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□ Policy ☑ Information

To:	Chief Elected Officials MassHire Workforce Board Chairs MassHire Workforce Board Directors Title I Administrators MassHire Career Center Directors Title I Fiscal Officers MDCS Operations Managers
cc:	WIOA State Partners
From:	Alice Sweeney, Director MassHire Department of Career Services
Date:	March 28, 2019
Subject:	DUA UI Policy & Performance Maximum Allowable Benefit Weeks
Purpose:	To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other workforce partners of the change to maximum allowable benefit weeks for new/initial unemployment claims as stated in Department of Unemployment Assistance UI Policy & Performance Interoffice Memorandum No. UIPP 2019.01, released March 27, 2019.
Background:	Massachusetts General Laws 151A, Section 30, provides guidance on how to calculate the potential duration of unemployment insurance (UI) claims. In 2016, the Commonwealth amended this law to reduce the potential duration of a claim from 30 weeks to 26, when the twelve-month average unemployment rate in the metropolitan areas is equal to or less than 5.1%. The criteria in this section of the law has occurred.
Action Required:	Please ensure all appropriate managers and staff are notified of this information.
Effective:	Immediately
Attachment:	DUA UI Policy & Performance Interoffice Memorandum No. UIPP 2019.01
Inquiries:	Inquires can be made through the UI Policy & Performance Department at 617-626-6422