

Chapter 15 – TRA

All questions related to the adversely affected worker's TRA eligibility or payments should be directed to the TRA Unit via phone at **866-241-0152** or via fax to **517-636-0427**.

The TRA Unit cannot accept emails that contain the adversely affected worker's name and any of the following: full social security number, address, phone number, or date of birth. It is allowable to fax or send this information to the TRA Unit.

Note: Email requests should *only* include the adversely affected worker's name and last four digits of the social security number.

TAA for adversely affected workers includes TRA that can be paid to qualifying individuals after UI benefits have been exhausted. While the UIA has its own rules and eligibility criteria for payment of TRA, certain areas of overlapping responsibility and shared information are necessary for efficient operation of the programs.

The MWAs must advise the adversely affected worker to apply for UI/TRA benefits at the time an application for TAA services is made as outlined in Chapter 7 – TAA Deadlines. To collect TRA payments, adversely affected workers certified under TAA must be enrolled in TAA-approved training, have a written waiver of the training requirement, or have completed an approved training program. The MWAs are responsible for enrolling adversely affected workers in TAA-approved training, issuing and revoking waivers of training, and the removal of adversely affected workers from TAA-approved training. The MWAs must notify the TRA Unit each time any of these actions are taken to ensure that the adversely affected workers receive TRA as appropriate. Please refer to Chapter 8 – *Training* for additional information.

The MWAs must inform the TRA Unit of any change in status that may affect an adversely affected worker's eligibility for TRA benefits. For consistency, all MWAs shall use Form TAA-319: *Notice of TAA Participant Status* rather than a form of local design. This form must be used to notify the TRA Unit when an adversely affected worker has successfully completed a training program or has dropped out of training, when training has been extended, when the adversely affected worker has returned to work, or any other change in the individual's status that may affect eligibility.

To collect TRA payments, adversely affected workers not in TAA-approved training by reason of a waiver or because training has been completed, must meet the requirements of the Extended Benefits Work Test. These requirements are as follows:

- Be able to work;
- Be available for work;
- Register for work and be available for referral or accept referral to suitable work by the MWA;
- Apply for any suitable work the individual is referred to by the MWA;
- Accept any offer of suitable work; and
- Actively engage in seeking work by submitting two such efforts each week via the MiWAM.

The MWA staff will notify the UIA of failure or refusal to meet these requirements. An adversely affected worker may elect to receive TRA instead of UI during any week with respect to which the adversely affected worker:

- 1) Is entitled to receive UI as a result of the establishment by the adversely affected worker of a new benefit year under State law, based in whole or in part upon part-time or

- 2) short-term employment in which the adversely affected worker engaged after the most recent total separation from adversely affected employment; and
- 3) Is otherwise entitled to a Trade Readjustment Allowance.

Section 15-1: TRA–TAA of 2002

The TAA of 2002 law allows adversely affected workers enrolled in full-time training to receive up to 104 weeks of Basic and Additional TRA and up to 26 weeks of Remedial TRA.

Outline of TRA Weeks: TAA of 2002

- 1) 52 weeks of Basic TRA (minus any weeks regular UI and extensions received).
- 2) 52 Weeks of Additional TRA.
- 3) 26 Weeks of Remedial TRA (if remedial training has been taken as outlined in Chapter 8 – *Training*).

To be eligible for Additional TRA, adversely affected workers must submit a bonafide application for training approved under the TAA of 2002 law within 210 days of their last qualifying separation during the certification period or within 210 days of the certification date, whichever is later. Form TAA-923: *Training Application* can be used for this purpose.

TAA of 2002: TRA - Up to 130 Payable Weeks



Qualifying for TRA–TAA of 2002

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as outlined in Chapter 5 – *Eligibility for TAA Services*, adversely affected workers must also have had enough qualifying employment with the certified employer. The adversely affected worker must have been employed at least 26 weeks, with weekly wages of at least \$30, during the 52 weeks ending with the week of the qualifying separation. For adversely affected workers on employer-authorized leave, up to seven weeks of leave may be counted as part of the 26 qualifying weeks. Additionally, up to 26 weeks of disability benefits paid under a state or federal law can be used to qualify for TRA, as well as 26 weeks of active duty time served by a military reservist.

Adversely affected workers must also be participating in or enrolled in TAA-approved training or have received a waiver from the TAA of 2002 training requirement as outlined in Chapter 11 – *Waiver of TAA Training Requirement*.

Basic TRA and Eligibility Period

The eligibility period for Basic TRA is 104 weeks and extends up to 130 weeks for adversely affected workers who took remedial courses as part of their training. Adversely affected workers begin with a potential of 52 weeks of Basic TRA. All of the weeks of entitlement to regular unemployment benefits from the unemployment claim already in effect or established after their first qualifying separation, will be deducted from their total weeks of Basic TRA payable. Additionally, all weeks of entitlement to state or federal extensions based on that unemployment claim will also be deducted. For example, a person who receives 20 weeks of regular unemployment benefits would be entitled to 32 weeks of Basic TRA. And, if that person received 16 weeks of an extension based on that same unemployment claim, the Basic TRA entitlement is reduced by 16 weeks.

Additional TRA and Eligibility Period

Receipt of Additional TRA requires the adversely affected worker to be participating in full-time TAA-approved training. Adversely affected workers may receive up to 52 weeks of Additional TRA during the 52 consecutive week eligibility period.

The eligibility period for Additional TRA begins with whichever occurs first:

- 1) The adversely affected worker has exhausted Basic TRA entitlement.
- 2) *The eligibility period for Basic TRA ends.

*If the adversely affected worker has not met one of the two Additional TRA eligibility period criteria, an exception may apply, and these should be considered for the adversely affected worker. Please refer to Chapter 7 – *TAA Deadlines* for specific information regarding exceptions to deadlines.

Remedial TRA and Eligibility Period

Remedial TRA is payable to adversely affected workers who have taken remedial courses, have exhausted their Basic and Additional TRA, and are still participating in TAA-approved classroom training. Remedial TRA payments equal to the number of remedial training weeks (up to 26). The total amount of Remedial TRA payments may not exceed 26, regardless of the amount or combination of remedial weeks obtained.

The eligibility period for Remedial TRA is 26 consecutive weeks and begins with the first week claimed after Additional TRA ends. The MWA must inform the TRA Unit that the adversely affected worker is/was enrolled in remedial coursework. The Form TAA-319: *Notice of TAA Participant Status* shall be used for this purpose. Please refer to Chapter 8 – *Training* for specific information regarding remedial training.

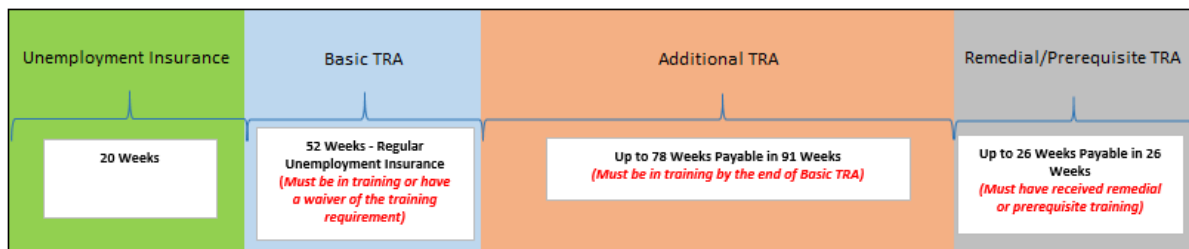
Section 15-2: TRA – TGAAA of 2009

The TGAAA of 2009 law allows adversely affected workers enrolled in full-time training to receive up to 156 weeks of TRA monetary benefits.

Outline of TRA Weeks: TGAAA of 2009

- 1) 52 weeks of Basic TRA (Minus any weeks regular UI and extensions received).
- 2) 78 Weeks of Additional TRA.
- 3) 26 Weeks of Remedial/Prerequisite TRA (if remedial and/or prerequisite training has been taken as outlined in Chapter 8: *Training*).

TGAAA of 2009: TRA- Up to 156 Payable Weeks



Qualifying for TRA–TGAAA of 2009

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as outlined in Chapter 5 – *Eligibility for Services*, adversely affected workers must also have had enough qualifying employment with the certified employer. The adversely affected worker must have been employed at least 26 weeks, with weekly wages of at least \$30, during the 52 weeks ending with the week of the qualifying separation. For adversely affected workers on employer-authorized leave, up to seven weeks of leave may be counted as part of the 26 qualifying weeks. Additionally, up to 26 weeks of disability benefits paid under a state or federal law can be used to qualify for TRA, as well as 26 weeks of active duty time served by a military reservist.

Adversely affected workers must also be participating in or enrolled in TAA-approved training, or have received a waiver from the TGAAA of 2009 training requirement as outlined in Chapter 11- Waiver of TAA Training Requirement.

Basic TRA and Eligibility Period

The eligibility period for Basic TRA is 104 weeks and extends up to 130 weeks for adversely affected workers who took remedial courses as part of their training. Adversely affected workers begin with a potential of 52 weeks of Basic TRA. All of the weeks of entitlement to regular unemployment benefits from the unemployment claim already in effect or established after their first qualifying separation will be deducted from their total weeks of Basic TRA payable. Additionally, all weeks of entitlement to state or federal extensions based on that unemployment claim will also be deducted. For example, a person who receives 20 weeks of regular unemployment benefits would be entitled to 32 weeks of Basic TRA. And, if that person received 16 weeks of an extension based on that same unemployment claim, the Basic TRA entitlement is reduced by 16 weeks.

Additional TRA and Eligibility Period

Receipt of Additional TRA requires the adversely affected worker to be participating in full-time TAA-approved training. The Additional TRA eligibility period lasts for 91 weeks or until the end of the training, whichever occurs first. Adversely affected workers may receive up to 78 weeks of Additional TRA during the 91 week eligibility period.

The eligibility period for Additional TRA begins whichever occurs first:

- 1) The adversely affected worker has exhausted Basic TRA entitlement.
- 2) The eligibility period for Basic TRA ends.*

*If the adversely affected worker has not met one of the two Additional TRA eligibility period criteria, an exception may apply, and these should be considered for the adversely affected worker. Please refer to Chapter 7 – *TAA Deadlines* for specific information regarding exceptions to deadlines.

Remedial/Prerequisite TRA and Eligibility Period

Remedial/Prerequisite TRA is payable to adversely affected workers who have taken remedial and/or prerequisite courses, have exhausted their Basic and Additional TRA, and are still participating in TAA-approved classroom training. Remedial and/or Prerequisite TRA payments equal to the number of remedial and/or prerequisite training weeks (up to 26). The total amount of Remedial/Prerequisite TRA payments may not exceed 26, regardless of the amount or combination of remedial and prerequisite weeks obtained.

The eligibility period for Remedial and/or Prerequisite TRA is 26 consecutive weeks and begins with the first week claimed after Additional TRA ends. The MWA must inform the TRA Unit that the adversely affected worker is/was enrolled in remedial/prerequisite coursework. Form TAA-319: *Notice of TAA Participant Status* shall be used for this purpose. Please refer to Chapter 8 – *Training for specific information regarding remedial and prerequisite training*.

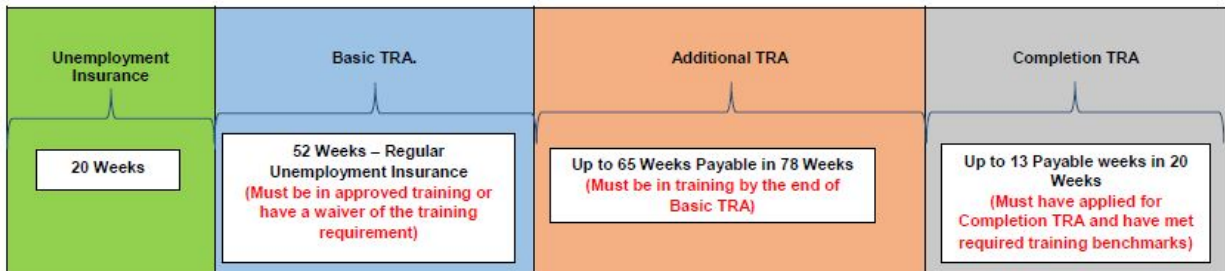
Section 15-3: TRA-TAAEA of 2011

The TAAEA of 2011 law allows adversely affected workers enrolled in full-time training to receive up to 130 weeks of TRA monetary benefits.

Outline of TRA Weeks: TAAEA of 2011

- 1) 52 weeks of Basic (Minus any weeks regular UI and extensions received).
- 2) 65 Weeks of Additional TRA.
- 3) 13 Weeks of Completion TRA (if training benchmarks are met and an application for Completion TRA is submitted to the TRA Unit).

TAAEA of 2011: TRA- Up to 130 Payable Weeks



Qualifying for TRA: TAAEA of 2011

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as outlined in Chapter 5 – Eligibility for Services, adversely affected workers must also have had enough qualifying employment with the certified employer. The adversely affected worker must have been employed at least 26 weeks, with weekly wages of at least \$30, during the 52 weeks ending with the week of the qualifying separation. For adversely affected workers on employer-authorized leave, up to seven weeks of leave may be counted as part of the 26 qualifying weeks. Additionally, up to 26 weeks of disability benefits paid under a state or federal law can be used to qualify for TRA, as well as 26 weeks of active duty time served by a military reservist.

Adversely affected workers must also be participating in or enrolled in TAA-approved training or have received a waiver from the TAAEA of 2011 training requirement as outlined in Chapter 11 – Waiver of TAA Training Requirement.

Basic TRA and Eligibility Period

The eligibility period for Basic TRA is 104 weeks. Adversely affected workers begin with a potential of 52 weeks of Basic TRA. All of the weeks of entitlement to regular unemployment benefits from the unemployment claim already in effect or established after their first qualifying separation will be deducted from their total weeks of Basic TRA payable. Additionally, all weeks of entitlement to state or federal extensions based on that unemployment claim will also be deducted. For example, a person who receives 20 weeks of regular unemployment benefits would be entitled to 32 weeks of Basic TRA. And, if that person received 16 weeks of an extension based on that same unemployment claim, the Basic TRA entitlement is reduced by 16 weeks.

Additional TRA and Eligibility Period

Receipt of Additional TRA requires the adversely affected worker to be participating in full-time TAA-approved training. The Additional TRA eligibility period lasts for 78 weeks or until the end of the training, whichever occurs first. Adversely affected workers may receive up to 65 weeks of Additional TRA during the 78-week eligibility period.

The eligibility period for Additional TRA begins with whichever occurs first:

- 1) The adversely affected worker has exhausted Basic TRA entitlement.
- 2) The eligibility period for Basic TRA ends.*

*If the adversely affected worker has not met one of the two Additional TRA eligibility period criteria, an exception may apply, and these should be considered for the adversely affected worker. Please refer to Chapter 7 – *TAA Deadlines* for specific information regarding exceptions to deadlines.

Completion TRA: Application Requirement

If at the time of exhaustion of Additional TRA payments an adversely affected worker has not yet completed TAA training, an application for Completion TRA payments is required to receive Completion TRA payments.

When the participant has two weeks or less of Additional TRA, the UIA will mail Form UIA 4002, *Notice Regarding Completion Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) Benefits* and Form UIA 6364, *Request for Determination of Entitlement to Completion TRA* to the adversely affected worker. The notice advises the worker to bring the Completion TRA Application to the MWA for verification of Completion TRA eligibility criteria. For specific TRA information, please refer to Chapter 15 – TRA.

The TRA Unit will determine eligibility for Completion TRA based upon the responses provided on the UIA 6364.

Completion TRA Weeks and Eligibility Period

The eligibility period for Completion TRA is 20 weeks and begins with the first week claimed after Additional TRA ends. There is a maximum of 13 weeks payable. To be eligible for Completion TRA payments the following criteria must all be met:

- The adversely affected worker's training must be completed by the end of the Completion TRA eligibility period.
- The TAA-approved training must lead to the completion of a degree or industry-recognized credential.
- The adversely affected worker must have submitted an application for Completion TRA by submitting the Form UIA 6364, *Request for Determination of Entitlement to Completion TRA* to the TRA Unit.
- The adversely affected worker must have met the training benchmarks as outlined in Chapter 9 – Establishment and Review of Training Benchmarks.

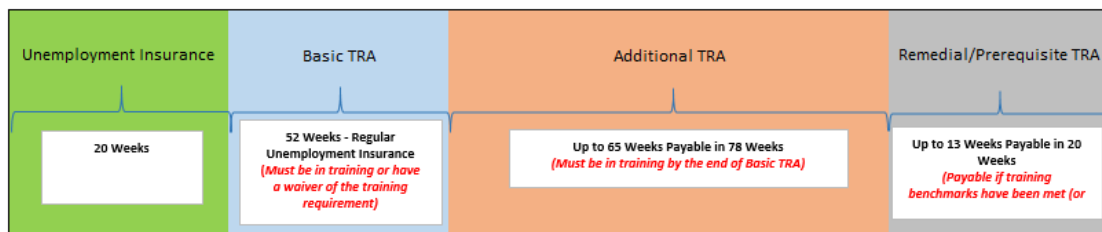
Section 15-4: TRA–TAARA of 2015

The TAARA of 2015 law allows adversely affected workers enrolled in full-time training to receive up to 130 weeks of TRA monetary benefits.

Outline of TRA Weeks: TAARA of 2015

- 1) 52 weeks of Basic (Minus any weeks regular UI and extensions received).
- 2) 65 Weeks of Additional TRA.
- 3) 13 Weeks of Completion TRA (if training benchmarks are met and an application for Completion TRA is submitted to the TRA Unit).

TAARA of 2015: TRA- Up to 130 Payable Weeks



Qualifying for TRA: TAARA of 2015

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements as outlined in Chapter 5 – *Eligibility for Services*, adversely affected workers must also have had enough qualifying employment with the certified employer. The adversely affected worker must have been employed at least 26 weeks, with weekly wages of at least \$30, during the 52 weeks ending with the week of the qualifying separation. For adversely affected workers on employer-authorized leave, up to 7 weeks of leave may be counted as part of the 26 qualifying weeks. Additionally, up to 26 weeks of disability benefits paid under a state or federal law can be used to qualify for TRA, as well as 26 weeks of active duty time served by a military reservist.

Adversely affected workers must also be participating in or enrolled in TAA-approved training, or have received a waiver from the TAAEA of 2011 training requirement as outlined in Chapter 11–Waiver of TAA Training Requirement.

Basic TRA and Eligibility Period

The eligibility period for Basic TRA is 104 weeks. Adversely affected workers begin with a potential of 52 weeks of Basic TRA. All of the weeks of entitlement to regular unemployment benefits from the unemployment claim already in effect, or established after their first qualifying separation will be deducted from their total weeks of Basic TRA payable. Additionally, all weeks of entitlement to state or federal extensions based on that unemployment claim will also be deducted. For example, a person who receives 20 weeks of regular unemployment benefits would be entitled to 32 weeks of Basic TRA. And, if that person received 16 weeks of an extension based on that same unemployment claim, the Basic TRA entitlement is reduced by 16 weeks.

Additional TRA and Eligibility Period

Receipt of Additional TRA requires the adversely affected worker to be participating in full-time TAA-approved training. The Additional TRA eligibility period lasts for 78 weeks or until the end of the training, whichever occurs first. Adversely affected workers may receive up to 65 weeks of Additional TRA during the 78 week eligibility period.

The eligibility period for Additional TRA begins whichever occurs first of either:

- 1) The adversely affected worker has exhausted Basic TRA entitlement.
- 2) The eligibility period for Basic TRA ends.*

*If the adversely affected worker has not met one of the two Additional TRA eligibility period criteria, an exception may apply, and these should be considered for the adversely affected worker. Please refer to Chapter 7 – *TAA Deadlines* for specific information regarding exceptions to deadlines.

Completion TRA: Application Requirement

When the participant has two weeks or less of Additional TRA, the UIA will mail Form UIA 4002, *Notice Regarding Completion Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) Benefits* and Form UIA 6364, *Request for Determination of Entitlement to Completion TRA* to the adversely affected worker. The notice advises the worker to bring the Completion TRA Application to the MWA for verification of Completion TRA eligibility criteria. For specific TRA information, please refer to Chapter 15 – TRA.

The TRA Unit will determine eligibility for Completion TRA based upon the responses provided on the UIA 6364.

Completion TRA Weeks and Eligibility Period

The eligibility period for Completion TRA is 20 weeks and begins with the first week claimed after Additional TRA ends. There is a maximum of 13 weeks payable. To be eligible for Completion TRA payments, the following criteria must be met:

- The adversely affected worker's training must be completed by the end of the Completion TRA eligibility period; and
- The TAA-approved training must lead to the completion of a degree or industry-recognized credential; and
- The adversely affected worker must have submitted an application for Completion TRA by submitting the Form UIA 6364, *Request for Determination of Entitlement to Completion TRA* to the TRA Unit; and
- The adversely affected worker must have met the training benchmarks as outlined in Chapter 9 – *Establishment and Review of Training Benchmarks*.