

## **Trade Adjustment Assistance/Trade Readjustment Allowance Benefits**

Some unemployed workers may be eligible for benefits and services under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program because they are unemployed as a result of foreign trade. Under the TAA program, individuals may be entitled to additional income support called a Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA), similar to unemployment insurance, if they are participating in an approved training program. The TRA weekly benefit amount is generally the same amount as the UI amount.

Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA) are available to provide income support to individuals while they are participating in full time training. TRA benefits are defined in two (2) categories: Basic TRA and Additional TRA. Each category has its own set of eligibility requirements.

- Basic TRA is payable if the worker is enrolled or participating in TAA training, has completed such training, or has obtained a waiver of such training requirement.
- Additional TRA is payable only if the worker is participating in TAA approved training.

In general, certified workers may be eligible for 104 weeks of income support (up to 130 weeks if remedial education is required), usually broken out as follows:

- Up to 26 weeks of state unemployment insurance (UI) compensation,
- Followed by 26 weeks of basic TRA, and
- Up to 52 weeks of additional TRA to assist the worker in completing a TAA training program.
- Certified workers who must undergo remedial education as a part of their training plan may be eligible for up to 26 weeks additional weeks of additional TRA for any weeks the individual must undergo remedial education. The worker is eligible for one week of these 26 weeks for each week that the worker's participation in remedial education extends their training program.

Lenders and others should ask individuals if they are eligible for these benefits. Individuals eligible for TRA benefits will receive a separate monetary determination for TRA entitlement. Individuals will not receive both UI and TRA at the same time. A TRA monetary determination indicates the potential of additional benefits once all UI entitlement is exhausted or in lieu of UI in some cases. States have different policies and may not take a TRA claim or issue a TRA monetary determination until individuals have exhausted their UI entitlement. Similar to the regular unemployment program, eligibility is determined on a weekly basis. Benefit receipt is subject to individuals meeting the individual state's eligibility criteria.