

Quick Overview

Job Search Allowances - Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

TAARA 2015

PRIOR APPROVAL NEEDED

Individuals must request and be approved for JOB SEARCH allowance(s) before travel commences, please allow at a minimum 3-5 working days before the interview takes place so that all proper paperwork/signatures may be obtained. **The State Agency shall verify contact with employers certified by the individual before travel commences.**

BEFORE approving any job search a determination by the State agency **MUST** be made that the individual has no reasonable expectation of securing suitable employment in the commuting area, and has a reasonable expectation of obtaining suitable employment of long-term duration outside the commuting area and in the area where the job search will be conducted. This process can only be done through an in-depth skills assessment and a review of the current Labor Market Information.

Amount covered for Job Search

- The amount of a job search allowance shall be 90 percent of the total costs of each of the following allowable transportation and subsistence items. The total job search allowances paid to an individual under a certification may not exceed \$1250.00, regardless of the number of job searches undertaken by the individual.
 - (1) Travel - The actual cost of round trip travel by the **most economical public transportation** the individual reasonably can be expected to take from the individual's residence to the area of job search; or the cost per mile at the prevailing mileage rate authorized under the Federal travel regulations for such roundtrip travel by the usual route from the individual's residence to the area of job search. This will be documented by map quest before travel commences.
 - (2) Lodging and meals -shall not exceed the lesser of: (i) The actual cost to the individual of lodging and meals while engaged in the job search; or (ii) **50 percent** of the prevailing per diem allowance rate authorized under the Federal travel regulations for the locality where the job search is conducted. This amount will be explained to you before travel commences.
 - (3) The amounts otherwise payable under paragraph (a) of this section shall be reduced by any amounts the individual is entitled to be paid or reimbursed for such expenses from any other source.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON JOB SEARCH ALLOWANCES PLEASE VISIT YOUR LOCAL VIRGINIA EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION OFFICE