

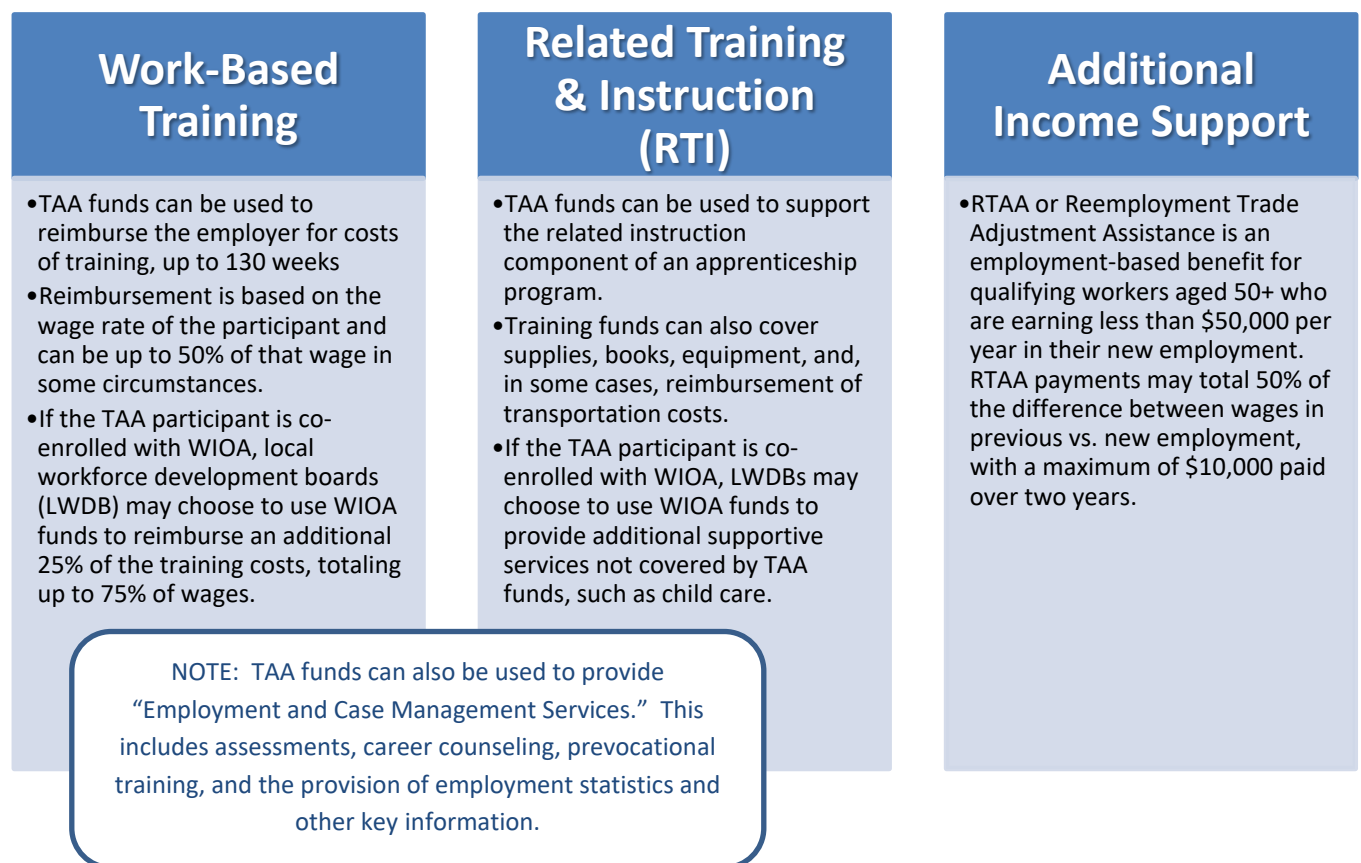


Supporting Apprenticeship through the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program

In appropriate circumstances, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA) represents another funding vehicle to support apprenticeship. All TAA participants are covered under what is called a TAA certification. This certification confirms that the employment of a worker group was impacted or threatened due to trade-related circumstances. Grants are provided to the states to provide services, which trade-affected workers access through the American Job Center Network. States also notify individuals of their eligibility.

To understand “supporting apprenticeship using TAA funding,” it may be helpful to first look at the basic components of an apprenticeship program. Specifically, apprenticeship is an “earn and learn” training model that combines work-based learning with related instruction using the highest industry standards.

The figure below shows how TAA funding can support core apprenticeship components:



Further information on apprenticeship is found here: www.apprenticeship.gov

Supporting Apprenticeship through the TAA Program



1. RTAA

- a. TAA-eligible worker is at least 50 years old.
- b. The worker has secured a position as an apprentice in an apprenticeship program.
- c. Annualized earnings less than \$50,000 annually.
- d. The benefit:
 - i. As s/he continues to work through the apprenticeship levels, s/he will receive a benefit to help her/him continue the apprenticeship program. The benefit may total 50% of the difference between the old and new wage.
 - ii. These payments can be made for up to 2 years, but must not exceed a total of \$10,000 and must be stopped if the participant's annualized wage, which must be computed monthly, reaches \$50,000 or more.
- e. Note that this apprentice is still an active TAA participant, and is receiving benefits (RTAA).

2. Pre-apprenticeship training

- a. TAA funds could pay for a "quality" pre-apprenticeship as a training program.
- b. To be enrolled in the training program, the TAA participant would need to meet the 6 criteria for TAA-funded training:
 1. No suitable employment is available.
 2. The participant would benefit from appropriate training.
 3. There is a reasonable expectation of employment following completion of training.
 4. Training is reasonably available.
 5. The participant is qualified to undertake and complete such training.
 6. Training is available at a reasonable cost.
- c. Quality pre-apprenticeship programs are designed to prepare individuals to enter and succeed in a *registered* apprenticeship program. These pre-apprenticeships possess a number of key attributes, including the requirement to have at least one documented partnership with a registered apprenticeship program sponsor. Once an individual successfully completes a quality pre-apprenticeship program, either they are guaranteed an interview with the registered apprenticeship program sponsor or they experience "direct entry," depending on the partnership agreement.
- d. For further information on pre-apprenticeship training, please see:

www.apprenticeship.gov/employers/explore-pre-apprenticeship

AND

[Training and Employment Notice \(TEN\) No. 13-12, *Defining a Quality Pre-Apprenticeship Program and Related Tools and Resources*](#)