

WORKFORCE SERVICES  
**INFORMATION NOTICE**

Number: WSIN14-36

Date: March 11, 2015

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: DOL AMERICAN APPRENTICESHIP INITIATIVE GRANT

The State of California's Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA) and the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) formed an Interagency Taskforce on Apprenticeship Expansion. The Taskforce includes state representation from the California Workforce Investment Board (State Board), the Employment Development Department (EDD), the Employment Training Panel (ETP), and the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS). The Taskforce is seeking to support California applications for U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) current \$100 million [American Apprenticeship Initiative Grants](#) (AAG) (FOA-ETA-15-02).

The Taskforce views the DOL's AAG as a significant resource to support the growth of non-traditional apprenticeship in California, and the Taskforce will provide technical and other resource support to partnerships within the State who are currently developing proposals for these federal funds. Specifically, the LWDA and the CCCCCO will consider providing jointly-signed letters of support to California grant applicants whose proposals meet at least seven of the elements listed below. The Taskforce can also assist grant applicants with the sustainability aspect of their respective proposals as required under the grant, as well as with the ability to demonstrate the capacity to scale programs at a statewide level.

During the past few years, LWDA and CCCCCO have been active in developing resources and networks to support apprenticeship. Under a new Apprenticeship Pilot program, the ETP has funded more than \$30 million in Apprenticeship Related and Supplemental Instruction during the past three years. The State Board supports apprenticeship in its Strategic Plan and is administering a new Healthcare Opportunity Act grant. Additionally, apprenticeship is a key component of the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Support and expansion of the apprenticeship model is a priority of the Brown Administration.

**Criteria for Consideration**

In order to be considered for a letter of support, the partnership application must contain a minimum of seven of the following elements:

- Partnership with California employers.
- Partnership with at least three employers, capable of hiring/training at least 300 new apprentices over the next five years.

*The EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.*

- Partnership with Industry Association, consortium of businesses, business-related non-profit organization, joint labor-management organization, labor organization, or a private organization functioning as a workforce intermediary for the express purpose of serving the needs of business.
- Partnership with local Workforce Investment Board, community college, or adult education provider/local K-12 school or district.
- Involvement in articulation of K-14 career pathways, including the Career Technical Education Pathways Program (SB 1070, 2012) and California Career Pathways Trust (CCPT).
- Intention of pursuing DAS registration.
- Targeting underserved populations (women, young men, women of color, low-skilled populations, veterans, first-generation, low-income, people with disabilities and minority students).
- Demonstrating alignment with education and training needs of long-term unemployed.
- Intention of registering with DOL's program, Registered Apprenticeship-College Consortium.
- Show industry demand for occupation(s).

### **Resource and Technical Support for Applicants**

The Interagency Taskforce will also provide applicants receiving the Taskforce's letter of support with a wide range of flexible support services to assist in the grant process.

Examples of various resources and technical support the State is willing to provide successful grantees are:

### **Funding - The State will provide a sustainable source of funding to expand the apprenticeship model to new industry sectors, this may include:**

- The CCCCO currently allocates over \$22 million annually to provide support for the Related and Supplemental Instruction, the classroom portion of an apprenticeship. Funding is proposed to increase for 2015-16 to over \$51 million, with \$15 million focused on "new and emerging industries..." It is expected this will be an on-going source of revenue.
- The ETP has funded over \$10 million annually in apprenticeship contracts during the first three years of its Apprenticeship Training Pilot and is in the process of expanding the Apprenticeship program to include non-traditional apprenticeships. The ETP is funded by employer contributions to the Unemployment Training Fund, which has been growing along with California's economic growth. The ETP expects to earmark several million dollars annually for new, non-traditional apprenticeship programs over the next five years.

### **Apprenticeship Program Development**

- DAS staff will provide assistance to design apprenticeship program standards and complete all necessary paperwork for state registration.
- DAS staff will assist in securing a Local Educational Agency to provide required related and supplemental instruction and/or oversight.
- DAS will provide State apprenticeship registration, which provides "access to categorical funds in the State Education budget for apprenticeship related and supplemental instruction."

## **Connecting with Employers, Educational and Government Agencies**

- The ETP is working in concert with DAS and CCCCCO staff to reach out to employers, including those who already use ETP's core funding for incumbent workers. With an annual budget of more than \$90 million, ETP contracts with hundreds employers across California in all industry sectors.
- The CCCCCO's network of Industry Sector Navigators can help connect applicants with employers and support expansion of successful models to all regions of the state.
- The CCCCCO will assist with developing contacts with the educational entities and local educational agencies.
- The DAS will facilitate access to federal Office of Apprenticeship system for necessary federal registration.
- Both LWDA and CCCCCO can assist with developing relationships with other state agencies interested in apprenticeship, including: California Energy Commission, California Public Utilities Commission, California High Speed Rail Authority, and others.

## **Accessing and Evaluating Labor Market Information**

- The EDD's Labor Market Information Division and the CCCCCO's Centers of Excellence can assist applicants with obtaining and analyzing labor market and other relevant economic data.

## **Assistance in Recruiting Candidates**

- The EDD can and will provide any grant applicant that is funded assistance in recruiting candidates for consideration. The EDD has access to over 1 million job seekers: veterans, people with disabilities, and other populations with barriers to employment.

## **Process for Obtaining a State Letter of Support**

In addition to the qualifying elements listed previously, all applicants must submit a draft or final copy of the abstract required by the DOL grant (**Funding Opportunity Number: [FOA-ETA-15-02](#)**; appendix "F") together with a short cover letter.

**Abstract:** You must submit an abstract summarizing the proposed project, including, but not limited to, the scope of the project and proposed outcomes. The proposed project must include the following (also see Appendix F):

- I. Lead Applicant Name:
- II. Lead Applicant City/State:
- III. Primary Partnership Entities:
  - a. Legal Name and Type of Private Sector Entity (see Section III *Eligibility Information*)
  - b. Legal Name and Type of Public Sector Entity (see Section III *Eligibility Information*)
- IV. Additional Key Partner(s):
- V. Areas Served by Grant (by city, county, and state):
- VI. Total Funding Level Requested:
- VII. Project Name:
- VIII. Summary of Program Activities:

IX. Numbers of Individuals to be Served:

X. Populations to be Served:

XI. Targeted H-1B Industry(s)/Occupations:

XII. Contact Information for each partner: Provide for each the name of the partner, the contact person's name, and his/her position title, business phone, and business email.

The abstract is limited to two pages (double-spaced, single-sided, 12-point text font, one-inch margins on 8.5x11 paper).

### **Submissions**

Submissions for the state Taskforce Support letter must be sent to the following address and must arrive no later than March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015:

Labor and Workforce Development Agency  
Attn: Felicia Mollé  
800 Capitol Mall, Suite 5000  
MIC 55  
Sacramento, CA 95814

For further information, please contact Felicia Mollé by phone 916-653-9900 or email [Felicia.Molle@labor.ca.gov](mailto:Felicia.Molle@labor.ca.gov).

/S/ JOSÉ LUIS MÁRQUEZ, Chief  
Central Office Workforce Services Division