

TRADE ACT ASSISTANCE

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DEPT. OF LABOR

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) is a federal program administered by the Idaho Department of Labor that assists U.S. workers who have lost or may lose their jobs due to imports/exports of foreign trade. The program provides adversely affected workers with opportunities to obtain the necessary skills, credentials, resources and support necessary to become re-employed.

Identifying Trade-Related Reasons for Job Impacts

- Is your company/employer doing business in other countries?
- Do they compete with products or services originating from other countries?
- Has the company recently been sold or purchased by another company that does the same or similar type of work?
- Have there been a significant number of layoffs throughout your company or one of its divisions?
- Have you or your co-workers trained replacement workers based in other countries?

If any of the above conditions pertain to company job losses, workers may qualify for Trade Act benefits and services.

Trade Adjustment Assistance Petitions

Workers must be approved under a federal Trade Adjustment Assistance petition to receive services and benefits. Petitions may be filed by any of the following:

- Three or more workers, or
- The worker's employer, or
- A union official or duly authorized representative of such workers, or
- The Idaho Department of Labor.

Petitions are submitted on the U.S. Department of Labor website dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact or by mail. The U.S. Department of Labor Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance conducts an investigation resulting in approval (certification) or denial of the petition application. Approved petitions carry an impact date and generally are valid for two years from the certification date. Denied petitions may be appealed in writing through the Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance. All petition determinations are posted on the USDOL TAA website and published in the Federal Register.

For assistance to file a Trade Adjustment Assistance petition, or for more information, contact your local Idaho Department of Labor office labor.idaho.gov/officedirectory or contact:

Idaho Department of Labor • TAA Coordinator
317 W. Main St. Boise, ID 83735-0780
Phone: (208) 332-3570 • Fax: (208) 947-0049

Access job listings 24 hours a day, seven days a week on the Idaho Department of Labor's job search website:

idahoworks.gov

Other helpful links:

Idaho state government jobs

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/idaho

U.S. government jobs

www.usajobs.gov

Find your local office at:

labor.idaho.gov/officedirectory

Start your job search at:

labor.idaho.gov/jobseeker

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Services and Benefits

- **Reemployment Services**

The Idaho Department of Labor assists workers in finding a new job. Reemployment services include job referrals, job search assistance, resume writing, interview skills workshops and employment counseling.

- **Training**

The Idaho Department of Labor connects workers with training services at no cost. Allowable types of training include classroom training, on-the-job training, customized training designed to meet the needs of a specific employer, apprenticeship programs, postsecondary education, remedial education (may include GED preparation), literacy training, basic math or English as a second language. When the training facility is outside the commuting area, some transportation costs may be paid. Additional eligibility criterion must be met to receive training paid by the TAA program.

- **Job Search Allowance**

Job search allowance reimburses workers for authorized expenses incurred while seeking employment outside the commuting area. Job search allowance may reimburse up to 90 percent of the cumulative authorized travel and subsistence costs not to exceed a total of \$1,250. An application for job search allowance must meet filing deadlines and be submitted before the job search begins.

- **Relocation Allowance**

Relocation allowance reimburses workers for authorized expenses to move outside the commuting area for employment. Relocation allowances may reimburse up to 90 percent of the reasonable and necessary costs to move the worker, family and household goods to a new area. In addition, workers may receive a lump sum payment equal to three times their former average weekly wage up to \$1,250 maximum. An application for relocation allowance must meet filing deadlines and be submitted before the relocation begins.

- **Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA)**

Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) is weekly income support to workers enrolled in full-time training. The amount of each TRA payment is based on the weekly unemployment insurance (UI) benefit amount already received. Workers must have been entitled to receive UI benefits and exhausted UI entitlement before receiving TRA. There are three types of TRA: Basic, Additional and Completion. Additional eligibility criterion must be met to receive each type of TRA.

- **Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA)**

Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance is a wage subsidy available to re-employed workers age 50 or older who do not earn more than \$50,000 annually. RTAA payments may total 50 percent of the difference between the old and new wages, with a maximum of \$10,000 paid over a period of up to two years.

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