

II. Program-Specific Recovery Plan for Recovery.gov (Q 2.8 of Guidance)	
DOL Agency MAX ID and name: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)	
Recovery Program: Trade Adjustment Assistance	
Does this program align with an existing CFDA program?	11.313 Trade Adjustment Assistance
1. Objectives:	
Program Purpose	The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program assists workers who lose their jobs as a result of international trade. The program's primary goal is to return workers to suitable employment, using a range of services, including counseling, assessment, training, and placement. The TAA program is one component of integrated products and services available through the nationwide network of nearly 3,000 One Stop Career Centers.
Public Benefits	The TAA program helps individuals regain economic self-sufficiency by quickly securing and maintaining employment and providing income support to allow individuals to enroll in training to obtain new and suitable employment and a limited wage supplement for older workers who became reemployed in lower paying jobs. Economic factors such as the compatibility of skills in the available labor force with needs of new businesses contribute importantly to reemployment.
2. Projects and Activities:	
Kinds and scope of projects and activities to be performed	<p>There are three basic activities to be performed: review of petitions for TAA coverage, certification of individual workers as trade-impacted, and delivery of reemployment and training services and income support to certified workers.</p> <p>Department of Labor staff review petitions for TAA coverage that are filed by firms, groups of workers, or other representatives. The TAA program received \$5.85 million in Recovery Act funds for additional staff to address the expected surge in Trade Adjustment Assistance petitions under the expanded program and for Information Technology (IT) development required to support the new provisions of the Recovery Act.</p> <p>States deliver the reemployment and training services under TAA and make individual eligibility determinations on trade readjustment allowances, as well as job search and relocation allowances and reemployment adjustment assistance for older workers reemployed in lower paying jobs. The Recovery Act reauthorized the TAA program and expanded coverage to more workers and firms, including workers and firms in the service sectors; and improved workers' opportunities for training, including extending income support and wage supplement payments, health insurance coverage, and reemployment. These expanded benefits are available for TAA-certified workers covered under petitions filed on or after May 18, 2009. Funds are available for TAA-approved training and employment and case management services delivered to trade affected workers by the States as well as for weekly income support for workers in training or otherwise eligible and wage supplements for older workers reemployed in lower paying jobs.</p>

List of Projects and Activities	
Hire Additional Staff to Review Trade Adjustment Assistance petitions	The Department hired additional staff to process the significant surge in petitions beginning May 18, 2009, as workers seek to obtain eligibility for the income support, training and other services under the TAA program provided by the Recovery Act. The changes resulted in a surge of approximately 700 petitions filed in May 2009, declining to a steady state of 500 petitions per month, with an average of 550 per month through September 2009. In calendar year 2010, petition volume has been averaging approximately 210 per month.
Develop Information Technology	Approximately \$1 million for IT development in FY 2009 was directed to accommodate new statutory requirements for data collection and the required display of an extensive list of TAA data in a searchable format on the DOL website.
Deliver Training and Case Management Services and Income Support for Additional Weeks	Under the 2009 amendments, the TAA training cap was increased to \$575 million a year, an increase of \$355 million. In addition, States are required to provide employment and case management services to trade-affected workers. At least one third (1/3) of the State's allocation must be designated for this use, and an additional \$350,000 per State is provided each year as well. Up to an additional 26 weeks of additional income support is available to trade-affected workers enrolled in full-time training and 26 more weeks of income support is now available if those workers in full-time training require prerequisite education or coursework (as well as remedial education).
3. Characteristics:	
Types of Financial Awards to be used.	A Formula Grants O Federal Employment
Type of Recipient	Federal and State
Type of Beneficiary	Federal and Individuals
4. Major Planned Program Milestones:	
Operating Instructions	Provide Operating Instructions to the Workforce System nationwide – through Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) – to implement the new provisions of the 2009 Amendments.
	Completed: May 15, 2009
Hiring	Nineteen additional staff will be hired to investigate additional petitions anticipated under the Recovery Act provisions. These staff will conduct approximately 300 additional petition investigations per month.
	Completed: May 29, 2009
Distribution of Expanded TAA Funding	Additional \$372,150,000 in training and case management services funds authorized by the expanded TAA funding cap distributed to States.
	Completed: June 1, 2009
Website Development	Website development.
	Completed: August 17, 2009
Information Technology Development	Further website development for reporting functions to allow for state submission.
	Completed: February 15, 2010

TAA Regulation Development	Develop and issue a regulation on TAA Funding and Merit Staffing to implement changes under the 2009 Amendments.
	Completed: April 2, 2010
Petition Backlog	Reduce overdue petitions by 45 percent during FY 2010
	Estimated Completion Date: September 30, 2010
Petition Filing Enhancement	Implement an on-line petition filing capability.
	Estimated Completion Date: September 30, 2010
5. Monitoring and Evaluation:	
States were required to implement internal monitoring of a sample of cases covered under the 2009 Amendments. This allows verification of training and case management services provided for that sample. In addition, financial close-out reports will provide a means of monitoring expenditures under the expanded TAA Training funds.	
6. Measures:	
Measure Text	Petition Investigations Completed within 40 Days
Measure Type	Output
Measure Frequency	Monthly
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Cases per month
Explanation of Measure	Investigators can complete an average of 15 Trade Adjustment Assistance investigations per month. Investigations have increased by about 300 cases per month under Recovery Act provisions. New investigators added under Recovery Act funding are assigned to this increased volume. The actual reported below is from the FY 2009 TAA Management Information System Results.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	200
Revised Full Program Target	500
Targeted ARRA Increment	300
Actual	1,632
Goal Lead	Erin FitzGerald, Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance
Measure Text	Trade Affected Workers Certified Under DOL-Approved Petitions
Measure Type	Output
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Workers
Explanation of Measure	State services provided to workers certified under TAA-approved petitions will be assessed through State

	reports on activity required under the 2009 Amendments.
	The actual reported below is from the FY 2009 TAA Management Information System Results.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	181,500
Revised Full Program Target	258,500
Targeted ARRA Increment	77,000
Actual	201,393
Goal Lead	Erin FitzGerald, Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance
Measure Text	Entered Employment Rate
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Annual
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	<p>The entered employment rate represents the percentage of participants employed in the first quarter after exit. This is a federal job training program common measure, which enables the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment and job training programs. For example, while the target population for the program is dislocated workers, the ultimate outcomes for this program are the same as for all other employment and training programs. Common measures remove a barrier to service integration among programs by ensuring that programs no longer have different definitions and methodologies for measuring performance. In this case, the performance indicator measures how many participants got a job according to the following formula: of those who are not employed at the date of participation – the number of participants who are employed in the first quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of participants who exited during the quarter. There is no targeted ARRA increment. The target was set using a regression model based on past program results and the unemployment rate. Because of the high unemployment rate and a contracted economy, DOL does not expect that Recovery Act funding will allow the program to improve its entered employment rate in the short-term. However, the funds will allow more individuals to receive services. This output measure is shown above.</p> <p>The actual reported below is from the FY 2009 Trade Act Participant Report dated March 30, 2010.</p>
Year	2009
Original Program Target	65.2%
Revised Full Program Target	61.9%
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	69%
Goal Lead	Erin FitzGerald, Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance

Measure Text	Employment Retention Rate
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Annual
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	<p>The employment retention rate represents the percentage of participants employed in the first quarter after program exit still employed in the second and third quarters after exit. This measure is a federal job training program common measure, which enables the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment and job training programs. For example, while the target population for the program is dislocated workers, the ultimate outcomes of this program are the same as for all other employment and training programs. Common measures remove a barrier to service integration among programs by ensuring that programs no longer have different definitions and methodologies for measuring performance. In this case, the performance indicator measures how many participants retained their employment once placed in a job, according to the following formula: those who are employed in both the second and the third quarters after the exit quarter divided by the number of participants who exited during the quarter. There is no targeted ARRA increment. The target was set using a regression model based on past program results and the unemployment rate. Because of the high unemployment rate and a contracted economy, DOL does not expect that Recovery Act funding will allow the program to improve its employment retention rate in the short-term. However, the funds will allow more individuals to receive services. This output measure is shown above.</p> <p>The actual reported below is from the FY 2009 Trade Act Participant Report, dated March 30, 2010.</p>
Year	2009
Original Program Target	87.5%
Revised Full Program Target	83.3%
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	88%
Goal Lead	Erin FitzGerald, Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance
Measure Text	Average earnings
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Annual
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Dollars
Explanation of Measure	<p>This measure represents the average six-month earnings for program participants. This is a federal job training program common measure which enables the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment and job training programs. For example, while the target population for the program is dislocated workers, the ultimate outcomes of this program are the same as for all other employment and training</p>

	<p>programs. Common measures remove a barrier to service integration among programs by ensuring that programs no longer have different definitions and methodologies for measuring performance. In this case, the performance indicator measures participants' average six-month earnings once placed in a job (note: the average earnings for a year can be obtained by doubling the performance measure result), according to the following formula: of those participants who are employed in the first, second, and third quarters after the exit quarter – total earnings in the second quarter plus total earnings in the third quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of participants who exited during the quarter. There is no targeted ARRA increment. The target was set using a regression model based on past program results and the unemployment rate. Because of the high unemployment rate and a contracted economy, DOL does not expect that Recovery Act funding will allow the program to improve its average earnings in the short-term. However, the funds will allow more individuals to receive services. This output measure is shown above.</p> <p>The actual reported below is from the FY 2009 Trade Act Participant Report, dated March 30, 2010.</p>
Year	2009
Original Program Target	\$13,386
Revised Full Program Target	\$13,172
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	\$15,077
Goal Lead	Erin FitzGerald, Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance
Measure Text	Monitoring Common Measure Performance Level
Measure Type	Output
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Decreasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	<p>Use of data and workforce information will determine if a state's performance on common measures falls 5% below the target levels in two or more of the measures, indicating that expected service delivery has not been achieved, and will require implementation of a corrective action plan in the state to improve performance.</p> <p>Attained performance goals for FY 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entered Employment 65.2% • Retained Employment 87.5% • Average Earnings \$13,386
Year	2010
Original Program Target	N/A
Revised Full Program Target	N/A
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	TBD
Goal Lead	Erin FitzGerald, Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance

7. Transparency and Accountability:

Recovery Act investigators process Trade Adjustment Assistance petitions as received. Notice of the petitions filed and investigations instituted are published in the Federal Register and posted on the ETA website, along with the results of these investigations, providing transparency and accountability to the public. Petitions under the revised criteria enacted in the Recovery Act will be numbered 70,001 and above, clearly delineating those petitions processed under the statute as expanded by the Recovery Act provisions.

In addition, the results of the investment in IT, as required under the Recovery Act, are evident in the revised data elements for the TAA program – which are also posted quarterly on the ETA website in compliance with statutory requirements, making program results fully accountable and transparent.

Trade-affected workers served through the increased TAA funding are reflected as those workers certified as eligible to receive services. Because only workers who are certified as a result of petitions filed on or after May 18, 2009, are affected by these amendments, and were not certified for 40 days after the petition was filed, these workers did not begin receiving services until late in the third quarter of CY 2009, and likely did not begin training until the fourth quarter of CY 2009.

8. Federal Infrastructure Investments:

N/A

9. Barriers to Effective Implementation:

N/A

10. Environmental Review Compliance:

N/A