

Rapid Response Services

Help for Businesses Facing Cutbacks

What is Rapid Response?

Rapid Response is a service that we offer to businesses and workers affected by cutbacks and site closings. We provide early job placement assistance and other service resources.

Shared Work

Our regional teams help protect your workers during temporary business downturns through the Shared Work Program. Shared Work gives an alternative to laying off your employees. It lets you keep trained workers with key skill sets. Under this program, your business can:

- Reduce the number of normal work hours for a particular unit, shift, or all staff
- Include full- and part-time employees in the plan
- Apply for a plan with a minimum of two employees
- Agree to continue fringe benefit levels, unless you must reduce them for your entire work force
- Supplement lost pay with partial unemployment insurance (UI) benefits (up to 26 weeks)
- Require that the Shared Work participant remain available to work for you as in their normal work schedule

Specific information regarding Shared Work:

www.labor.ny.gov/ui/employerinfo/shared-work-program.shtm

New York State WARN ACT

After a business has tried every option to minimize layoffs, our team can provide custom job placement service before layoffs occur

while frequently partnering with organized labor (when attached) and hired outplacement firms. We also introduce job seekers to the Career Center system.

Businesses in New York State that employ more than 50 are required to issue a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) 90 days before closing a plant. They must also notify when there is a layoff that affects 33 percent of the workforce (at least 25 workers) or 250 workers from a single employment site. They must send the notice to employees, their representatives, the State Labor Department and local workforce investment partners.

State WARN regulations:

www.labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/warn/pdfs/Text_of_New_York_State_WARN_Rule_7-10.pdf

Unemployment Insurance Reform

- Learn about changes for Employers involving Unemployment Insurance Reform: www.labor.ny.gov/ui/employerinfo/ui-reform-faq.shtm

Benefits to Your Business

Businesses have lower unemployment insurance costs, as people return to work quicker when they start services prior to layoff. It maintains morale and productivity, as Rapid Response shows your business has a high regard for the employees in transition.

Benefits to Your Employees

They receive timely job placement assistance before layoffs occur:

- Job Referral
- Customized Job Fair



- Use of Jobs Express – Search here www.labor.ny.gov/jobs/regional.shtm for current openings in New York’s 10 regional economies based on growth industries. Job Openings are updated daily.
- Career Development
- Resume Preparation
- Job Market Information
- Training Options
- Use of Job Zone – Search here www.nyjobzone.org or career exploration assessments to identify interests and work values. It also suggests jobs that match interests, offers a resume builder and provides a local job fair schedule.

Information is also provided regarding:

- Unemployment Insurance Reform for Claimants www.labor.ny.gov/ui/claimantinfo/reform-faq.shtm
- Filing an Unemployment Insurance claim www.labor.ny.gov/ui/how_to_file_claim.shtm
- Compare Health Coverage options
- Identify useful Community Resources

Regional Rapid Response Coordinators

Capital Region

Jacqueline Huertas
(518) 457-1505 / Fax (518) 485-2577
Jacqueline.Huertas@labor.ny.gov

Central Region

Karl Price
(315) 479-3422 / Fax (315) 479-3216
Karl.Price@labor.ny.gov

Finger Lakes Region

Regenna Darrah
(585) 258-8819 / Fax (585) 339-9457
Regenna.Darrah@labor.ny.gov

Long Island Region

Frederick Danks
(516) 934-8560 / Fax (516) 934-8553
Frederick.Danks@labor.ny.gov

Mid-Hudson Region

Rossy Mateo
(845) 568-5392 / Fax (845) 568-5321
Rossy.Mateo@labor.ny.gov

Mohawk Valley Region

Michael Clark
(315) 793-2491 / Fax (315) 793-2342
Michael.Clark@labor.ny.gov

New York City

Stuart Goldberg
(718) 613-3587 / Fax (718) 613-3983
Stuart.Goldberg@labor.ny.gov

North Country Region

Melissa Baretzky (Acting)
(518) 561-0430 ext. 3058 / (518) 561-9566 (Fax)
Melissa.Baretzky@labor.ny.gov

Southern Tier Region

Vikki Kaufman
(607) 741-4518 / Fax (607) 741-4516
Vikki.Kaufman@labor.ny.gov

Western Region

Michele Taylor
(716) 851-2655 / Fax (716) 851-2636
Michele.Taylor@labor.ny.gov