Annual List of Rule-Making Activity Rules Adopted January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

Prepared by the Secretary of State, pursuant to 5 MRS, §8053-A, sub-§5

Agency name: Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Commission

Umbrella-Unit: 12-172

Statutory authority: 26 MRS §§ 1082(2), 1192(3)

Chapter number/title: Ch. 10, Work Search Requirements

Filing number: 2015-017 Effective date: 2/23/2015

Type of rule: Routine Technical

Emergency rule: No

Principal reason or purpose for rule:

Modification of this rule is sought to update the rule to adequately reflect the current work search methods utilized by claimants, to provide clearer guidelines regarding claimants' duty to track their work search efforts and present evidence of these efforts to the Bureau upon request, to include additional grounds for waiver of the requirement, and to modify the disqualification process.

Basis statement:

Modification of this rule is sought to update the rule to adequately reflect the current work search methods utilized by claimants, particularly with regard to online work search methods; to provide clearer guidelines regarding claimants' duty to track their work search efforts and present evidence of these efforts to the Bureau upon request; to include additional grounds for waiver of the requirement, particularly for claimants who are participating in mandatory or voluntary reemployment services during the week in question; and to modify the disqualification process such that claimants are provided with a warning and an opportunity to correct their compliance with the requirement before any disqualification results.

Fiscal impact of rule:

N/A

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Prepared by the Secretary of State, pursuant to 5 MRS, §8053-A, sub-§5

Agency name: Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Services

Umbrella-Unit: 12-597

Statutory authority: 26 MRS §2033

Chapter number/title: Ch. 2, Rules Governing the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program

Filing number: 2015-249 Effective date: 12/22/2015

Type of rule: Routine Technical

Emergency rule: No

Principal reason or purpose for rule:

The Competitive Skills Scholarship Program (CSSP) has been in effect since September 2007. The rule amendment provides clarity of eligibility and assessment of CSSP through changes to the components of the rule that deal with definitions, earnings evaluation, and the addition of the Bridge Program. The rule amendment will apply to all scholarship recipients, including recipients who were granted scholarships prior to the enactment of the rule amendment.

Basis statement / Purpose:

This rule implements the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program (CSSP) enacted pursuant to PL 2007 ch. 352 and codified at 26 MRS ch. 25, sub-ch. 5. CSSP is intended to provide individuals with access to education, training and support leading to skilled, well-compensated jobs with anticipated high employment demand, to improve the economic well-being of the participants in the program and to provide employers with a skilled labor force.

Fiscal impact of rule:

N/A