



# Trade Adjustment Assistance

## General Information and Overview



# Trade Adjustment Assistance General Information and Overview

- Today's information is a general overview to give you an idea of what TAA is about
- Not too much to make you crazy, but just enough to make you glassy eyed
- You will know how to reach out for further assistance with the TAA program



# TAA Background

- The Trade Act of 1974 established the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program
- The Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009 reauthorized the program as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- Administered by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL)
- Assists workers employed by a firm that produces an article or provides a service who lose their jobs as a result of foreign trade (such as imports or off-shoring)
- Services provided through Michigan Works! Agencies, the Unemployment Insurance Agency and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)



# Application Process

- A petition must first be filed on behalf of a group of workers with the USDOL's Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance
  
- Who can file a petition?
  - Union representative, company representative, State of MI, Michigan Works, or three employees.
  
- Petitions and filing process can be found at <http://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/DownloadPetitions.cfm>
  
- If the worker group meets the necessary group eligibility criteria, as determined by USDOL, a certification is issued



# Worker Group Eligibility

- **Manufacturing Workers**
- **Service Industry Workers**
- **Public Agency Workers**
- **Secondary Workers**
  - **Handout goes into more detail.**



# Services Administered through Michigan Works

- Classroom training for up to 156 weeks (including remedial training and prerequisite courses if necessary)
  - Creates greater flexibility.
  - Part time may be pre-approved and allow full time work
- On-the-job training for up to 104 weeks with a new employer
- Apprenticeship training in registered apprenticeship programs
- Pre-separation training for worker who is part of certified group, not yet separated, individually threatened with separation



# Services through MWA continued

- Job search allowances to assist workers secure suitable employment outside of their commuting area
- Relocation allowances to assist workers and their families relocate outside of their commuting area for suitable employment
- Case management services such as assessment, financial aid information, employment plans, information on available training, employability skills, labor market information, career guidance and information on supportive services





# Training Costs

- Cap on allowable annual training costs to increase from \$12,000 to \$15,000
- Workers may use Pell grants for living expenses rather than training costs





# Additional Services Administered by the UIA and the IRS

- Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA) to provide income support while participating in full time training (under certain circumstances TRA is also available to workers for whom training is not feasible or appropriate) – *State Unemployment Insurance Agency*
- The Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance wage subsidy benefit for workers age 50 to bridge the gap between their old and new wages – *State Unemployment Insurance Agency*
- The Health Coverage Tax Credit which covers 80% of qualified health insurance premium costs – *IRS*



# Further information

- To learn more about the TAA program, please contact Tim Ross, (517) 241-8823, [rosst1@michigan.gov](mailto:rosst1@michigan.gov) or Tammy Flynn, (517) 241-9559, [flynnt@michigan.gov](mailto:flynnt@michigan.gov)
- Rapid Response Section can also be of assistance 517-373-6234
- [http://www.michigan.gov/mdcd/0,1607,7-122-1679\\_1823\\_2821---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdcd/0,1607,7-122-1679_1823_2821---,00.html)