



Alabama Department of Labor

News Release

For Immediate Release: October 21, 2015

Employees of Athena Health May Be Eligible for Additional Benefits

BIRMINGHAM – Current and former employees of Athena Health, Inc. located in Birmingham who were engaged in activities related to the supply of healthcare coordination services, such as verification of patient insurance eligibility, payer benefits interpretations, preauthorization approval, record documentation, and patient contact, may be eligible for benefits under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act (TAARA) of 2015. A petition certified on behalf of workers of Athena Health, Inc. in Birmingham was certified by the U. S. Department of Labor on Oct. 13, 2015 according to Alabama Department of Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald Washington.

The U. S. Department of Labor found that the workers may have become unemployed as a result of increased imports. The petition covers periods of unemployment occurring on or after Feb. 8, 2015 and before the termination date of Oct. 13, 2017. Under the TAARA 2015 Act, displaced workers may be eligible for benefits such as training, job search and relocation assistance.

If workers have exhausted their cash benefits under other state and federal unemployment compensation programs, they could be eligible for additional weekly benefits equivalent to the amount they were receiving under other programs. In order to receive Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) benefits, workers must be enrolled in training the later of 26 weeks after the certification date or after

their last qualifying separation or a waiver of the training requirement must be granted by the state Employment Service Division of the Alabama Department of Labor.

Athena Health, Inc. was also certified for Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA). Employees who are 50 years of age and older, who obtain full time employment after their separation from the affected employer, may be eligible for allowances under the RTAA program.

Washington stated that potentially eligible individuals will be notified individually as soon as they are identified.

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Members of the media seeking more information should contact Will Whatley at (334) 353-1548.