

Appendix II: Additional Information Reported by Programs We Identified That Support U.S. Manufacturing

Manufacturing Trends Addressed by the Program

Advanced manufacturing	Higher skilled jobs	Globalization
X		X

Source: GAO analysis of survey data. | GAO-17-240

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms

Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration

Funding for the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms Program

	Reported obligations, in millions	Estimated percentage of reported obligations used to support U.S. manufacturing
Fiscal Year 2014	\$8	96%
Fiscal Year 2015	\$20	100%
Fiscal Year 2016	\$13	98%

Source: GAO survey of agency officials. | GAO-17-240

Program Information Reported in Survey

Year program created: 1965

Program category: Trade, Financial support

Program description: According to agency officials, the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms program is a trade remedy mechanism that is used rather than relying on tariffs, quotas, or duties. This assistance targets U.S. firms experiencing a decline in sales and employment, resulting directly from the increase in imports of like or directly competitive articles. The program works in partnership with a national network of Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers, and provides technical assistance to U.S. manufacturing, production, and service firms affected by import competition to develop and implement projects to regain global competitiveness, increase profitability and create jobs.

Program activities that support manufacturing:

Petitioning for certification: The program assists firms with submitting a petition to be certified as a trade-impacted firm. Generally, certification specialists in the Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers work with the firm at no cost to the firm to complete and submit a petition.

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Program Evaluations That Assessed Any Impact on the U.S. Manufacturing Sector

- *Trade Adjustment Assistance: Commerce Program Has Helped Manufacturing and Services Firms, but Measures, Data, and Funding Formula Could Improve.* [GAO-12-930](#). Washington, D.C.: September 13, 2012.
Source: GAO survey of agency officials. | GAO-17-240

Recovery planning: The program-certified firms work with Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers staff to develop a customized business recovery plan for approval.

Recovery plan implementation: The firm works with consultants to implement projects in an approved business recovery plan.

Providing grants: The program provides grants to independent, non-profit or university-affiliated Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers that help U.S. manufacturing, production, and manufacturing service firms in a public-private collaborative framework apply for certification of eligibility for program assistance and prepare and implement strategies to guide firms' economic recovery.

Technical assistance: The program provides direct technical assistance to import-impacted U.S. manufacturing, production, and service firms by providing matching funds to Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers. The centers use the funds to match the costs for third-party consultants to help firms expand markets, strengthen operations, and increase competitiveness.

Manufacturing Trends Addressed by the Program

Advanced manufacturing	Higher skilled jobs	Globalization
		X

Source: GAO analysis of survey data. | GAO-17-240

Trade Enforcement and Compliance Policy and Negotiations

Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Enforcement and Compliance

Funding for the Trade Enforcement and Compliance Policy and Negotiations Program

	Reported obligations, in millions	Estimated percentage of reported obligations used to support U.S. manufacturing
Fiscal Year 2014	\$23	Not reported
Fiscal Year 2015	\$24	Not reported
Fiscal Year 2016	Not reported	N/A

Source: GAO survey of agency officials. | GAO-17-240