

Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants Program

Funding Opportunity No.: FOA-ETA-20-07

Program Overview: This program will build capacity of community colleges to collaborate with employers and the public workforce development system to meet local and regional labor market demand for a skilled workforce. The purpose of these grants is to increase the capacity and responsiveness of community colleges to address the skill development needs of employers and workers. It seeks to offer individuals accelerated career pathways that enable them to gain skills and transition from unemployment to employment quickly. It will also address the new challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic that necessitate social distancing practices and expanding online and technology-related programs and services.

Grant Overview: The amount available for this program is approximately \$40 million. **Community colleges are the only eligible applicants**. Applications can be for a single institution or for a consortium of colleges across many districts within one state. Both single institutions and consortia **MUST** work with employers and the public workforce development system (WDBs, American Job Centers, the Adult Education and Literacy Program, etc.) to build their capacity to respond to the current economic pressures. The ETA has estimated the number of awards to be 8-16 and the range of those awards to be between \$1 million and \$5 million. The ETA intends to award 75 percent of the funds to consortia applicants and the remaining 25 percent to single institution applicants. Cost-sharing is **NOT** required. Grant recipients may be authorized to make subawards.

These grants are competitive and awards will be given based on a point system that is out of 102. The selection criteria include: (A) Statement of Need (Up to 6 Points); (B) Expected Outcomes and Outputs (Up to 36 Points); (C) Project Design (Up to 20 Points); (D) Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (Up to 8 Points); (E) Past Performance—Programmatic Capability (Up to 28 Points); (F) Budget and Budget Justification (Up to 2 Points); and (G) Opportunity Zones—Bonus Points (Up to 2 Points).

Important Requirement: All applicants and potential subawardees must supply a DUNS number. Only one application from each organization. The San Diego Workforce Partnership may be asked to provide leadership in implementing the following types of activities: (I) understanding and analyzing the need for education and training in local areas, including identifying targeted industries, occupations, sector strategies, hiring needs, and populations to be served, and providing relevant sources of data, including labor market information and other tools or reports; (II) assessing potential participants for the grant program; (III) identifying and referring candidates for education and training in the grant program; (IV) providing additional supportive services; (V) connecting and placing participants with employers that have job openings; and (VI) collecting, tracking, and reporting participant data to the ETA.

Important Deadlines: Applications must be submitted on Grants.gov before **4:00 PM EST on October 8, 2020.** A pre-recorded webinar will be available here on **July 28, 2020** for all prospective applicants.

The application can be found here.