

**Questions for PubPol/Econ 541**  
**Nov 20**

## **Trade Adjustment Assistance**

**Brainard et al., “Insuring America’s Workers in a New Era of Offshoring,” 2005.**

- Why is wage insurance more likely to encourage reemployment than unemployment compensation?
- Why do the authors argue that it should be given to all displaced workers, not just those displaced by trade?
- Why does wage insurance lead to more effective retraining than TAA?

**James, “Maladjusted: The Misguided Policy of ‘Trade Adjustment Assistance’,” 2007.**

- What has been the primary motivation for enacting and extending TAA?
- What sectors of the US economy have had the most certifications for TAA, according to the FY2006 data presented?
- Are trade displaced workers more in need of help than workers displaced by other causes?

**Rosen, “Strengthening Trade Adjustment Assistance,” 2008.**

- Who qualifies for TAA, and what do they get?
- How does US expenditure on TAA differ from expenditure on similar programs in other major countries?
- What’s wrong with TAA?

**Lawrence, “A Numbers Argument for Renewing Trade Adjustment Assistance,” 2015.**

- Are the gains from trade agreements large enough to justify the expenses of TAA?
- Does Lawrence advocate for adjustment assistance only for trade-displaced workers? Why does he associate it with passing Trade Promotion Authority?

**Beattie, “The flaws in trying to compensate globalisation’s losers,” 2017.**

- Does the EU have a program analogous to Trade Adjustment Assistance?
- Does the author mention any examples of successful compensation of producers hurt by imports?
- How much money does TAA hand out, and to how many workers?
- Does TAA achieve the aim of compensating losers from trade?
- Does TAA achieve the aim of making trade agreements politically acceptable?
- Why should advocates of globalization be opposed to TAA?
- Does the author favor doing nothing to help those who lose from trade?