NEWS RELEASE

Extension of application period for disaster unemployment assistance

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Workforce Commission is extending the disaster unemployment assistance (DUA) application period to October 14, 2016 for individuals affected by the August 2016 flooding. Included in this uniform application period will be the parishes of Acadia, Ascension, Avoyelles, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Vermillion, Washington and West Feliciana making DUA available to workers and self-employed individuals who lost work or earnings as a result of flooding that began August 11, 2016 and continues.

Applications for DUA will be accepted by the Louisiana Workforce Commission from workers and self-employed individuals in these parishes until the deadline of October 14, 2016. Applications filed after the deadline will be considered untimely and DUA benefits may be denied unless the individual provides good cause.

Individuals affected in these designated-disaster areas must file DUA applications by established deadlines. DUA is available to those who:

• Worked or were self-employed or were scheduled to begin work or self-employment;
• Can no longer work or perform services because of physical damage of destruction to the place of employment as a direct result of the disaster;
• Can establish that the work or self-employment they can no longer perform was their principal source of income;
• Do not qualify for regular unemployment benefits from any state;
• Cannot perform work or self-employment because of an injury as a direct result of the disaster or
• Became the breadwinner or major support of a household because of the death of the head of household.

Applicants must submit their Social Security number, check stubs and documentation to support the claim that they were working or self-employed when the disaster occurred. Louisiana will accept additional documentation on a case-by-case basis.