

Trade Adjustment Assistance For Workers

Helping Workers Whose Jobs Have Been Affected By International Trade



**DIVISION OF
EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY**

**in coordination with
Division of Workforce Development**



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The **Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program** helps workers whose jobs have been affected by increased international trade. TAA offers services to help you retool your skills and get back to work. Any workers who feel that increased international trade was a substantial cause of their unemployment or reduction in work can apply.

This publication addresses petitions numbered 85,000 and above. Petitions within this range are based on the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TAARA 2015).

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Benefits Available

The goal of TAA is to get you back to work as soon as possible. If your petition is certified, TAA has many services to help you:

1. Reemployment Services
2. Training and Related Expenses
3. TRA Additional Weekly Benefits
4. Job Search Allowance
5. Relocation Allowance
6. RTAA for Older Workers Wage Supplement
7. Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC)

1. Reemployment Services

Your Division of Workforce Development (DWD) Missouri Job Center can help you with:

- Job search strategies
- Resumés, cover letters, applications
- Referrals to jobs
- Labor market information
- Interview preparation.

2. Training and Related Expenses

You can get aid for up to 130 weeks of job training, including:

- On-the-Job Training
- Occupational Training
- Customized Training
- Remedial Training
- Training-related expenses also may be covered:
 - Tuition, books, fees, tools, and uniforms
 - Travel expenses (if beyond normal commute)
 - Subsistence allowance (if training is not available within your commuting area).

Criteria your training program must meet to be approved:

1. Suitable employment is not available for you (the Job Center Trade Representative will match your skill level, salary, and commuting area to jobs listed)
2. You will benefit from training
3. You meet entry-level education and training program requirements, and if not eligible for Unemployment Insurance (UI) and/or TRA, have another source of income to support yourself while in training
4. Training is reasonably available to you (travel/subsistence)
5. Training is suitable for you and available at a reasonable cost
6. You can reasonably expect to find employment following completion of your training program.

3. TRA Additional Weekly Benefits

You may be eligible for additional weeks of benefits after your initial claim for regular UI benefits is exhausted if you are enrolled or participating in approved full-time training. Under certain conditions the training requirement may be waived.

Waiving training requirement, applicable if:

1. You are in poor health (you must still be able, available, and actively seeking full-time employment to be eligible to receive regular UI or TRA benefits)

2. You are determined eligible for training but the first available enrollment date is delayed (training must begin within 60 days)
3. Training is not available at a reasonable cost or funds are not available under TAA or other federal laws.

You may receive up to 52 weeks of regular UI benefits and basic TRA benefits combined. (You must file a weekly request for payment and meet eligibility requirements to be paid).

Additional TRA Allowances

If you exhaust your 52 weeks of regular UI and basic TRA (combined), there are additional benefits available if you are in training.

- If you need more time and financial help to complete your training, you can receive up to 65 weeks of additional TRA benefits in a 78 week period (117 weeks total when combined with regular UI and basic TRA).
- You also may receive 13 more weeks of benefits (130 total when combined with regular UI, basic and additional TRA) to complete your training, if you meet specific benchmarks.

Break in Training – If you have more than a 30-day break in your TAA training (not counting national and state holidays, and weekends), TRA benefits are not payable. TRA payments will resume when your approved TAA training starts again.

Job Search Requirements – If you complete training or receive a waiver from training, you must actively seek full-time employment to receive basic TRA benefits. Job Center staff will help you through your work search.

4. Job Search Allowance

You can receive additional compensation in order to look for a new job if you must commute outside your local area to search for work:

- You must be pre-approved by the Job Center Trade Representative to seek work beyond your normal commuting area
- Ninety percent of the cost of expenses for meals, lodging, and mileage may be refunded to you with a maximum amount of \$1,250.

5. Relocation Allowance

If you manage to find new employment in a new location, TAA can help you relocate to your new job:

- You must be pre-approved by the Job Center Trade Representative to seek suitable work beyond your normal commuting area (certain deadlines apply – see your representative)
- You must live 10 miles or more from your new place of work
- You must have a written offer of employment
- Your new job must be within the continental United States
- Payment will be a lump sum equal to three times your average weekly wage (maximum \$1,250)

- You also can receive up to 90 percent of the total cost of the following to the nearest suitable employment opportunity:
 - Cost of meals, lodging, and mileage
 - Cost of moving your household goods and personal and family effects (lesser of two estimates)
 - Up to two months storage.

6. RTAA for Older Workers Wage Supplement

- RTAA provides a wage subsidy of 50 percent of the difference between the wages earned at the Trade-certified employment and new employment obtained.
- To qualify for RTAA, you must obtain a full-time or part-time job that pays no more than \$50,000 per year. Part-time employment also requires full-time attendance in Trade-approved training.
- You must be at least 50 years old.
- Total payments may not exceed \$10,000 over a two-year period (whichever of these runs out first).

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

The Job Center Trade Representative must approve training programs, job search allowances, and relocation allowances in advance.

For more information and help with the TAA Program, contact your local Missouri Job Center.

How to Apply

1. Petition for Certification: When a layoff or work reduction occurs, a petition for TAA must be filed with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) and the TAA Coordinator. The following people can file:

- Group of three or more workers or their duly authorized agent (such as an attorney)
- Certified union official or representative
- Official of the employer/firm.

You can get a petition and help with completing it from your local Missouri Job Center.

2. Determination of Petition: After you file, the USDOL has 40 calendar days to complete its investigation and issue a determination.

3. Individual Entitlement: If certified, everyone covered by the petition wishing to claim benefits must contact his/her Regional Claims Center to file a Request for Determination of Initial Entitlement to TAA/TRA.

4. Program Approval: You must be pre-approved for all TAA services and benefits by the Job Center Trade Representative.

- You must be enrolled in training or issued a waiver to the training within 26 weeks after the petition certification date or 26 weeks after separation, whichever is later.

5. Weekly Request for Payment: To request TRA weekly benefits for each week while participating in training, you are required to have a TRA-22 form signed by your training facility authorized person and the Job Center Trade Representative.

If you live outside of Missouri, mail your TRA-22 forms to the address included on the form.

You may also hand deliver or mail your form to your local Missouri Job Center.

Contact Information

Missouri Division of Employment Security Regional Claims Centers

Jefferson City	573-751-9040
Kansas City	816-889-3101
Springfield.....	417-895-6851
St. Louis	314-340-4950
Outside Local Calling Area	800-320-2519
Fax Number	573-751-9730

www.moclaim.mo.gov

esuiclaims@labor.mo.gov

Missouri Division of Workforce Development Job Centers

888-728-JOBS

To locate a Job Center near you, visit

www.jobs.mo.gov

U.S. Dept. of Labor

www.doleta.gov/tradeact

IMPORTANT: *If needed, call 573-751-9040 for assistance in the translation and understanding of the information in this document.*

¡IMPORTANTE! *Si es necesario, llame el 573-751-9040 para asistencia en la traducción y entendimiento de la información en este documento.*

Missouri Division of Employment Security is an equal opportunity employer/program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TDD/TTY: 800-735-2966 Relay Missouri: 711

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**