

Trade Adjustment Assistance For Older Workers

Studies show that older workers are less likely to find new employment than unemployed younger workers. The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program offers services that can help Trade-affected unemployed older workers to return to work.

Who can qualify?

You may qualify if you:

- Have lost your job as a result of international trade
- Have been determined eligible for the TAA program by the NYS Department of Labor
- Are an older worker (50 years of age or older for some services)

Why should workers seek TAA Services?

Unemployed Older Workers affected by international trade may have a difficult time finding suitable re-employment. Often, their education and skills are no longer up to date for current labor market demands. Older workers may have less training and education than younger workers.

Older Workers also face a challenge since they are more likely to have been laid off from industries that are in permanent decline. Workers with a long tenure in these industries may no longer have the skills needed to compete in a knowledge-based economy.

What benefits are available?

- TAA OJT – up to 104 weeks of On-the-Job Training
- RTAA – A wage subsidy for employed people over age 50

- Classroom-Based Training – up to 130 weeks for work in a new field
- Health Coverage Tax Credit – credit of 72.5 percent of health care premiums for qualifying health plans
- Relocation allowance – funds to move yourself and your family once you have found suitable employment
- Job Search allowance – funds for job interviews outside of your normal commuting area

More About RTAA

In a Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA) program, older TAA-eligible workers can get a short-term wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between old and new job. You must be at least 50 years old at the time of re-employment, and earn no more than \$50-\$55,000 annually (salary cap depends on petition certification).

More About OJT

An On-the-Job Training (OJT) program matches businesses with qualified job seekers who are eager to work, but need the specialized training only an employer can supply. A TAA OJT can last up to 104 weeks, with the government paying an employer up to 50 percent of the trainee's starting wage. For details, contact your local New York State Career Center.

For more information on benefits, visit <https://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/>