WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Workforce Service Delivery Technical Assistance Bulletin #142

Program: Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA)

Topic: E-mail address for Trade Readjustment Allowances Questions

Date: February 20, 2007

The purpose of this Technical Assistance Bulletin is:

- to provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with an e-mail address for submitting questions regarding Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA); and
- to assist Boards and contractor staff in serving Trade-certified workers.

A major benefit of the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program is occupational training. Most TAA participants enrolled in TAA-approved training are eligible to receive TRA benefits, which are weekly support payments. TRA is an integral part of developing an Individual Employment Plan and approving a TAA training program. In developing a comprehensive reemployment strategy for a TAA participant, it is reasonable to expect that questions concerning TRA or a need to communicate with the Texas Workforce Commission's TRA Unit will arise.

Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA) Payment Questions

The TRA Unit has created an e-mail address, <u>TRAPayment.Questions@twc.texas.gov</u>, to provide Texas Workforce Center staff with a single source for gathering correct information concerning a customer's TRA benefits. When a question or request for information is received at this address, it will be assigned to a TRA specialist to research and respond within 48 hours.

Examples of TRA Payment Questions

- How to assist caseworkers in determining when Trade benefits will end in order to schedule appropriate training without hardship to customers near the end of training
- How to report customers who enter employment
- How to report customers who are not attending school as scheduled
- How to assist customers with problems by sending their name and phone number to the TRA Payment Questions e-mail address so a TRA specialist may contact the customer with correct information

In addition to the preceding examples, the TRA Payment Questions e-mail address is available for all questions regarding TRA.

Please distribute this information to appropriate staff. Inquiries may be directed to UI Support Services at (512) 463-2999.