

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Department of Labor

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

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

Employees will receive timely job placement assistance, including:

- 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 JobZone – Search here www.nyjobzone.org for 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

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