



TO: **W-2 Agencies  
Training Staff**

FROM: Patara Horn, Director  
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BWF/BRP OPERATIONS MEMO					
No:	21-16				
DATE:	06/08/2021				
W-2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CF	<input type="checkbox"/>
JAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
RAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TMJ	<input type="checkbox"/>	TJ	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other EP	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**SUBJECT:** *COVID-19 Expanded Unemployment Insurance Benefits: Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation*

**CROSS REFERENCE:** [BWF Operations Memo 20-09](#)  
[BWF/BRP Operations Memo 21-09](#)  
[BWF/BRP Operations Memo 21-11](#)  
[Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act of 2020](#)  
[Consolidated Appropriations Act Of 2021](#)  
[American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this memo is to:

1. Communicate information on the newly implemented Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation (MEUC) program; and
2. Communicate how to treat COVID-19 MEUC payments when determining financial eligibility for Wisconsin Works (W-2), Emergency Assistance (EA), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), and Job Access Loans (JAL).

**BACKGROUND**

COVID-19 has contributed to a sharp rise in unemployment, and legislation enacted at both the state and federal levels is intended to temporarily expand unemployment insurance benefit

programs in addition to providing more robust benefits. The federal [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act of 2020](#) provided economic relief in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the federal government provided continued emergency relief through the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021](#). Most recently, the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) was passed on March 11, 2021. The American Rescue Plan Act extends the MEUC benefit that was first authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

This memo provides information on the new MEUC benefit only. See [BWF/BRP Operations Memo 21-10 COVID-19 Expanded Unemployment Insurance Benefits Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) for the most recent information on federally funded unemployment compensation (UC) programs. For clarification on how to count Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit payments received as retroactive lump sums, see [BWF/BRP Operations Memo 21-11 COVID-19 Retroactive Unemployment Insurance Payments and Lump Sum Income Policy Clarification](#). For background on the expanded benefits and case processing instructions, see [BWF Operations Memo 20-09 COVID-19 Expanded Unemployment Insurance Benefits](#).

For information on additional relief provided in the American Rescue Plan Act, see [BWF/BRP Operations Memo 21-09 American Rescue Plan Act Stimulus Payments and Tax Credits](#).

### MIXED EARNER UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

MEUC is a temporary program providing an additional \$100 per week payment to individuals who are receiving regular UI benefits and meet the minimum threshold for earnings. In order to be eligible for MEUC, individuals must also have earned at least \$5,000 in net earnings from self-employment in the tax year prior to the individual's initial claim.

Individuals must apply for MEUC and supply necessary documentation to prove their net self-employment earnings. The MEUC program does not apply to individuals receiving Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA).

COVID UI Benefit	CARES Act	Continued Assistance Act of 2020	American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
MEUC	N/A	Week ending January 2, 2021 – Week ending March 13, 2021	9 week extension to Week ending September 4, 2021

The MEUC program was implemented on May 19, 2021. Because the MEUC program had a delayed implementation, individuals may receive their unemployment insurance benefits as retroactive lump sum payments.

Additional information on the MEUC, including responses to Frequently Asked Questions, can be found on the [DWD MEUC](#) web page.

### **COVID-19 POLICY**

#### COVID-19 EXPANDED FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

For all programs, including W-2, JAL, RCA, and EA, workers must count the \$100 emergency MEUC payments as income.

**OTHER PROGRAMS**

It is important to understand and discuss with individuals how receipt of MEUC benefits may affect their eligibility for other programs. Workers may also find information via the Department of Health Services' Process Help *COVID-19 Information* Page on treatment of the MEUC payments as income when determining eligibility for other programs, including BadgerCare Plus, EBD Medicaid, FoodShare, Wisconsin Shares, and the Caretaker Supplement program. The *All Programs: COVID-19 Temporary Processes* sub-page includes information on Economic Unemployment Relief/Other payments.

**CARES WORKER WEB (CWW)**

Current MEUC payments will be automatically updated and will be displayed in CWW as Unemployment Income on an Unearned Income page. The MEUC payments will display with the "7" payment type.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits Details							
Claimant Information							
Case:	██████████	SSN:	██████████	Base:	Active		
Name:	██████████	PIN:	██████████	Claim Office:	5	Mon:	01/05/2021
Self Employed:	201 E WASHINGTON AVE	Birth Date:	██████████	Gender:	MALE		
	MADISON WI 53703	Phone:	██████████	Benefit Year End:	22-01		
Self Employed:				Last Week Claimed:	21-17		
Maximum Weekly Benefit Rate:	\$370.00	Maximum Benefit Amount:	\$8,867.00	Paid:	\$5,920.00	Left:	\$2,947.00
Employer Information							
Employer Number	Last Day Worked		Termination Reason				
150390	11/20/2020		Laid Off				
Transaction Information							
1 of 2 Pages							
Week	Paid	CS ICPT	Income	Employer Number	Date	Type	Remarks
2021-17	\$370.00	\$0.00			05/04/2021	P	BENEFIT PAYMENT, NEXT CARD SENT
2021-17	\$300.00	\$0.00			05/04/2021	M	FPUC/LWAMEUC PAYMENT
2021-17	\$100.00	\$0.00			05/04/2021	7	FPUC/LWAMEUC PAYMENT
2021-16	\$100.00	\$0.00			04/28/2021	7	FPUC/LWAMEUC PAYMENT
2021-16	\$370.00	\$0.00			04/19/2021	P	BENEFIT PAYMENT

**AGENCY ACTION**

W-2 agencies should continue to ensure program applicants and participants are informed of the expanded UI benefits for individuals whose employment was adversely impacted by COVID-19. W-2 agencies must discuss the instructions for treatment of the MEUC benefits with staff and update any relevant local agency procedures as necessary

**CONTACTS**

For W-2 Policy Questions: [BWF Policy Question SharePoint](#)

For W-2, CARES and WWP Functionality Questions: BWF Work Programs Help Desk  
[BWFworkprogramsHD@wisconsin.gov](mailto:BWFworkprogramsHD@wisconsin.gov)

DCF/DFES/BWF/LW & GS