

## America's Job Centers

America's Job Centers, sometimes known locally as One-Stop Career Centers or by a different name, are "full service" career centers. Services provided generally include:

- Information about employment and training opportunities
- Skills assessments
- Job placement
- Job counseling
- Other supportive services

It is important to maintain contact with local America's Job Centers to meet required deadlines, ensure proper understanding of the rules, and receive guidance on benefits and services available to workers.



**To find the nearest America's Job Center, either call or visit:**

☎ 1-877-US2-JOBS  
1-877-889-5627 (TTY)

🌐 [servicelocator.org](http://servicelocator.org)

## Contact Information:

For further information, contact:

✉ **U.S. Department of Labor**  
Employment and Training Administration  
Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance  
200 Constitution Ave, N.W., Room N-5428  
Washington, D.C. 20210

☎ **Phone**  
1-888-DOL-OTAA (1-888-365-6822)  
1-202-693-3560

📠 **Fax**  
1-202-693-3584  
1-202-693-3585  
1-202-693-3586

🌐 **Web**  
To learn more about how to file a petition, locate a state or regional contact, check on the status of a petition, or to obtain more information on benefits and services, please visit our website at [dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact](http://dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact)



**America's JobCenter**  
*of California<sup>SM</sup>*

**Note:** This brochure is intended as a general description and is not legally binding.

# Getting Back to Work

**After a Trade Related Layoff**



**Employment and Training Administration  
United States Department of Labor**

## Overview and 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 trade-affected workers with opportunities to obtain the skills, credentials, resources, and support necessary to become employed.

Since 1975, the TAA program has served more than 2 million U.S. workers.<sup>1</sup>

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 America's Job Centers. The petition may be filed by:

- Two or more workers in the same firm or subdivision.
- The workers' employer.
- A union official or other duly authorized representative of such workers.
- America's 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 our website at: [dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact](http://dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact)

<sup>1</sup>Based on reported figures for 1997-2013 and extrapolated estimates for 1975-1996.



## Program Eligibility

A petition identifies a worker group at a specific firm or subdivision and covers all individuals on 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.

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 [dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact](http://dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact), these circumstances may include:

- Increased imports.
- A shift in operations to certain foreign 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.

**[dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact](http://dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact)**

## Benefits and 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 America's Job Center:

<b>Employment Services:</b>	Skills assessments, individual employment plans, career counseling, supportive services, information on training, labor markets provided through other American Job Center Programs.
<b>Training:</b>	Classroom training, on-the-job training, apprenticeship programs, and more. Training can be full or part-time. Distance learning can also be approved.
<b>Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA):</b>	Income support available in the form of weekly cash payments to workers who are enrolled in training and have exhausted their unemployment insurance.
<b>Job Search Allowance:</b>	Reimbursement for costs of seeking employment outside of the worker's commuting area.
<b>Relocation Allowance:</b>	Reimbursement for relocation costs for employment outside of the worker's commuting area.
<b>Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA):</b>	A wage subsidy for up to two years 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 \$10,000 maximum benefit).