

## TRIDENT

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### Trident Workforce Investment Board Workforce Investment Act

#### TAA ALTERNATIVE TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

**TO:** Trident Workforce Investment Area Contractors and Staff

**ISSUANCE DATE:** May 15, 2012

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 15, 2007

**SUPERSEDES:** N/A

**SUBJECT:** Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance

**PURPOSE:** To provide guidance in adhering to the State TAA Instruction Letter No. 08-02 concerning the definition of full-time employment pursuant to the Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) benefit under the Trade Program.

**BACKGROUND:** ATAA is an alternative assistance program for older workers certified to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance. ATAA is designed to allow TAA eligible workers for whom training may not be appropriate, and who find reemployment, to receive a wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between their old and new employment. See attached State Instruction Letter for further details.

**POLICY:** Effective October 15, 2007, the definition of full-time employment for purposes of ATAA will be thirty (30) hours per week. See attached State TAA Instruction Letter No. 08-02 for further details.

**PROCEDURES:**

All staff and contractors of the SC Works Trident area must comply with the attached State TAA Instruction Letter No .08-02.

  
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Ronald Mitchum, Executive Director  
BCDCOG

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May 15, 2012  
Date

## TRIDENT



Mark Sanford  
Governor

**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joe E. Taylor, Jr.  
Secretary

**STATE TAA INSTRUCTION NUMBER:** 08-02

**TO:** Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIAs)  
South Carolina Employment Security Commission

**SUBJECT:** Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance

**ISSUANCE DATE:** October 3, 2007

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 15, 2007

**PURPOSE:** To issue State policy concerning the definition of full-time employment pursuant to the Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) benefit under the Trade Program

**BACKGROUND:** ATAA is an alternative assistance program for older workers certified to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance. ATAA is designed to allow TAA eligible workers for whom training may not be appropriate, and who find reemployment, to receive a wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between their old and new employment. To receive ATAA benefits, workers must be TAA and ATAA certified. Under ATAA, workers in an eligible worker group who are at least 50 years of age and who obtain different, full-time employment within 26 weeks of separation from adversely-affected employment at wages less than those earned in the adversely-affected employment, may receive half of the difference between the old wage and the new wage. The wage subsidy may be paid up to a maximum of \$10,000 or for a two-year period, whichever comes first. To be eligible for ATAA, workers may not earn more than \$30,000 per year in the new employment. Workers who begin receiving payments under ATAA cannot receive other TAA benefits and services.

**POLICY:** Effective October 15, 2007, the definition of full-time employment for purposes of ATAA will be thirty (30) hours per week. ATAA participants can have two part-time jobs to equal a full-time position. The revised definition (from 35 to 30 hours per week) is intended to expand this attractive TAA benefit for older workers, as well as ensure the use of a common definition across workforce programs.


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State TAA Instruction Number: 08-02  
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**ACTION:** You are responsible for the distribution and implementation of this Trade policy within your local workforce system or agency.

**INQUIRIES:** Questions regarding this instruction may be directed to Ms. Pat Sherlock at 803-737-2601 or [psherlock@SCcommerce.com](mailto:psherlock@SCcommerce.com).

  
Margaret Torrey  
Deputy Secretary for Workforce