PO Box 995 1550 Gadsden Street Columbia, SC 29202 www.dew.sc.gov



Nikki R. Haley Governor

Abraham J. Turner Executive Director

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING STATE INSTRUCTION NUMBER: 11-13

TO:

TAA Workforce Specialists

SUBJECT:

Definition of the Commuting Area

ISSUANCE DATE:

March 15, 2012

EFFECTIVE DATE:

April 1, 2012

<u>PURPOSE</u>: To revise the State policy concerning the definition of commuting area pursuant to transportation allowances, subsistence, job search allowances, and relocation allowances under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program.

BACKGROUND: The TAA Program allows for payment of transportation or subsistence payment to attend training, out-of-area job search allowances, and job relocation allowances when the travel is outside a participant's commuting area.

POLICY: Effective April 1, 2012, the definition of a "commuting area" will be ten (10) miles one way from a participant's residence.

All TAA participants who are applying for or are already participating in TAA-approved training on or after April 1, 2012, will be reimbursed according to this definition of the commuting area.

All new job search allowance and relocation allowance applications received on or after April 1, 2012, will be reimbursed according to this definition.

<u>ACTION</u>: You are responsible for the implementation of Trade Adjustment Assistance policy; specifically, revised TAA Transportation Applications for all participants in training that were previously denied travel allowances because they did not meet the commuting definition must be completed no later than Friday, April 6, 2012.

INQUIRIES: Questions regarding this instruction may be directed to Silvia Middleton at (803) 737-2583 or smiddleton@dew.sc.gov.

Nicholas J. Anderson, PhD Assistant Executive Director Employment and Training