

<b>TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE</b>	<b>NO.</b> 15-17
	<b>DATE</b> February 28, 2018

**TO:** STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

**FROM:** ROSEMARY LAHASKY /s/  
Deputy Assistant Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Unemployment Insurance Interstate Benefits and Federal Programs  
Training

1. **Purpose.** To announce the 2018 Unemployment Insurance (UI) Interstate Benefits and Federal Programs (IBFP) Training scheduled to be held March 26-28, 2018, in Savannah, Georgia, and encourage state administrators to send their Interstate/Federal Program Coordinators and Interstate Connection (ICON) programmer(s) to the training.
  
2. **Background.** The National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) will conduct the IBFP Training. This two-day training will promote cooperation among states in managing Interstate Benefits (IB) and Combined Wage Claim (CWC) operations and fostering efficient administration of the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program, and the Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) program. The training will also encourage effective and efficient implementation and use of the ICON network. Information will be shared about optimal use of ICON applications through discussions of state interfaces and benefits realized. In addition, the training will provide a forum for discussion of successful practices, current challenges, and issues related to the IB system and the CWC, UCFE, and UCX programs. This training will also include information on process improvements and innovative projects on the horizon such as enhancements to UI Secure Mail and the latest update on the UCFE automation project, known as the Federal State Data Exchange System (FSDES).

**Logistics.** NASWA, with support from the Georgia Department of Labor, will host the UI IBFP Training at the Marriott Savannah Riverfront, Savannah, Georgia. A draft agenda and detailed information about hotel reservations and meeting registration are available on NASWA's Web site at <http://www.naswa.org/meetings/IBTraining2018/?action=home>.

The U.S. Department of Labor (Department) recognizes the importance of state staff attending this training, and, pending the availability of Federal funding after March 23, 2018 (the end of the current Continuing Resolution), intends to provide \$3,000 to each participating state to help cover travel costs. These funds will be added to states' above base distribution for the second quarter, or as soon as funding availability permits.

3. **Action Requested.** State Administrators are encouraged to provide this information to appropriate staff.
4. **Inquiries.** Inquiries should be directed to the appropriate regional office.