

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2011

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Important Information Regarding Unemployment Compensation Benefits

(SARASOTA)- Effective August 1, 2011, **several changes were implemented to the Florida Unemployment Compensation (UC) requirements. These changes include:**

- **Online filing and certification of weeks** – all claims must be done electronically at www.floridajobs.org. This can be done from *any* computer with an internet connection at home, libraries, community centers, or Suncoast Workforce Career Centers.
- **Five work searches each week** – all claimants are required to apply for five jobs each week and provide details about these applications online when claiming their weeks.

Claimants unable to complete five work searches in a week may visit a Suncoast Workforce Career Center for reemployment services to satisfy this requirement.

The “in lieu of services” currently being offered in the Career Centers include: Priority Re-employment Program (PREP), Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA), UC Solutions Workshop, and any of the other Employability Workshops (resume writing, interviewing, job search, etc.).

- **Initial Skills Review** – All new claimants after August 1, 2011 must complete an Initial Skills Review before benefits will be determined.

For more information, connect directly to the State’s unemployment website at www.FloridaJobs.org.

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The mission of Suncoast Workforce is to recruit, train, and retain talent for the Suncoast.