U.S. Department of Labor's Report of the Study of Domestic Industry Under Section 224 of the Trade Act of 1974

Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells (Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products)



REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Secretary of Labor, pursuant to Section 224(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2274(a)), upon notification by the United States International Trade Commission (referred to herein as "the Commission") that it has begun an investigation under Section 202 with respect to an industry import relief action, shall conduct a study of –

- (1) The number of workers in the domestic industry producing the like or directly competitive article(s) who have been or are likely to be certified as eligible for adjustment assistance; and
- (2) The extent to which the adjustment of such workers to the import competition may be facilitated through the use of existing programs.

The following is the Secretary of Labor's report to the President, as required by Section 224(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2274(b)).

Upon making the report to the President, the Secretary is also required, under Section 224(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2274(b)), to promptly make the report public and to publish a summary in the Federal Register and on the website of the Department of Labor.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On May 17, 2017, the United States International Trade Commission (the Commission) received an amended and properly filed petition for import relief pursuant to Section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974 (the Act) (19 U.S.C. § 2252) to determine whether Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic (CSPV) cells (Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products) are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or the threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported articles. The Commission subsequently notified the Secretary of Labor of the investigation (TA-201-75) into CSPV under Section 202 of the Trade Act. The U.S. Department of Labor (the Department) began a study regarding the potential impact on workers in the domestic industry as required under Section 224 of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 2274(a)). This report is the result of that study. It examines:

- (1) The number of workers in the domestic industry producing the like or directly competitive article who have been or are likely to be certified as eligible for adjustment assistance; and
- (2) The extent to which the adjustment of workers to the import competition may be facilitated through the use of existing programs.

While these estimates accurately reflect the scope of this report as required under statute, the Department's investigation is a much narrower focus on the production of solely CSPV cells and CSPV modules. The petitioners maintain that imposing tariffs or other remedies on solar components will boost U.S. manufacturing jobs. However, it should be noted that currently only a relatively small number of solar jobs (about 38,000) are in manufacturing. The 2016 census of solar workers, conducted by the Solar Energy Industries Association, found that about 260,000 workers were employed by the solar industry in 2016. Some reports indicate that a substantial number of additional jobs, including those in the residential, nonresidential/commercial, and utility sectors may be lost.

The Department's study on CSPV cells as required under Section 224 found the following:

- 1. The Department has received Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) petitions for 20 worker groups involved in the production of CSPV since January 2012. Seventeen of those worker groups were certified as eligible to apply for TAA, resulting in an estimated 2,124 workers eligible to apply for individual benefits under the TAA Program.
- 2. The Department estimates that 562 additional workers are likely to be covered by certified TAA petitions before the end of the year 2019.
- 3. Sufficient funding is available to provide TAA benefits and services to these workers. In FY 2017, the Department provided \$391 million to states to provide training and other activities² for TAA participants as well as \$294 million in funding for Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA) and \$31 million in Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA) funds.

and case management services to adversely affected workers, and to cover TAA Program related state administrative costs.

¹ The Commission's industry definition can be found at 82 Fed. Reg. 25331 available at (https://www.usitc.gov/trade-remedy/731 ad 701 cvd/investigations/2017/Solar% 20Panels/Safeguard/cspv - institution.pdf)

² "Training and Other Activities" refers to funds to provide training, job search allowances, relocation allowances, and employment

4. The Department believes that training and benefits under the Trade Act, other Department programs, and programs at other federal agencies are sufficient to assist workers in the CSPV industry to adjust to the trade impact.

As required by Section 224(f)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2274(f)(1)), the Department must provide notice of an affirmative determination by the Commission to State Workforce Agencies (SWA) as the Governor's representative, representatives of the domestic industry, other firms identified by name during the proceedings, and any recognized worker representatives. On September 22, 2017, the Commission affirmatively determined injury to the domestic CSPV industry and recommended remedies. The Department has begun the notification process. Finally, once the Commission's findings and the Department's report are provided to the President, the President may impose relief in the form of increased duties and/or other restrictions on imports of CSPV under Section 203 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. § 2253).

WORKERS CERTIFIED

The Department, under Section 224 of the Trade Act, is required to report the number of certified workers within the industry. The Commission determined that the industry covered by the investigation #TA-201-75 was covered by six Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes³, which corresponded to three 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes.⁴ The Department examined determinations beginning in 2012, consistent with the Commission's period of investigation. Of the 7,302 TAA determinations issued between January 1, 2012 and October 4, 2017, 192 determinations were for industries described within those codes. The Department examined information obtained during the investigation of the TAA determinations and consulted with the Commission's industry experts, and concluded that 20 of the 192

Table 1: The Number of Certifications, Denials, and Estimated Number of Workers Covered

Calendar Year	Certifications	Est. # of Workers ¹	Denials	Est. # of Workers ²
2012	8	806	1	20
2013	1	90	0	0
2014	4	151	0	0
2015	1	14	0	0
2016	0	0	1	650
2017	3	1,063	0	0
Total	17	2,124	2	670

Note: One petition was terminated due to the petitioner requesting withdrawal.

determinations within those codes concerned worker groups involved in the production of CSPV as defined by the Commission.⁵ Of the 20 determinations, 17 were certified. Those certifications covered an estimated 2,124 workers. In addition, two determinations were denied and one determination was withdrawn by the petitioner.

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¹ Estimated number of workers covered by a certification.

² Estimated number of workers covered by a denial.

³ HTS Codes: 8541.40.60, 8541.40.6020, 8541.40.6030, 8501.61.00, 8507.20.80, and 8501.31.80

⁴ NAICS Codes: 334413 (Semiconductor and Related Device Manufacturing), 335312 (Motor and Generator Manufacturing), and 335911 (Storage Battery Manufacturing).

⁵ 82 Fed. Reg. 25331 *supra* note 1.

PROJECTED FUTURE CERTIFIED WORKERS

The Department, under Section 224 of the Trade Act, is required to determine the number of workers who are likely to be certified for TAA in the future. The production of CSPV modules and cells is a very small component of the broader industry classification as defined by the three NAICS codes. The Department sought to collect information regarding the current workforce and trade impacts of those companies who are currently participating in the industry. Consistent with the Commission's determination, the Department included both producers of CSPV cells and producers of products incorporating such cells, notably CSPV modules. Questionnaires were sent to companies in two groups: producers of CSPV cells and producers of CSPV modules. Some firms participated in the production of both CSPV cells and modules.

The Department estimates that there is a current domestic CSPV cell production workforce of 400 workers. ⁷ It should be acknowledged that industry changes that took place during 2017 substantially affected this estimate, as nearly twice the number of people was engaged in this type of production in January 2017 as compared to October 2017. Recent TAA investigations that pertain to CSPV cell manufacturers cover most anticipated layoffs through 2019. The Department considered pending TAA investigations and likely filed TAA petitions from domestic CSPV cell producers, and it anticipates that an additional 230 workers are likely to be certified through 2019.

Unlike information regarding the production of CSPV cells, the Department was only able to gather minimal information about the production of modules developed with crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells (modules). However, the Department was able to utilize the Commission's 2016 estimate of 1,253 production related workers (PRWs)⁸ as these workers relate to CSPV modules.⁹

⁶ See footnote 4.

⁷ As of October 1, 2017

⁸ The Commission's definition of "Production Related Workers" (PRWs) includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspecting, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, trucking, hauling, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (e.g., power plant), recordkeeping, and other services closely associated with the above production operations. The Department has determined that this broad definition closely resembles the scope of workers typically covered in production-related TAA certifications.

⁹ The Commission's CSPV Public Staff Report, Table III-17 (pg. III-39)

The Department used Holt-Winters exponential smoothing models¹⁰ on both TAA certification data on CSPV modules and the Commission's data on CSPV module PRWs to project certified workers. The forecast based on the Commission's data projected a reduction in workforce of 161 people in 2018. The forecast based on TAA certification data projects that there will be 171 certified workers in 2018 and another 171 certified workers in 2019, totaling 342 projected certified workers through 2019. The Department's projection then averaged these two methodologies, which resulted in an estimated 332 projected certified workers for CSPV modules through 2019. For the combination of CSPV cell producers and CSPV module producers, the Department projects an estimated 562 certified workers through 2019.

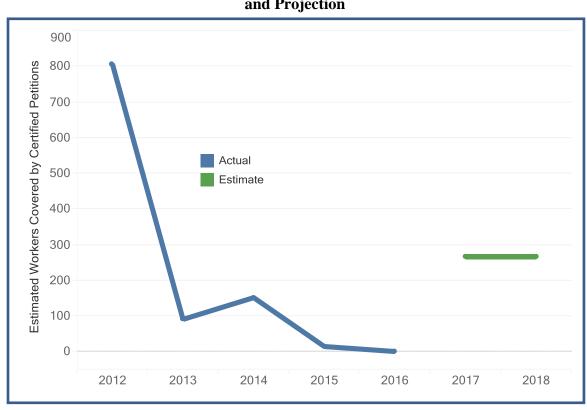


Figure 1: Workers Covered by Certifications Manufacturing CSPV Modules by Year and Projection

Note: Figure 1 only presents certifications for CSPV module manufacturers. This is different from Table 1, which includes both CSPV cells and modules manufacturers.

It should be noted, however, that while these estimates accurately reflect the scope of this report as required under statute, the Department's investigation is a much narrower focus on the production of solely CSPV cells and CSPV modules. The petitioners maintain that imposing tariffs or other remedies on solar components will boost U.S. manufacturing jobs. However, currently only a relatively small number of solar jobs (about 38,000) are in manufacturing. The 2016 census of solar workers, conducted by the Solar Energy Industries Association, found that about 260,000 workers were employed by the solar industry in 2016. Some reports indicate that a substantial number of additional jobs, including those in the residential, nonresidential/commercial, and utility sectors may be lost.

¹⁰ Holt-Winters is a triple exponential smoothing model that allows for seasonal adjustment. With annualized data, however, no seasonal adjustment was used.

EXISTING PROGRAMS SUFFICIENT TO ASSIST WORKERS

The Department administers a variety of programs to serve workers who are separated or threatened with separation. These programs provide a wide range of resources to assist workers in adjusting to import competition, including providing assistance to workers in developing pre-employment skills such as interviewing skills, funding substantive career training to enhance employability and open up new employment opportunities, providing employment counseling to better understand the labor market in order to find new jobs, and providing financial assistance to workers during the period of adjustment and beyond.

TAA BENEFITS AND SERVICES FOR WORKERS

The TAA Program, administered by the Department's Employment and Training Administration, is a federal entitlement program that assists workers who have lost or may lose their jobs as a result of foreign trade. The TAA Program provides adversely affected, TAA-eligible workers with opportunities to obtain the skills, credentials, resources, and support necessary to become reemployed. The reemployment services that are available to individual workers are administered by the states through agreements between the Secretary of Labor and each state Governor.

Overview of Benefits and Services

TAA offers a variety of reemployment services to support workers in their search for new jobs. This includes employment and case management services, training, Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA), Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA), job search and relocation allowances, and may also include assistance with healthcare premium costs. Below is a short summary of the TAA Program's benefits and services:

- Workers are eligible for employment and case management services offered by their respective states,
 which may include comprehensive assessments of skill levels and service needs, development of an
 individual employment plan to identify employment goals and objectives, information on available
 training and counseling and how to apply for financial aid, short-term prevocational services (e.g.
 development of learning skills, communications skills, interviewing skills), individual career counseling,
 provision of employment statistics relating to relevant market areas, and information relating to the
 availability of supportive services.
- Under the TAA Program, various types of training are allowed, including but not limited to classroom training, on-the-job training, customized training designed to meet the needs of a specific employer or group of employers, post-secondary education, prerequisite education or coursework and remedial education, literacy training, basic math, or English as a Second Language. The cost of training is paid by the state to the training provider with federal TAA Program funds. Workers covered by a certification may enroll in a TAA-approved training program when they are separated from employment or when they are still working but have been threatened with a lay-off. To receive paid training under this program, an individual must meet the following six criteria:
 - 1. No suitable employment is available;
 - 2. An individual would benefit from appropriate training;
 - 3. There is a reasonable expectation of employment following completion of training;

- 4. Training is reasonably available;
- 5. An individual is qualified to undertake and complete such training; and
- 6. Training is available at a reasonable cost.
- TRA is available to provide income support to individuals who are separated from employment and are participating in full-time training. The amount of each weekly TRA payment is based on the most recent weekly unemployment insurance benefit amount payable to the individual. For information regarding unemployment insurance benefits, please see the section on Unemployment Insurance (page 11).
- RTAA is available to individuals who are age 50 or older and do not earn more than \$50,000 annually in their new employment. Participation in RTAA allows individuals to receive a wage supplement when they accept new employment at a lower wage than what they previously earned. RTAA payments may total 50% of the difference between an individual's old and new wages, with a maximum of \$10,000 paid over a period of up to two years.
- Workers are eligible for job search allowances (JSAs), which are monetary benefits that cover expenses incurred while seeking employment outside their commuting area. JSAs reimburse 90% of the costs of allowable travel and subsistence, up to a maximum of \$1,250.
- Workers are eligible for relocation allowances, which are monetary benefits that cover expenses incurred when workers have to accept a job outside of their commuting area and relocate. Relocation allowances reimburse 90% of the allowable costs of relocation, plus an additional lump sum payment of up to a maximum of \$1,250.
- Participants may also be eligible to apply for the Health Coverage Tax Credit. For more information regarding the Health Coverage Tax Credit, please see the section on the Internal Revenue Service (page 13).

In FY 2016¹¹, an estimated 126,844 workers became eligible for TAA benefits and services and 45,814 participants were served. Over 53 percent of those participants received training during the year and over 93 percent of those who completed training received a credential. Nearly 76 percent of TAA participants obtained employment within six months of completing the program. For those who had received a credential in the program, 77 percent obtained employment within six months with over 79 percent of those employed changing industry sectors.¹²

Petition Process

To obtain TAA benefits and services, a group of workers must file a petition or have a petition filed on their behalf with the Department to determine eligibility. A petition for TAA benefits may be filed by any of the following: a group of three or more workers, an employer of a group of workers, a Union, a State Workforce Official, an American Job Center Operator/Partner, or another Duly Authorized Representative.

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¹¹ October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016

¹² TAA Annual Report FY 2016, available at: https://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/docs/AnnualReport16.pdf

Under Section 222(e) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2272(e)), as amended, groups of workers of the firms listed by the Commission who are totally or partially separated from employment may be automatically certified as eligible to apply for benefits under the TAA Program if a TAA petition is filed on their behalf with the Department. As required by Section 224(f)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2274(f)(1)), the Department provides notice of an affirmative determination by the Commission to SWA, representatives of the domestic industry, other firms identified by name during the proceedings, and any recognized worker representatives. From the date the Commission's affirmative final determination, as described above, is published in the Federal Register petitioners have one year to file for TAA and for the Department to issue a certification based on that determination.

The Trade Act provides that the certification for TAA applies to any worker who was separated from the firm within one year before or after the date the Commission's report is published in the Federal Register. After a group certification is issued by the Department, each worker in the group must then individually apply for services and benefits through local American Job Centers (page 10). Case managers at the local American Job Centers will issue a determination of the workers' individual eligibility for TAA benefits. For more information regarding the TAA petition process, please visit https://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/petitions.cfm.

OTHER DOL PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

This section discusses other existing programs and information services, administered by the Department that can provide assistance to the displaced workers by providing employment services and training. It is important to note that some of the programs mentioned below were authorized under or amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). WIOA (https://doleta.gov/wioa/) represents a fundamental transformation in the way the United States prepares American workers and jobseekers for careers. Among other things, WIOA requires Federal agencies, including but not limited to the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services, to coordinate services and programs; ensure business involvement in the delivery of training; and highlight the importance of industry or sector partnerships as an essential tool for addressing the needs of American businesses, workers, and jobseekers.

Employment Service

The Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 established a nationwide system of public employment offices, known as the Employment Service. Jointly operated by the Department of Labor and State Employment Security Agencies, the Employment Service seeks to improve the functioning of the nation's labor markets by bringing together individuals seeking employment with employers seeking workers. For more information regarding the Employment Service, please visit https://www.doleta.gov/performance/results/wagner-peyser_act.cfm.

American Job Centers

Operated by state and local workforce development boards, AJCs (also known as One-Stop Centers) are designed to provide a full range of assistance to job seekers under one roof, such as offering training referrals, career counseling, job listings, and similar employment-related services. Funded by the Employment Service, AJC services are provided through three delivery mechanisms: self-service, facilitated self-help, and staff-assisted. For more information regarding AJCs, please visit http://www.careeronestop.org/.

Registered Apprenticeship

Registered Apprenticeship programs offer workers employment and a combination of on-the-job learning and related instruction. Apprentices are employed at the start of their apprenticeship and work through a series of defined curricula until the completion of their apprenticeship programs. The length of Registered Apprenticeship programs varies depending on the specific occupation. Adversely affected workers can access Registered Apprenticeship programs by contacting their State's Registered Apprenticeship Office. For more information regarding Registered Apprenticeship, please visit https://www.doleta.gov/OA/apprenticeship.cfm.

In addition, the TAA Program can pay for apprenticeship programs. Specifically, TAA Program funds can be used to pay for the expenses associated with related instruction (e.g., classroom and distance learning), tools, uniforms, equipment, and books for an adversely affected worker's participation in an apprenticeship program. TAA Program funds can be used until the worker reaches "suitable employment" (as defined by the Section 236(e) of the Trade Act) or for 130 weeks, whichever comes first, while participating in the apprenticeship program. For more information regarding the relationship between the TAA Program and apprenticeship, see Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 05-15 (attachment A:

https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=3863) and 20 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.)

617.22 through 617.25: https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=43179f49df10467c1cd2e344b1e55c00&mc=true&node=pt20.3.617&rgn=div5#se20.3.617_122).

Rapid Response

Rapid Response (RR) is initiated when the state or local RR team learns of impending layoffs. Many companies will contact the Rapid Response team to notify it of a layoff and invite the team to come on site to help the workers who will be laid off. In some cases, employers are required to provide 60 days' notice before a layoff by the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN) (29 U.S.C. §§ 2100 et. seq.). Once an impending layoff is identified, RR trained specialists will first gather information about the affected workers' skills, career interests, and other needs and then organize the services necessary to help the workers return to work. For more information, please visit https://www.doleta.gov/layoff/workers.cfm.

WIOA Adult Worker Program

The WIOA Adult Worker Program is designed to provide employment and training services to assist eligible individuals in finding and qualifying for meaningful employment as well as to help employers find the skilled workers they need to compete and succeed in today's economy. Services include job search assistance, skill assessment, career planning, case management, and training (including occupational skills training and on-the-job training). Training is provided through a voucher system that allows individuals to attend training at eligible training providers (e.g., community colleges). For more information, please visit https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/training/adulttraining.

WIOA Dislocated Workers Program

The WIOA Dislocated Worker Program funds career and training services for eligible dislocated workers. These services include, but are not limited to, job search and placement assistance, access to labor market information, and career counseling. These services are intended to help dislocated workers reenter the workforce and obtain good paying jobs. For more information, please visit https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/training/dislocatedworkers.

Unemployment Insurance

The Federal-State Unemployment Insurance (UI) Program provides unemployment benefits to eligible workers who are unemployed through no fault of their own (as determined under State law), and meet other eligibility requirements of State law. UI benefits are intended to provide temporary financial assistance to unemployed workers. In states experiencing high levels of unemployment, individuals who exhaust their UI benefits may be eligible for additional weeks of UI benefits through the Extended Benefits program, depending on worker eligibility, state law, and economic conditions. For information regarding the UI program, please visit https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/uifactsheet.asp. For information regarding each state's unemployment insurance program, please visit

https://www.careeronestop.org/localhelp/unemploymentbenefits/unemployment-benefits.aspx.

National Dislocated Worker Grants

National Dislocated Worker Grants (NDWG) (https://www.doleta.gov/DWGs/) are discretionary grants awarded by the Secretary of Labor to states and other eligible applicants in response to large, layoff events which cause significant job losses. These grants are intended to temporarily expand capacity to serve dislocated workers, including military service members, and meet the increased demand for WIOA-authorized employment and training services, with the goal of obtaining reemployment for laid off workers and enhancing their employability and earnings. For information regarding eligibility, please visit https://www.doleta.gov/DWGs/Types-of-DWGs/Layoff-Major-Dislocations/.

O*NET

O*NET is the nation's primary source of occupational information. Central to the project is the O*NET database which contains information on hundreds of standardized and occupation-specific descriptors. This database is available to the public at no cost and is continually updated by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation. Information from this database forms the heart of O*NET OnLine, an interactive application for exploring and searching occupations. The database also provides the basis for the Career Exploration Tools, a set of valuable assessment instruments for workers and students looking to find or change careers. For more information, please visit https://www.onetonline.org/.

Occupational Outlook Handbook

The Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) is the government's premier career information publication on the job market of today and tomorrow. The OOH provides narrative job profiles that highlight key characteristics of occupations such as job duties, the work environment, the job outlook, and the education and training that jobseekers need. The OOH also includes data on wages and historical and projected employment by occupation from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. For more information, please visit https://www.bls.gov/ooh.

My Next Move for Veterans

My Next Move is designed for U.S. veterans who are actively seeking employment opportunities. This interactive tool helps veterans learn about their career options. In addition, the site has tasks, skills, salary information, and job listings for over 900 different careers. Veterans can find careers by performing keyword searches; browsing industries that employ different types of workers; or learning about civilian careers that are similar to their previous jobs in the military. For more information, please visit https://www.mynextmove.org/vets/.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

This section discusses programs and information services administered by other Federal agencies which may assist displaced workers.

Department of Education

The Department of Education's Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) provides leadership and resources to assist states and other agencies in providing vocational rehabilitation (VR) and other services to individuals with disabilities. The objective is to maximize the workers' employment, independence, and integration into their respective communities and today's competitive labor market. In particular, RSA created a series of training and technical assistance centers (TACs) and demonstration projects that are designed to assist state agencies and their partners in providing VR and other services to individuals with disabilities. For more information, please visit https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rsa/index.html.

The Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) oversees programs that help adults get the basic skills they need to be productive workers, family members, and citizens. These skills include reading, writing, math, English language proficiency, and problem-solving. Specifically, OCTAE provides funds to states' adult education and literacy programs, which provide workplace adult education and literacy classes, workforce preparation activities, and integrated education and training. For more information, please visit https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/index.html?exp=6.

Department of Health and Human Services

The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families oversees the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) Program. The TANF program is designed to provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes; reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage; prevent and reduce the incidences of out-of-wedlock pregnancies; and encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families. For more information, please visit https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf/about.

Department of Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) administers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which provides nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families. For more information regarding SNAP, please visit https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap.

In addition, FNS oversees various food distribution programs, including the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), which helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. For more information, please visit https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/food-distribution-programs.

Internal Revenue Service

The Internal Revenue Service administers the Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC), which is a tax credit that pays 72.5 percent of qualified health insurance premiums for eligible individuals and their families. The HCTC acts as partial reimbursement for premiums paid for qualified health insurance coverage and can now be claimed for qualified coverage through 2019. Please note that the HCTC program does not provide health insurance coverage. An individual may be eligible to elect the HCTC if the individual is one of the following: (a) an eligible TAA recipient, alternative TAA (ATAA) recipient or reemployment TAA (RTAA) recipient, (b) an eligible Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) payee, or (c) the family member of an eligible TAA, ATAA, or RTAA recipient or PBGC payee who is deceased or who finalized a divorce with the individual. For more information, please visit https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/hctc.

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