

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 09-53

Policy **Information**

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Investment Board Chairs
Workforce Investment Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Regional Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Michael Taylor, Director
Department of Workforce Development

Date: August 7, 2009

Subject: **Trade Adjustment Assistance Job Search Allowance Changes**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and local workforce investment partners of changes to the Job Search Allowances under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Programs resulting from The Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009. This issuance replaces WIA Communication No. 00-27, Job Search Allowances Under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Programs (7/21/200).

Background: On February 17, 2009 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 was signed into law. The Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009, part of the ARRA, amended several elements of the TAA program. One of the changes provides for an increase to the amount of Relocation Allowances a TAA eligible individual may receive. This issuance provides notice of the revised amount and also provides procedural guidance with respect to applying for TAA Job Search Allowances (ATTACHMENT A).

The issuance also includes new versions of the Request for Relocation Allowances application form (ATTACHMENT B) and the Employment Verification Form For Relocation Allowances (ATTACHMENT C).

Policy: For any individual determined to be TAA eligible under a petition filed *on or after* May 18, 2009, the maximum amount of Job Search Allowances he/she may

receive is increased to **100%** of the total allowable cost for Transportation, Lodging and Meals up to an amount not to exceed **\$1,500** while conducting an approved job search beyond the individual's normal commuting area.

For any eligible individual covered under a petition filed *before* May 18, 2009, the Job Search Allowance maximum amount for Transportation, Lodging and Meals remains **90%** of the total allowable costs up to a maximum of **\$1,250**.

The total amount of Job Search Allowances paid to an individual under a certification may not exceed the maximum amount (depending on the date of the filing date of the petition under which the individual is covered), regardless of the number of job searches completed by the individual.

Action

Required: Please distribute copies of this policy notice to all appropriate individuals in your organization, and take necessary action to ensure compliance with this policy.

Effective: Immediately

References: Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended
Trade Reform Act of 2002
The Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009
Trade Regulations, 20 CFR Part 617
TEGL 11-02, Operating Instructions for Implementing the Amendments to the Trade Act of 1974 Enacted by the Trade Act of 2002, issued October 10, 2002 and subsequent changes
TEGL 22-08, Operating Instructions For Implementing the Amendments to the Trade Act of 1974 Enacted by the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009, issued on May 15, 2009
MassWorkforce Issuance No. 09-36, TAA Program Changes Resulting From Enactment of the Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009, issued on May 28, 2009

Inquiries: Please submit all questions to PolicyQA@detma.org. Also, indicate Issuance number and description.