

Quick Overview Relocation Allowances Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), as amended

PRIOR APPROVAL

Must be obtained before the Relocation commences

To establish eligibility for a relocation allowance, an Adversely Affected Worker (AAW) must receive a determination from the State that they cannot reasonably expect to secure suitable employment in their commuting area. The determination will require an initial assessment to be conducted by the Trade Case Manager with the trade-affected worker's (TAW's) cooperation. Results of the initial assessment will determine the appropriate service strategy for a trade-affected worker to obtain re-employment. **Note:** A worker may decline an assessment but should understand may result in denial of some benefits because the TAA-prescribed assessment process informs eligibility for certain TAA benefits.

To be eligible for a relocation allowance the AAW must have prior approval and:

- (1) File an application before either: (i) the later of the 425th day after the date of the certification under which the worker is covered, or the 425th day after the date of the worker's last total separation; or (ii) The 182nd day after the date the worker concluded training.
- (2) Be an AAW totally separated from adversely affected employment when the relocation begins.
- (3) Not have already received a relocation allowance under the same certification.
- (4) Relocate within the United States but outside the worker's commuting area.
- (5) State determination that the worker has no reasonable expectation of securing suitable employment in the commuting area, and has obtained either suitable employment or employment that pays a wage of at least the 75th percentile of national wages, as determined by the National Occupational Employment Wage Estimates, and otherwise meets the suitable employment requirements, or a bona fide offer of such employment, in the area of relocation.
- (6) Begin the relocation as promptly as possible after the date of certification but no later than: (i) 182 days after the worker filed the application for a relocation allowance; or (ii) 182 days after the conclusion of an approved training program, if the worker entered a training program that received supplemental assistance approved under § 618.640(c) (subsistence payments) and (d) (transportation payments), for training outside the worker's commuting area;
- (7) Complete the relocation, as described in § 618.460(f), within a reasonable time as determined in accordance with [the Federal Travel Regulation] with the State giving consideration to, among other factors, whether: (i) Suitable housing is available in the area of relocation; (ii) The worker can dispose of the worker's residence; (iii) The worker or a family member is ill; and (iv) A member of the family is attending school, and when the family can best transfer the member to a school in the area of relocation.

Maximum allowed:

1. Maximum amount of the estimated cost of moving the household goods/reasonable cost of insurance to move household goods and not to exceed 18,000 pounds by commercial carrier.

Allowable covered cost: ** Allowable covered cost reduced if confirmed eligible for reimbursement from another source i.e. new employer.

- **Lodging and Meals** - will not exceed the lesser of 50% percent of the prevailing federal rate for lodging and meals or 90 percent of the actual expense for lodging and meals. (**All original Receipts are required**)
- **Transportation** - will not exceed the lesser of: 90 percent of the actual cost of the trip for the worker and any dependents by the most economical public transportation they reasonably can be expected to take from the place of residence to the area of relocation; or 90 percent of the cost per mile at the prevailing federal mileage rate for such a trip for the worker and any dependents by the usual route from the place of residence to the area of relocation.
- **Storage** - storage costs up to 60 days at either the origin or destination, but not both. **The request for storage must be approved prior to the move and cost for storage must be identified.** We will not pay for the lock on the storage unit nor do we pay to move the affected more than one time.

For more information on relocation allowances please contact your assigned mailbox with the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) at: **Assigned Mailbox City name** followed by TRADEQUESTIONS@VEC.VIRGINIA.GOV)