

Rapid Response



WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

The Rapid Response program helps workers who have lost their jobs due to a mass layoff, permanent business closing, or a disaster that caused mass job losses. The information provided helps workers file for unemployment insurance through the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) as well as familiarizing them with the employment and training opportunities provided by Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) Service Centers.

What is the Rapid Response process?

When notification of a plant closing or mass layoff is received by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, a Rapid Response State Coordinator will contact the company to set up an onsite meeting with Rapid Response, UIA, the local MWA service providers, the employer, worker representatives, union representative(s) and others deemed necessary to:

- Assess the company's layoff plans.
- Determine the potential for averting the layoffs.
- Gather the background information on the affected workforce to determine training and other needs of the workforce to facilitate rapid reemployment.

How does Rapid Response benefit the affected workers?

Rapid Response meetings with the workforce are designed to help the employees file for Unemployment Insurance and get established with their local Michigan Works! Agencies. Re-employment services offered through Michigan Works! include:

- **Basic Career Services**
Program information and basic assessment, individual job development, advanced screened referrals, group activities, and job search.
- **Individualized Career Services**
Comprehensive specialized assessment, counseling, short-term pre-vocational skills, case management, literacy activity, out-of-area job search, relocation assistance, internship & work experience.
- **Training Services**
Occupational skills, on-the-job training, workplace training with related instruction, registered apprenticeship, incumbent worker, pre-apprenticeship, skill upgrading & retraining, entrepreneurial, transitional jobs, adult education/literacy combined with any other training services.

Additional Rapid Response Benefits

In addition to connecting employers and affected workers with the resources of the UIA and Michigan Works! Agencies to facilitate rapid reemployment, Rapid Response delivers other benefits including:

- Information on employment and training opportunities.
- Technical and financial support for establishing a Joint Adjustment Committee.
- Emergency assistance, including state and federal funds, to serve the affected workers at identified sites.

Where can you find more information about Rapid Response?

MWAs throughout the state oversee the delivery of reemployment services which are designed to prepare participants for re-entry into the workforce. More information about those services can be found by visiting Michigan.gov/Workforce.