

Illinois State Trade Contact Information

The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration has responsibility for the Trade Adjustment Assistance program. However, states administer the program. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Employment and Training is designated as the Illinois agency responsible for the program administration in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

Commerce Trade Contact

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www.doleta.gov/tradeact

Illinois workNet®

For information on
Laid off worker assistance services, visit
www.illinoisworknet.com/layoffassistance

Your Local Service Agency:

National Able Network

Main Number: 312-994-8355

Email Address: odeleon@nationalable.org
www.nationalable.org

Location

1700 W. 18th St., Chicago IL 60608

**All of our services are
accessible online.**

www.illinoisworknet.com

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Getting Back to Work After a Trade Related Layoff

Trade Adjustment Assistance Benefits and Services



Overview & Petition Process

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program is a federal entitlement program that assists U.S. workers who have lost or may lose their jobs as a result of foreign trade. This program seeks to provide adversely affected workers with opportunities to obtain the skills, credentials, resources, and support necessary to become reemployed.

The first step to receiving TAA benefits and services is to file a petition online or by mail with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Petitions are available online and may also be obtained at American Job Centers. The petition may be filed by:

- Three or more workers in the same firm or subdivision;
- The workers' employer;
- A union official or other duly authorized representative of such workers; or
- American Job Center operators or partners (including state workforce agencies and dislocated worker units).

Upon receiving a petition, DOL initiates an investigation to determine whether the circumstances of the layoff meet the group eligibility criteria established by the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.

To learn more, please visit the DOL website at www.doleta.gov/tradeact

Program Eligibility

A petition identifies a worker group at a specific firm or subdivision and covers all individuals in that group. Generally, if a worker is laid off, a petition must be submitted within one year of the layoff for that worker to be covered by the petition and the certification if DOL grants the petition.

A group of workers may be eligible for TAA if their jobs are lost or threatened due to trade-related circumstances as determined by the DOL investigation.

While the latest information regarding program eligibility is available on our website at www.doleta.gov/tradeact, these circumstances may include:

- Increased imports;
- A shift in operations to certain countries;
- Supply or downstream production to certain companies with TAA-certified workers.

After the investigation, DOL determines group eligibility to apply for TAA benefits and services. Workers in a certified group will be notified by their state, at which time they may apply for individual eligibility for benefits and services.

Once a worker has been notified, it is important to maintain contact with the local American Job Centers to meet required deadlines, ensure proper understanding of the rules, and receive guidance on benefits and services available to workers.

Benefits & Services

If a worker is a member of a worker group certified by DOL, that worker may be eligible to receive the following benefits and services at a local American Job Center:

Employment and Case Management Services:	Skills assessments, individual employment plans, career counseling, supportive services, and information on training, labor markets, and more (through TAA or other American Job Center programs).
Training:	Vocational training, on-the-job training, customized training designed to meet the needs of a specific employer or group of employers, apprenticeship programs, and more.
Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA):	Income support available in the form of weekly cash payments to workers who are enrolled in a full-time training program and have exhausted their unemployment insurance.
Job Search Allowances:	Reimbursement for costs of seeking employment outside of the worker's commuting area.
Relocation Allowances:	Reimbursement for relocation costs for employment outside of the worker's commuting area.
Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance:	A wage subsidy for up to two years that is available to reemployed older workers and covers a portion of the difference between a worker's new wage and their old wage (up to a specified maximum amount).
Health Coverage Tax Credit:	A 72.5% credit if receiving TRA for the costs you pay for health care insurance may be claimed on your federal income taxes. For more info go to: http://www.irs.gov/HCTC .

