

**Fiscal Year 2026 RESEA State Plan
Discussion Paper**

Background

The Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program is a federal program designed to allow states to provide intensive reemployment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits and are determined likely to exhaust their UI benefits before becoming reemployed. The primary goal of RESEA is to reduce the duration of UI benefit dependency and expedite employment outcomes for claimants.

Social Security Act §306(e) requires each state to submit a state plan, for each federal fiscal year (FFY), that outlines how the state intends to conduct their RESEA program. This plan must include a discussion of:

- how participants will be notified of the program’s eligibility conditions, requirements, and benefits;
- reasonable scheduling accommodations made to maximize program participation;
- how the program will conform with the program’s purposes and satisfy the requirement to use evidence-based standards; and
- reemployment activities and evaluations that have been conducted in the prior year.

Issue

On July 29, 2026, the US Department of Labor (DOL) issued Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 13-26, titled “Fiscal Year 2026 Funding Allotments and Operating Guidance for Unemployment Insurance Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments Grants”, which requires states to submit their FFY 2026 RESEA State Plans by August 28, 2026.

The Texas RESEA State Plan for FFY 2026 includes the following:

- Launch of an updated profile model that improves accuracy and adds a new exhaustion rate comparison factor.
- Launch of the reemployment support assistant team to provide preparatory reemployment services to UI claimants.
- Launch of the reemployment consultant team to identify and refer career shifters to career navigators and provide expedited RESEA services to high wage earners.
- Continued evaluation of the program’s efficacy.
- Expansion of the number of Boards providing subsequent meetings.
- Expansion of the use of mandatory artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted resume and interview assignments.

Decision Point

Staff recommends the approval of the proposed FFY 2026 RESEA State Plan for submission to DOL.