



Tariffs and Trade Adjustment Assistance

The **Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Workers Program** is a federal program that assists U.S. workers who have lost or may lose their jobs as a result of foreign trade. Customs duties on merchandise imports are called **tariffs**.

Tariffs and TAA are not the same

The TAA Program

Does

- ✓ Investigate groups of workers to determine eligibility for TAA
- ✓ Provide benefits and services to workers
- ✓ Help workers obtain new careers

Does not

- X Develop or coordinate trade policy
- X Make decisions on unfair trade practices
- X Provide automatic eligibility for TAA

Workers harmed by increased imports may be eligible for TAA

Easy online filing of a petition for TAA can be done by:

Three or more workers of a company

A company official



A state workforce official or operator of an American Job Center

A union or other duly authorized representative

The petition instructions can be found here: [File A TAA Petition](#)

Group Eligibility Criteria

While tariffs (customs duties levied on merchandise imports) are not a basis for TAA certification, workers of firms impacted by tariffs (directly or indirectly) may be eligible to apply for TAA if the worker group eligibility criteria are met.

To meet worker group eligibility requirements, it is required for options 1 through 5 below that a significant number or proportion of the workers in such workers' firm (or an appropriate subdivision of the firm, if option 4 or 5) have become totally or partially separated, or are threatened to become totally or partially separated, and that the criteria in one or more of the options are met:

1. Increased Imports	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sales or production, or both, of such firm have decreased absolutely; and 	
Imports of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • articles or services like or directly competitive with articles produced or services supplied by such firm have increased; or • articles like or directly competitive with articles into which one or more component parts produced by such firm are directly incorporated have increased; or • articles like or directly competitive with articles which are produced directly using services supplied by such firm, have increased; or • articles directly incorporating one or more component parts produced outside the U.S. that are like or directly competitive with imports of articles incorporating one or more component parts produced by such firm have increased;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ And, the increase in imports contributed importantly to such workers' separation or threat of separation and to the decline in the sales or production of such firm. 	
2. Shifts to a Foreign Country	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There has been a shift by the workers' firm to a foreign country in the production of articles or the supply of services like or directly competitive with articles which are produced or services which are supplied by such firm; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ And the shift of articles or services contributed importantly to such workers' separation or threat of separation. 	
3. Acquisitions from a Foreign Country	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The workers' firm has acquired articles or services from a foreign country that are like or directly competitive with articles which are produced or services which are supplied by such firm; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ And the acquisition of articles or services contributed importantly to such workers' separation or threat of separation. 	

Group Eligibility Criteria *continued...*

4. Secondary Component Supplier

- The workers' firm is a supplier to a firm that employed a group of workers who received a TAA certification of eligibility under option 1, 2, 3, or 6, and such supply or production is related to the article or service that was the basis for each certification;
- And the component parts that the workers' firm supplied to the firm whose workers received a TAA certification of eligibility under option 1, 2, 3, or 6, accounted for at least 20 percent of the production or sales of the workers' firm – OR – a loss of business by the workers' firm with the firm described in option 1, 2, 3, or 6, contributed importantly to the workers' separation or threat of separation.

5. Downstream Producer

- The workers' firm is a downstream producer to a firm that employed a group of workers who received a TAA certification of eligibility under option 1, 2, 3, or 6, and such supply or production is related to the article or service that was the basis for such certification;
- And a loss of business by the workers' firm with the firm described in option 1, 2, 3, or 6, contributed importantly to the workers' separation or threat of separation.

6. International Trade Commission (ITC)

- The workers' firm is publicly identified by name by the ITC as a member of a domestic industry in an investigation resulting in A, B, or C:

A. An affirmative determination of serious injury or threat thereof.

B. An affirmative determination of market disruption or threat thereof.

C. An affirmative final determination of material injury or threat thereof.

- And, a petition is filed during the 1-year period beginning on the date on which: If A, a summary of the ITC report submitted to the President is published in the *Federal Register*; If B or C, the notice of an affirmative determination is published in the *Federal Register*.

- And, the workers have become totally or partially separated from the workers' firm within the 1-year period from the Federal Register publication, or during the 1-year preceding that period.

Certification and Benefits

If the Department of Labor issues an affirmative determination (certification) on a TAA petition after an investigation, the certification will identify the worker group whose members are eligible to apply for TAA. The workers will be notified by their state workforce agency of their eligibility to individually apply for TAA benefits and services.

TAA Benefits and Services

Employment and Case Management Services:	Skills assessments, individual employment plans, career counseling, supportive services, information on training, labor markets and more (through TAA or other American Job Center programs).
Training:	Classroom training, on the job training, customized training designed to meet the needs of a specific employer or group of employers, apprenticeship programs, and more.
Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA):	Income support available in the form of weekly cash payments to eligible workers who are enrolled in a full-time training course and have exhausted their unemployment insurance.
Job Search and Relocation Allowances:	Reimbursement for costs of seeking employment outside of the worker's commuting area. Reimbursement for relocation costs for employment outside of the worker's commuting area.
Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA):	A wage supplement for up to two years that is available to reemployed workers ages 50 and over which covers a portion of the difference between a worker's new wage and their old wage (up to a specified maximum amount).
Health Coverage Tax Credit:	A tax credit offered to eligible TAA recipients to help pay for 72.5 percent of qualifying health insurance premiums of the worker and their family. <i>Note: HCTC expires on January 1, 2020.</i>

Visit <http://www.careeronestop.org/WorkerReEmployment/> for more information regarding American Job Centers. The CareerOneStop website also includes tools to help job seekers explore careers, investigate salary and benefit information, research education and training opportunities, plan a job search and browse job sites, write and improve resumes and cover letters, prepare for a job interview, and search for jobs.