

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Iowa Workforce Development Receives \$1.78 million Unemployment Insurance Performance and Integrity Grant**

DES MOINES - The U.S. Department of Labor awarded Iowa Workforce Development over \$1.78 million dollars to enhance the performance and integrity of the Unemployment Insurance system through technology.

“This grant will allow Iowa to continue implementing technology solutions that lead to faster claims processing and enhanced prevention of overpayments,” stated Iowa Workforce Development Director Teresa Wahlert. “The department is dedicated to protecting the integrity of the Unemployment Insurance system while implementing enhancements that benefit both individuals and employers.”

Iowa Workforce Development received 100 percent of the funding requested in the grant process. The additional resources will incorporate enhanced programs to process claims where wages exist in multiple states; enhance the verification of dependents listed on an unemployment claim; and automate the process for employers to submit supplemental information on wages paid to former employees, decreasing the possibility of benefit overpayments.

Additionally, Iowa Workforce Development is implementing a participant profile to allow claimants real-time electronic access to their unemployment information and the department is enhancing the data integrity components to meet new guidelines recently established.

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