

Jim Doyle
Governor

Roberta Gassman
Secretary



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

201 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 7946
Madison, WI 53707-7946
Telephone: (608) 266-3131
Fax: (608) 266-1784
<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/>
e-mail: dwdsec@dwd.state.wi.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, April 2, 2009

CONTACT: Dick Jones, Agency Liaison, 608-267-4780

Governor Doyle Announces Additional Assistance for Dislocated Workers at Sanmina-SCI in Turtle Lake

Employment, training services for 51 workers displaced in global competition

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle today announced that 51 dislocated workers formerly employed by Sanmina-SCI in Turtle Lake are eligible to apply for additional reemployment and training services under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program because of an increase in foreign imports.

“This additional federal assistance will help these workers increase their job skills and find new employment,” Governor Doyle said. “The employment and training services now available to these workers will help them reenter the workforce, support themselves and their families, and enjoy all that life in Wisconsin has to offer.”

The U.S. Department of Labor determined that their layoffs resulted from an increase in imports of aluminum die casting and plastic injecting molding, similar to those the workers produced at the Turtle Lake facility. All workers totally or partially separated from employment on or after November 18, 2007, and November 18, 2009, are eligible to apply for assistance. This includes temporary employees from Manpower.

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) will administer the federally funded services, which are available through local Job Centers. They include retraining and reemployment services tailored to meet the needs of individual workers. These workers can now apply for the following TAA services:

- **Training** for employment in another job or career,
- **Income Support**, known as trade readjustment allowances (TRA),
- **Job Search Allowance** to cover expenses seeking employment outside normal commuting areas, and
- **Relocation Allowances** for approved relocation expenses in moving to a new area of employment.

“These are services that we and our local partners can provide affected workers to help connect them with employers in search of workers with the right skills,” DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman said.

Affected workers are also eligible to apply for Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA), which is available to workers aged 50 or older who possess skills that are not easily transferable. Qualifying workers who obtain new employment within 26 weeks of separation can receive a wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between their old and new employment. The program was designed to provide assistance to workers for whom the retraining offered under the regular TAA program may not be appropriate.

Individuals interested in receiving reemployment assistance should contact a local Job Center or visit <http://www.wisconsinjobcenter.org/directory/> to find a Job Center nearby. The nearest Job Center location also can be found by calling (888) 258-9966 toll free.