

UI Quarterly News
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Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
Unemployment Insurance Division
www.coloradoui.gov

John Hickenlooper
Governor



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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PREMIUM REFORMS FOR 2013

House Bill 11-1288 was passed in the 2011 legislative session and went into effect on July 1, 2011. Because the Unemployment Trust Fund became solvent prior to June 30, 2012, there were many parts to this law that affect employers for the first time in 2013:

- The wages on which an employer is required to pay premiums, known as the chargeable wage base, adjusted to \$11,300.
 - The previous premium rate table was repealed, and a new rate table is used to determine an employer's premium rate.
 - A socialized surcharge (previously .22 percent) is no longer added to an employer's rate.
 - The solvency surcharge rate table and criteria for triggering on and off changed.
- NOTE: The solvency surcharge is NOT in effect for 2013.

These changes were reflected on your 2013 rate notice, which was mailed in November 2012. For more information, visit the [Premiums](#) Web page on the [CDLE](#) Web site.

NEW — ONE STOP, 24X7 ACCESS TO YOUR UI PREMIUMS

You can now manage your Colorado UI premium account online. Our new tool, MyUI Employer, gives you secure access to your account and will allow you to:

- File both Wage and Premium Reports online
- Pay premiums online
- View current and historical balances and rates
- Access account status and reporting due dates
- Request duplicate rate notices and 940 certification documents
- Close or modify accounts

To create an account, visit <https://myuiemployer.coworkforce.com/>. Be sure to complete our survey and tell us what you think!

JOB-SEPARATION INFORMATION REQUESTS - NOW ONLINE!

The State Information Data Exchange System (SIDES) is a national electronic-transmission system that communicates and transmits unemployment job-separation information efficiently, accurately, and securely between Unemployment Insurance (UI) agencies, large multistate employers, and third-party agencies.

We have expanded the SIDES system to allow small businesses to begin using a similar service called SIDES E-Response. Participating small employers are able to electronically send and receive separation data instead of sending paper requests and responses.

Employers participating in SIDES and SIDES E-Response are able to:

- Respond to Form UIB-290, Request for Facts About a Former Employee's Employment, in an easy and efficient electronic format.
- Receive a date-stamped confirmation, avoiding time and cost of unnecessary hearings.

- Attach additional documentation to your job-separation responses.
- Eliminate delays related to mail delivery.
- Provide speedy and efficient information for resolution of separation and related issues.
- Keep UI premium rates and business costs low due to reduction of state- and employer-related administrative costs and by reducing improper payments through streamlined fact-finding processes.

To sign up for SIDES E-Response, e-mail us at cdle_ui_sides@state.co.us. If you would like to learn more about SIDES E-Response, prior to signing up, visit <http://info.uisides.org/>.

A NEW WEB-BASED OVERPAYMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – COMING SOON!

Beginning in April 2013, the UI Integrity Benefit Payment Control (BPC) unit will be implementing Benefit Audit, Reporting, and Tracking System (BARTS). BARTS is a new Web-based overpayment management system designed to provide BPC with powerful tools to streamline the detection of improper payments and fraud. BARTS will automate several detection functions, freeing staff to perform more audits and increasing the total number of unemployment claims reviewed on a regular basis.

BARTS will allow BPC staff to identify issues in a timelier manner, which in turn, should reduce the number of UI fraud cases. This effort, in conjunction with employer's timely responses to the Form UIB-144, Request to Employer for Earnings Data, will help keep UI premium rates low by reducing improper payments.

BARTS will include two new methods for you to respond to the Request to Employer for Earnings Data forms: (1) via a Web-based portal in the MyUI Employer application, and (2) via SIDES. These methods will allow you to enter wage, earnings, and hourly rate-of-pay data in a secure Web application and give you the option to receive notifications from BPC via email.

Paper requests exchanged via U.S. mail or fax will still remain an option. We anticipate BARTS will make the process easier for all parties involved.

The provisions of the [Colorado Employment Security Act](#) 8-72-107 (1) state that employers must keep accurate work records for at least five years and provide these records when we request them. Doing so helps us properly establish overpayments, which has a positive impact on employers' experience rates.

EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION LAW AUDITS

All public and private employers in Colorado must comply with the requirements of the Colorado Employment Verification Law, Colorado Revised Statutes 8-2-122. This law is in addition to federal Form I-9 requirements and applies to all Colorado employees hired on or after January 1, 2007. There are two main components to the law: (1) an affirmation requirement, and (2) a requirement to make and retain copies of employee identity and employment eligibility documentation.

The Colorado Division of Labor conducts audits of employers to determine compliance with the law. Employers who are not meeting the requirements of the law may be subject to fines up to \$5,000 for the first offense, and up to \$25,000 for second and subsequent offenses per employee.

For more information, visit the [Employment Verification Law](#) Web page on the [CDLE](#) Web site.

CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES WITH PUBLIC ENTITIES REMINDER

Contractors who enter into or renew a public contract for services with Colorado state agencies or political subdivisions must participate in either the federal [E-Verify](#) program or the [Department Program](#).

The Colorado Division of Labor may conduct audits of contractors to determine compliance with the law. Violations of the law may result in contract termination and liability for actual and consequential damages.

For more information, visit the [Public Contracts for Services](#) Web page on the [CDLE](#) Web site.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

For unemployment insurance premium questions and issues related to your account, email Unemployment Insurance Employer Services at cdle_ui_employer_services@state.co.us. You may also call 303-318-9100 (Denver-metro area) or 1-800-480-8299 (outside Denver-metro area).