Lower Savannah Council of Governments

Lower Savannah Workforce Investment Area

Workforce Development Board / Workforce Development Department

onestop Lower Savannah Workforce System

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LSWIA TAA INSTRUCTION NUMBER: 08-02

TO: See Distribution Below
ISSUANCE DATE: November 5, 2007
EFFECTIVE DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2007
EXPIRATION DATE: Indefinite
SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Instruction is to issue State policy concerning the definition of full-time employment pursuant to the Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) 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 re-employment, 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 n ot earn more than $50,000 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.

ACTION:

All applicable Lower Savannah Workforce Investment Area (LSWIA) sub-recipients, contractors, service providers, one-stop workforce/career center operators, and other applicable

organizational elements **will** implement and comply with these instructions, as well as any related instructions contained in applicable contractual agreements.

Please copy and distribute this information appropriately within your agency.

INQUIRIES:
Direct all inquiries on this Instruction to the Lower Savannah WIA Workforce Development Staff, Lower Savannah Council of Governments, Post Office Box 850, Aiken, South Carolina 29802-0850, telephone 803-649-7981, fax 803-649-2248, or e-mail **bfloyd@lscog.org** or **sjordan@lscog.org**.

Samuel "Sam" R. Jordan
Workforce Development Administrator

SRJ/dabh

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