

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Trade Adjustment Assistance Program

Policy: Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation

Effective Date: June 7, 2020

I. POLICY STATEMENT

On March 27, 2020, the President signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act into law, which authorizes the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) under section 2107 of the Act. This policy is being issued to provide guidance and clarification regarding PEUC's impact on Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA).

II. AUTHORITY

[CARES Act \(Public Law 116-136\)](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 14-20](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 17-20](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 17-20, Change 1](#)

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program staff and TAA program participants eligible for or receiving TRA and will be in effect until December 26, 2020.

IV. ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

Extended benefits - extended compensation.

Extended compensation - compensation payable to an individual for weeks of unemployment beginning in an extended benefit period, under those provisions of the state law which satisfy the requirements of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-373), and when so payable includes additional compensation and compensation payable pursuant to 5 U.S.C. chapter 85.

PEUC - Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation, compensation payable under section 2107 of the CARES Act; provides up to 13 additional weeks of benefits to individuals who have exhausted their rights to regular unemployment compensation.

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Regular (unemployment) compensation - compensation payable to an individual under any state law, and, when so payable, includes compensation payable under 5 U.S.C. chapter 85, but does not include extended compensation and additional compensation.

V. STANDARDS

A. Notification Requirement

1. The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) is required to identify those potentially entitled to PEUC, including TRA recipients, and provide individual written notification of potential entitlement to and filing instructions for PEUC.
2. To supplement notification provided to those potentially entitled to PEUC, TAA program staff may communicate with program participants, including those eligible for or receiving TRA, about PEUC.
3. A TRA recipient may be eligible for PEUC if he/she --
 - a. Has exhausted rights to regular unemployment compensation (UC):
 - i. No payments of regular UC can be made under Arizona law because such individual has received all available regular UC based on employment or wages during such individual's base period; or
 - ii. The individual's right to such regular UC has been terminated by reason of the expiration of the benefit year with respect to which such rights existed (excluding any benefit year that ended before July 1, 2019).
 - b. Has no rights to regular UC under any other state or Federal law; and
 - c. Is able to work, available for work, and actively seeking work.

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- i. Flexibility is provided in meeting the “actively seeking work” requirement if an individual is unable to search for work because of COVID-19, including because of illness, quarantine, or movement restriction.
- ii. Work-search requirements are waived in Arizona until further notice.

B. Coordination of TRA and PEUC

1. TRA are payable after regular UC, PEUC, and extended benefits.
2. PEUC associated with the first unemployment insurance benefit period will reduce the maximum basic TRA.
3. TAA staff must monitor Arizona's unemployment insurance system (GUIDE) and suspend TRA for program participants during the weeks participants are shown to be eligible for or receiving PEUC.
4. TAA program participants will communicate to TAA staff that they are no longer eligible for PEUC and will need to resume receipt of TRA.