<http://www.nelp.org/page/-/UI/UIMAFactSheet2008.pdf?nocdn=1>.