

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Expanding Career Advancement Accounts (CAA)



Understanding CAAs

CAAs began as training accounts targeted to Ohio workers impacted by restructuring activities of domestic automobile manufacturers and who have limited access to other training programs.

Ohio has expanded CAAs to include all dislocated workers (both employed and unemployed) and workers who are at imminent risk of losing their jobs (layoff aversion).

Offering up to \$6,000 to cover the costs of short-term education and training, over a two year period, CAAs represent an innovative approach from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the US Department of Labor to support job-focused training and education.

CAAs can be used for occupational skills training, skill upgrading or retraining which help workers quickly gain new skills to improve the chances of finding a job in today's marketplace.

How It Works

CAAs can help a worker who has lost his or her job pay for training (tuition, fees, books) needed to find a new one.

CAAs are currently being offered through Ohio's One-Stop system as a training option for employed or unemployed dislocated workers with clear career goals who do not need intensive career or supportive services.

How can CAAs be Used?

CAAs support enrollment in a training program which can build an individual's competencies and ability to find a job in today's changing economic environment.

CAA is a "training first" program where the traditional sequence of services is waived. Participants will enter into an agreement which outlines terms and conditions of CAA training.

CAA customers may select training providers that are not on the state Eligible Training Provider Online (ETPO) list as long as the training leads to portable, industry-recognized credentials.

CAA Eligibility

CAA eligibility follows the WIA Adult program guidelines:

- Authorized to work in the US
- Age 18 or over
- Properly Registered for Selective Service
- A worker impacted by domestic automobile manufacturer changes, a dislocated worker, or an employed worker at risk of layoff. Note: Self-Sufficiency screening for employed workers does not apply for CAA.
- CAA customers may be co-enrolled in WIA or other partner services (except a WIA ITA).

CAAs may only be used for training related costs (tuition, fees, books).

- ❑ CAAs are self-driven accounts focusing on individual choice.
- ❑ Workforce System Professionals may provide career guidance, monitoring activities and referrals to supportive services.
- ❑ Individuals must complete all training by 6/30/09.
- ❑ Training must lead to industry-recognized (portable) credentials in a demand-driven occupation or industry.
- ❑ Workers may not be concurrently enrolled in a WIA ITA (Individualized Training Account) or TAA (Trade Adjustment Assistance) and CAA.
- ❑ The CAA program, as a federal demonstration project, includes fairly rigorous data collection and evaluation requirements.

For More Information

Information for potential CAA customers, including a map of One-Stop service delivery centers across the state, can be found at the Career Advancement Account Featured Link home page at: www.jfs.ohio.gov/workforce

Additional information for Workforce Professionals is located in the Special Projects area.

The logo for the state of Ohio, featuring the word "Ohio" in a bold, black, serif font.