

MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 13.100

☒ **Policy** ☐ **Information**

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Development Board Chairs
Workforce Development Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Operations

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: November 10, 2016

Subject: **Job Search Allowances Under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and local workforce partners of changes to the Job Search Allowances under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Programs. This policy is being amended to ensure alliance, where allowable and applicable, with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Background: The Trade Adjustment Assistance Program for workers was first established by the Trade Act of 1974 and has been amended numerous times. It was first amended by the TAA Reform Act of 2002; then by the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009 and further amended by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011. On January 1, 2014 the Sunset Provisions of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 program became effective and are referred to as “Reversion 2014”. The Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TAARA 2015) was signed into law by President Barack Obama on June 29, 2015. TAARA 2015 repeals the sunset provision of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 (TAAEA), under which the Reversion 2014 Program was in effect.

This issuance provides notice of the amount and procedural guidance with respect to applying for TAA Job Search Allowances (Attachment A).

The issuance also includes the Request for Job Search Allowances application form (Attachment B) and the Interview Verification Form (Attachment C).

Policy: Job Search Allowance amounts for any individual determined to be TAA eligible may fall under the following rules:

Petitions	Job Search Allowance Rule
Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002 (TAARA)	A worker may be reimbursed 90% of the costs of allowable travel and subsistence, up to a maximum of \$1,250
Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 (TAAEA) and	
Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TAARA 2015)	
Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009 (TGAAA)	A worker may be reimbursed 100% of the costs of allowable travel and subsistence, up to a maximum of \$1,500

The total amount of Job Search Allowances paid to an individual under a certification may not exceed the maximum amount (depending on the date of the filing date of the petition under which the individual is covered), regardless of the number of job searches completed by the individual.

Action

Required: Please distribute copies of this policy notice to all appropriate individuals in your organization, and take necessary action to ensure compliance with this policy.

Effective: Immediately

Attachments: A. TAA Job Search Allowance Procedural Guidance
B. TAA Job Search Allowance Application Form
C. Interview Verification Form

References: Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended
The Trade Reform Act of 2002
The Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009
Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Extension Act of 2011
The Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015
Trade Regulations, 20 CFR Part 617

TEGL 11-02 Operating Instructions for Implementing the Amendments to the Trade Act of 1974 Enacted by the Trade Act of 2002, issued October 10, 2002 and subsequent changes

TEGL 22-08 Operating Instructions For Implementing the Amendments to the Trade Act of 1974 Enacted by the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009, issued on May 15, 2009

TEGL 10-11 Operating Instructions for Implementing the Amendments to the Trade Act of 1974 Enacted by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 (TAAEA)

TEGL 05-15 Operating Instructions for Implementing the Amendments to the Trade Act of 1974 Enacted by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TAARA 2015)

Inquiries: Please submit all questions to PolicyQA@MassMail.State.MA.US. Also, indicate Issuance number and description.