Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants (SCC) Prospective Applicant Webinar

July 28, 2020
Tips for viewing this webcast

- You should have a hard copy of the FOA when viewing this Webcast.

- When applying for ETA competitive grants, use our Web-Based Toolkit for Prospective Applicants:
  [https://www.workforcegps.org/resources/2016/05/27/14/00/Applying_for ETA Competitive Grants- A Web-Based Toolkit-for Prospective Applicants](https://www.workforcegps.org/resources/2016/05/27/14/00/Applying_for ETA Competitive Grants- A Web-Based Toolkit-for Prospective Applicants)
Today’s Speakers

Robin Fernkas

Division Director,
Division of Strategic Investments (DSI)
U.S. Department of Labor

Cheryl Martin

Program Manager, DSI
U.S. Department of Labor

Eugenie Agia

Workforce Analyst, DSI
U.S. Department of Labor
Today’s Speakers

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U.S. Department of Labor

Drew Canger
Lead Grants Management Specialist, OGM
U.S. Department of Labor
Key SCC FOA Areas of Focus

- Program Purpose and Design, and Expected Outcomes
- Eligibility, Partnerships, and Priority Consideration
- Application Submission Requirements
Program Purpose and Design, and Expected Outcomes
Program Purpose

The Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants program aims to:

- Increase the capacity and responsiveness of community colleges to address the skill development needs of employers and dislocated and unemployed workers, incumbent workers, and new entrants to the workforce;

- Offer this spectrum of workers and other individuals accelerated career pathways that enable them to gain skills and transition from unemployment to (re)employment quickly; and

- Address the new challenges associated with the COVID-19 health crisis that necessitate social distancing practices and expanding online and technology-enabled learning and migrating services to a virtual environment.
Program Design

As part of program design, all applicants must design workforce development strategies that incorporate:

- **Core Elements:**
  - Single institutions must address Core Elements 1-4.
  - Consortium leads must address Core Elements 1-5.

- **Results-based design**

- **Third-party evaluation**

- **Sustainability plan**
Core Elements

- Core Element 1: Evidence-based Design
- Core Element 2: Sector Strategies and Employer Engagement
- Core Element 3: Enhanced Career Pathway Programs and Accelerated Learning Strategies
- Core Element 4: Strategic Alignment with the Workforce Development System
- Core Element 5: Innovative Systems Change. Consortium applicants (only) must propose strategies in one of the following focus areas:
  - Option A: Accelerated Learning Pathways; or
  - Option B: Statewide Data Integration and Use
Program Design (continued)

Result-based design
- Gap Analysis
- Logic Model
- Project Work Plan

Third-party evaluation
- Detailed procurement work plan
- Draft Detailed Evaluation Design
- Final Detailed Evaluation Design

Sustainability Plan
Program Design (continued)

USDOL Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research (CLEAR)
https://clear.dol.gov/

- Community college topic area: https://clear.dol.gov/topic-area/community-college

- Causal evidence review guidelines:

- Implementation study review guidelines:

USDOL Completed Studies on TAACCCT:
https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasp/evaluation/completedstudies
Expected Outcomes

Single Institution Applicants

- **Capacity Building Performance Outcomes.** Applicants will specify grant-specific targets for outcomes in three outcomes areas:
  - Sector Strategies and Employer Engagement
  - Enhanced Career Pathway Programs and Accelerated Learning Strategies
  - Strategic Alignment with the Workforce Development System

- **Participant Training and Employment Tracking:** Applicants will also track and report eight participant outputs/outcomes for a selected cohort of students throughout their grants, using DOL’s Workforce Innovation Performance System (WIPS).

- The three capacity-building performance outcomes targets (and the related outputs, milestones, and deliverables in the work plan) form the basis of the Department’s assessment of grantee performance.
Consortium Applicants

- Consortium applicants will specify two grant-specific targets within each of the following four outcomes areas, for a total of eight grant-specific targets:
  - Sector Strategies and Employer Engagement
  - Enhanced Career Pathway Programs and Accelerated Learning Strategies
  - Strategic Alignment with the Workforce Development System
  - Innovative Systems Change. Applicants will select the two outcomes under the option for Core Element 5 that they chose for the FOA:
    - Accelerated Learning Pathways
    - Statewide Data Integration and Use

- The eight systems change performance outcomes targets (and the related outputs, milestones, and deliverables in the work plan) form the basis of the Department’s assessment of grantee performance.
Award Information, Eligibility, Partnerships, and Priority Consideration
Award Information

- Approximately $40 million to fund approximately 8-16 grants
- Single institution applicants may apply for a ceiling amount of up to $2 million
- Consortium lead applicants may apply for a ceiling amount of up to $5 million
- The minimum for both types of applicants is $1 million
Eligible Lead Applicants

- The eligible lead applicant must be a community college that is a public institution of higher education (IHE) as defined in Section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act and whose most common degree awarded is an associate degree.

- The lead applicant must apply as one of the following:
  - Single institution lead; or
  - Consortium lead representing a consortium of IHEs.
    - Consortium members may include community colleges and public and private, non-profit four-year IHEs, as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act.

- Single institution applicants will undertake capacity building at one institution.
  Consortium applicants will undertake capacity building and systems change within one state, or across one or more community college districts within a state.

- Both single institution and consortium leads must partner with required partners to form an SCC Partnership (see next slide).
The SCC Partnership

- This program will award grants to an SCC partnership of public and private sector entities.

- A **single institution** applicant’s SCC Partnership will be comprised of:
  - Lead applicant;
  - Required workforce development system partner(s);
  - Required employer partners; and
  - Any optional partners.

- A **consortium** applicant’s SCC Partnership will be comprised of:
  - IHE consortium members, including the lead applicant;
  - Required IHE coordinating entity;
  - Required workforce development system partner(s);
  - Required employer partners; and
  - Any optional partners.
Required Partners

Both consortium and single applicants:

- **Workforce Development System**: one or more partners from the publicly funded workforce development system; and
- **Employer Partners**: an industry/trade association or a consortium of at least three employers.

In addition, consortium applicants (only) must include:

- **IHE Consortium**: and
  - Statewide: DOL encourages inclusion of all or a majority of community colleges in a state
  - District-based: all colleges within the district(s), but no less than three colleges across one or more geographically contiguous districts.
- **IHE Coordinating Entity**: at least one state-level or community college district-level entity that is responsible for regulating, governing, advising, and/or coordinating the IHE in the consortium.
Optional Partners

Optional partners that can support and advance the work of the SCC Partnership include (but are not limited to) the following:

- State Apprenticeship Agencies
- Federally funded programs, such as Adult Education and Perkins
- American Job Center operators
- Economic development agencies
- Labor-management organizations
- Community-based organizations that provide social support and/or wrap-around services
- Foundations and philanthropic organizations
Priority Consideration

- Applicants that demonstrate, in their abstract, that at least one census tract within their physical service area is designated by the Secretary of Treasury as a qualified Opportunity Zone will receive two bonus points toward their overall application score.

- More information on Opportunity Zones is available at https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/opportunity-zones-frequently-asked-questions
## Comparing FOA Requirements: Single and Consortium Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOA Category</th>
<th>Single Institution Applicants</th>
<th>Consortium Applicants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding Range</td>
<td>$1 million to $2 million</td>
<td>$1 million to $5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Focus</td>
<td>Capacity building at one institution</td>
<td>Capacity building and systems change within one state, or across one/more community college districts within a state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligible Lead Applicant</td>
<td>Single institution lead community college</td>
<td>Lead community college representing a consortium of Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Partners</td>
<td>• Workforce development system partner(s)</td>
<td>• IHE consortium members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Employer partners</td>
<td>• IHE coordinating entity(ies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Plus any optional partners</em></td>
<td>• Workforce development system partner(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Employer partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Outcomes</td>
<td>• Capacity Building Performance Outcomes in three outcomes areas (three outcomes in total)</td>
<td>Capacity Building and Systems Change Performance Outcomes in four outcome areas (two each, for a total of eight outcomes)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Tracking of eight participant outputs/outcomes for a selected cohort of students</td>
<td></td>
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Application Submission Requirements
Section IV.B

SF-424 Application For Federal Assistance

Project Budget (SF-424A and Budget Narrative)

Project Narrative

Attachments to the Project Narrative
SF-424 and Project Budget

Section IV.B.1 and Section IV.B.2

- SF-424 Application For Federal Assistance
  - DUNS number
  - Must register with SAM

- Project Budget
  - SF-424A: Budget Information Form
  - Budget Narrative
Section IV.B.3.A

Guidelines are found in Section IV.B.3.A, Project Narrative

The Project Narrative is limited to 25 double-spaced single-sided 8.5 x 11 inch pages with Times New Roman 12 point text font and 1-inch margins. You must number the Project Narrative beginning with page number 1.

Evaluated using the evaluation criteria identified in Section V.A
Attachments to the Project Narrative

Section IV.B.4

In addition to the Project Narrative applicants must submit attachments.

- Must be clearly labeled as Attachments.
- Only Attachments listed in Section IV.B.4 of the FOA are excluded from the page limit.
- No additional materials will be considered.
- See Section IV.B.4 for information on valid attachment file names.
## Application Screening Criteria

### Section III.C.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Requirement</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The deadline submission requirements are met</td>
<td>Section IV.C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Section III.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If submitted through Grants.gov, the components of the application are saved in any of the specified formats and are not corrupt. <em>(We will attempt to open the document, but will not take any additional measures in the event of problems with opening.)</em></td>
<td>Section IV.C.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application for Federal funds request does not exceed the ceiling amount of $2 million for single institutions or $5 million for consortium leads, nor is it less than $1 million for either type of applicant.</td>
<td>Section II.A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAM Registration</td>
<td>Section IV.B.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance</td>
<td>Section IV.B.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-424 includes a DUNS Number</td>
<td>Section IV.B.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-424A, Budget Information Form</td>
<td>Section IV.B.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Narrative</td>
<td>Section IV.B.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Narrative</td>
<td>Section IV.B.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Criteria

### Section V.A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion for Applicants</th>
<th>Points (maximum)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Statement of Need</td>
<td>6 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See Section IV.B.3.a. Statement of Need)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Expected Outcomes and Outputs</td>
<td>36 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See Section IV.B.3.b. Expected Outcomes and Outputs)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Project Design</td>
<td>20 total</td>
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<tr>
<td>(See Section IV.B.3.c. Project Design)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity</td>
<td>8 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See Section IV.B.3.d. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability</td>
<td>28 total</td>
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<tr>
<td>(See Section IV.B.3.e. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Budget and Budget Justification</td>
<td>2 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See Section IV.B.2. Project Budget)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Opportunity Zones – Bonus Points</td>
<td>2 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See Section I.C. Geographic Scope)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>102</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Proposal Submission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section IV.C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. (ET) on the closing date</td>
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</tbody>
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### Method of Submission

- Regular Mail
- Overnight Mail
- Hand Delivery
- Online at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
- Reference **FOA-ETA-20-07**
For More Information

FAQs: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/skills-training-grants/scc

Check back frequently for new ones

Questions: Drew Canger

Lead Grants Management Specialist, OGM
U.S. Department of Labor

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📞 202-693-3769
Thank You!

Need help? Email: Support@workforceGPS.org