

Attachment A

Services provided under the Trade Act are administered in partnership with the Department of Career Services (DCS), Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) and Massachusetts Career Centers.

Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TAARA 2015)

Enrollment Deadlines

- Workers must be approved for training or on an approved waiver from training **26 weeks after certification or 26 weeks after layoff**, whichever is later, in order to potentially be eligible for Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA).
- A 45 day extension due to extenuating circumstances can be applied for.
- Federal Good Cause or Equitable tolling of deadlines are also available under certain circumstances

Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA)

- Up to 130 weeks of cash payments (including any UI/EUC/EB) if the worker was also enrolled in training that results in an industry-recognized credential (and other Completion TRA requirements are met)

TAA 2015	
UI + Basic TRA	52 weeks
Additional TRA	Up to 65 weeks (if in training and payable within 78 weeks)
Completion TRA	Up to 13 weeks (payable within 20 weeks - if in training)
Max weeks	Up to 130

Waivers from Training

- Approval of a waiver must be done within the 26/26 deadline. It allows collection of Basic TRA **and** must be reviewed after the first 90 days, and then every additional 30 days.

Types of Waivers from Training Available:

- Health** - The worker is unable to participate in training due to the health of the worker, except that this basis for a waiver does not exempt a worker from the availability for work, active search for work, or refusal to accept work requirements under Federal or State unemployment compensation laws.
- Enrollment is not available** - The first available enrollment date for the worker's approved training is within 60 days after the date of the training determination, or, if later, there are extenuating circumstances for the delay in enrollment, as determined under guidance issued by the Secretary.
- Training is not available** - Training approved by the Secretary is not reasonably available to the worker from either governmental agencies or private sources (which

may include area vocational schools as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (20 USC 2302) and employers), no suitable training for the worker is available at reasonable cost, or no training funds are available.

Training Services

- Training may be approved on a full-time or part-time basis. Full-time is required for TRA eligibility
- Training can be approved for UP TO 130 weeks
- Certified workers may begin training when threatened with separation and do not have to wait until fully or partially separated.

Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance – RTAA

- Available to workers 50 years of age or older
- Does not require a separate certification of group eligibility
- Workers may participate in TAA approved training
- Requires full-time employment, unless the worker is also enrolled in TAA-approved training and employed at least 20 hours per week, and does not set a deadline for reemployment
- Available only for workers earning less than \$50,000 per year in reemployment
- Maximum benefit of \$10,000 over a period of up to two years
- Participants are eligible for the HCTC

Job Search Allowances

- 90% of allowable costs, up to \$1,250

Relocation Allowances

- 90% of costs, up to the statutory limit for Federal Employees
- Provides an additional lump sum payment of up to \$1,250

Things to note regarding TAARA 2015:

- **Incumbent worker training** - Adversely affected incumbent workers are eligible for TAA benefits and services (workers do not have to be separated from adversely affected employment)
- **Federal Good Cause** – A waiver for good cause of the time limitations applies “with respect to an application for TRA or enrollment in training”. This means the 26 week enrollment in training deadline.
- **Judicial or Administrative Appeal** - Appeals for TAA benefit entitlements
- **Justifiable Cause** – For extensions to Basic and Additional TRA per TEGL No. 22-08, Section C.6.2
- **Special Rule for military** - Military Service Deadline Extensions for TRA eligibility available
- **Earnings UP TO TRA WBA** – Ability to earn up to 100% of the TRA WBA before deduction from part-time work.

- **Election of TRA or UI** – The option to choose collecting for TRA or UI subsequent benefits.
- **Employment and Case Management funds** - Employment and Case Management Services will be funded under TAARA 2015.
- **Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC)** – Everyone eligible for HCTC will be covered back to January 1, 2014.