



GEORGE N. COPADIS, COMMISSIONER
 RICHARD J. LAVERS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

November 12, 2014

100% Federal

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
 and the Honorable Council
 State House
 Concord NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA21.1:54, I am requesting to extend the following positions in a temporary status for one year. The estimated fiscal impact to SFY 2014 - 2015 to extend these positions is \$166,467.15. These positions will be funded through existing federal funds, account #010-027-8040-059.

Position #	LG	Step	Next Incr Date	Employee	Position	Section	Supervisor	Effective Date
9T2673	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Program Specialist II	QC	Colleen O'Neill	12/17/2014
9T2620	20	5	4/4/2016	Cullen, Joseph	Labor Market Analyst II	ELMI	Annette Nielsen	02/02/2015
9T2604	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Fraud Investigator	BPC	Chris Cooper	02/03/2015
9T2590	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Fraud Investigator	BPC	Chris Cooper	02/03/2015

EXPLANATION

These positions are essential for the effective and efficient operation of New Hampshire Employment Security and to ensure that the mission of NHES is met: to pay eligible claimants benefits due in a timely manner. There are Federal measures for First Payment Timeliness and Non-monetary Determination Timeliness that, if not met, can impact the funding of the agency.

Sincerely,

George N. Copadis
 Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Inter-Department Communication

To: Sara Willingham, Director

Date: November 4, 2014

From: Kristin Peterson
Human Resources Coordinator

Office: NH Employment Security

Subject: Request to Extend Temporary Positions

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 21.I:54, I am requesting to extend the following positions for one year:

Position #	LG	Step	Next Incr Date	Employee	Position	Section	Supervisor	Effective Date
9T2673	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Program Specialist II	QC	Colleen O'Neill	12/17/2014
9T2620	20	5	4/4/2016	Cullen, Joseph	Labor Market Analyst II	ELMI	Annette Nielsen	02/02/2015
9T2604	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Fraud Investigator	BPC	Chris Cooper	02/03/2015
9T2590	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Fraud Investigator	BPC	Chris Cooper	02/03/2015

Position#9T2673, Program Specialist II, Integrity Task Coordinator

This is a temporary position being paid with Federal grant funds awarded to the State of New Hampshire to assist with improving and enhancing the Department's Unemployment Insurance Program fraud prevention, detection and recovery efforts.

The Program Specialist II (Integrity Task Force Coordinator) is responsible for providing programmatic support and technical assistance in the prevention, detection and reduction of improper payments to further the goals and objectives of NH Employment Security's UI Integrity Cross-Functional Task Force and UI Integrity Strategic Plan.

The Integrity Task Force Coordinator's specific accountabilities include but are not limited to coordinating the activities of the NHES Cross-Functional UI Integrity Task Force, researching and analyzing performance data, tracking and maintaining metrics and preparing regular progress reports to make recommendations for business and technical process improvements to the Assistant to the Commissioner and the UI Integrity Task Force.

The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded New Hampshire additional Federal grant funds to extend this position through September 30, 2015 to continue the Department's commitment to implementing systems and activities to help reduce the state's improper payment rate.

Position # 9T2620, Labor Market Analyst II

We request the extension of Labor Market Analyst II position 9T2620 for another year. The NHES Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau will continue to receive funding for project work for the Community College System of New Hampshire. The extension of position 9T2620 will allow the ELMI Bureau to develop career-related information products, as well as to assign projects to this Labor Market Analyst while other staff is reassigned to work related to the CCSNH project. Extension of this position will also provide the Bureau with continued flexibility in pursuit of additional funding, both grants and

contract, and help ensure that staff would be available to complete any such projects and, at the same time, allow the Bureau to complete existing obligations.

Position # 9T2604 & 9T2590, Fraud Investigator

These positions have been instrumental in assisting the Benefit Payment Control (BPC) Unit with meeting its fraud prevention and detection activities as well as continuous program improvement and reporting requirements in accordance with all state and federal laws, regulations and program guidelines.

The U.S. Department of Labor issued a "call to action" to all states to implement aggressive strategies to prevent and reduce improper UI payments, through a series of Unemployment Insurance Program Letters: (UIPL) NO. 19-11 dated June 10, 2011; (UIPL) NO. 26-11 dated July 18, 2011, (UIPL) NO. 33-11 dated September 21, 2011 and (UIPL) NO. 24-13 dated July 25, 2013. New Hampshire Department of Employment Security is required to implement a broad range of strategies as well as meet additional performance measures as a result of this new federal mandate.

The BPC Unit's ability to successfully implement these additional strategies and programs designed to deter and investigate potentially fraudulent activity is dependent upon having an adequate staffing level to respond timely to the additional workload generated.

The BPC Unit continues to work on a backlog of cases resulting from the prolonged economic downturn over the last four and half years as well as the implementation of a number of additional tools to detect potential UI Fraud.

The additional methods that have been implemented to detect potential fraud include but are not limited to an Identity Verification process with the Social Security Administration, Crossmatch Programs with the State and County Departments of Correction, an IP Block Program to block the filing of unemployment claims from IP addresses outside of the country and a Benefit Wage Crossmatch Program. The implementation of these new tools has enabled the Unit to detect potential fraud more quickly and has generated a substantial spike in the Unit's workload. The temporary Fraud Investigator positions are needed to conduct timely investigations of the additional cases that have been generated.

These positions are 100% federally funded.

FUNDING

010-027-8040-059

Peterson, Kristin

From: Rechy, Marianne R
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 10:34 AM
To: Peterson, Kristin; Caldwell, Penny
Cc: Elberfeld, Jennifer; Willingham, Sara J.
Subject: FW: NHES: Temporary Positions Extension Request
Attachments: NHES Extension _ Dec 2014-Feb 2015.doc; How to extend a positions end date.docx

Importance: High

Good morning,

Jennifer Elberfeld, Classification & Compensation Administrator has asked me to review New Hampshire Employment Security's request to extend the following full-time temporary positions.

Position #	LG	Step	Next Incr Date	Employee	Position	Section	Supervisor	Eff
9T2673	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Program Specialist II	QC	Colleen O'Neill	12/1
9T2620	20	5	4/4/2016	Cullen, Joseph	Labor Market Analyst II	ELMI	Annette Nielsen	02/1
9T2604	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Fraud Investigator	BPC	Chris Cooper	02/1
9T2590	21	-	n/a	VACANT	Fraud Investigator	BPC	Chris Cooper	02/1

Upon review of the justification information submitted, we are approving your agency's request to extend these (4) four full-time temporary positions for an additional year. Please use this e-mail as notice of this approval from the Department of Personnel, Classifications Section for your next steps in the Governor and Council approval process.

Once approval from Governor and Council is received please submit a "Request Position Update" Work Unit, and attach a completed electronic PPF (Found at this link on Sunspot <http://admin.state.nh.us/hr/forms.html>), your G&C approval, and a copy of this e-mail.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Marianne R. Rechy
Human Resource Specialist, Division of Personnel
Classification and Organizational Analysis Section
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Concord, NH 03301
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