

**California Clean Energy Workforce Training Program SFP PY 2009-10  
Questions and Answers**

**September 1, 2009**

**Allowable Activities**

**1. We understand that AB 118 funds (80%) can only be used for delivery of training and the WIA funds (20%) could be spent on equipment/material to support the training effort. A WIB partner stated today that WIA funds could only be used for "new worker training" not incumbent training or material/equipment. Please clarify that the WIA funds can be used for incumbent worker training and to purchase equipment or materials.**

First of all through this initiative, under Category 3, you may serve incumbent workers with the WIA 15 Percent funds. You are correct that AB 118 funds cannot be used to purchase equipment/material, but the WIA 15 Percent funds can be used for this purpose. However, we do not want to have the sole use of the WIA funds for equipment purchases. Additionally any equipment with a unit cost of \$5,000 or more and a useful life of more than one year will need prior approval. We also state in the SFP that because of the short-term nature of these projects, applicants are encouraged to lease or rent high cost equipment.

**Applicant Eligibility**

**1. Can a Community College District apply under Category 1 and a local Community College in the same District apply under Category 2?**

Yes, the District may apply for one category and the local Community College may apply under a different category. However, they may not submit two different applications under the same category (for example they both may not submit an application under Category 1 even if one will be for Category 1a and the other for Category 1b). Under that circumstance the District and local Community College would need to determine which one of them would be the lead applicant for submission.

**Certificate Training**

**1. In Category 1a: Green Building Retraining Partnerships, there's a table listing Certificates and 'Sample Industry-Identified Certification Organization.' Considering the short term of this grant, and the required partnerships of community colleges, can our community college issue certificates to participants as an accepted form of certification for this grant? We plan to have the curriculum approved both by the appropriate academic groups within the college and the Green Business Council we have convened.**

An industry-identified certificate must be awarded in recognition of an individual's attainment of measurable technical or occupational skills necessary to gain employment or advance within an occupation. These technical or occupational

skills are based on standards developed or endorsed by employers and are recognized by the industry as meeting the most current knowledge, skills and abilities for their workforce. The intent of this SFP is not to develop new curriculum for training that already exists. Partnerships should use existing industry-recognized certificated programs rather than creating/duplicating similar certificate programs.

**2. Will students who take a green certificate program through the community colleges still be required to take additional training through the industry identified certification organization before being allowed to take the test to receive the actual industry certificate? For example, Build it Green requires that you take its' two day training before being allowed to take the test to become a Certified Green Building Professional. If this is the case is the purpose of the community college certificate just to get people up to speed to take the industry-identified certification organization's training and testing?**

If the "green certificate program" is not industry recognized then it does not fit our requirements. If the requirement for getting certified for any program is to take a two-day course than you are going to have to take the two day course. The community college course could provide the students with the background education to succeed in the two-day program and test.

**3. Do community colleges who decide to offer a training program for Home Energy Raters become a certified HERS Training provider through the CEC? Will the Community Colleges then be able to administer the test to become a certified HERS rater or will graduates of the program still have to go through an agency like CHEERS or CALCERTS and participate in their training and testing programs? My understanding is that for agencies like CHEERS or CALCERTS, the class is mandatory to take the exam.**

To become a certified HERS rater, one has to be associated with a HERS Provider. The Provider has to be certified by the Energy Commission and has to administer training programs for their raters. The HERS Providers have signed agreements with their raters that cover the Provider/rater responsibilities. Providers are responsible for the quality of the rater's work and are required to report to the Energy Commission on their quality assurance checks as well as other items. There is nothing that precludes a Community College from becoming a provider however it is important to understand what all is involved. The Community College may want to contact one of the current providers for an inside look at the responsibilities.

**4. Is Environmental Literacy a recognized "module" under Category 1a, Green Building, in the definition of industry identified certificates?**

No, Environmental Literacy training will not be accepted as one of the required industry-identified certificates under Category 1a-Green Building. However, it may be offered as part of your compilation of services if needed by the individuals. Environmental Literacy training is one of the required trainings that must be offered under Category 2a-Green Building Pre-apprentice training.

## **Performance Goals**

### **1. Must all performance measures be achieved within the 18-month contract term? Specifically, the 6-month job retention measure?**

As much as possible, you need to achieve the performance goals within the 18-month period. The 6-month retention measure begins after the participant exits the program and this may extend beyond the term of the contract.

### **2. The Performance Goals Matrix has symbols rather than numbers in column C. How can we find out the Performance Goals?**

The State's WIA Performance Goals for the CEWTP SFP are listed on page 25 of the [SFP](#). Enter the total participants in Column B of the Performance Goals Matrix (SFP Form 2); Column C will automatically calculate your project performance goals. You can then compare the State Goals as listed on page 25 of the SFP.

## **Proposal Criteria**

### **1. Must all enrolled participants be WIA eligible?**

Yes, you must follow the WIA eligibility guidelines as indicated in WIA Directive [WIAD02-14](#), 15 Percent Project Requirements. Participants must meet the following three criteria: right to work in the United States, Selective Service registration compliance, and be 18 years of age or older. Individuals must also meet the criteria specified in the SFP under each category.

### **2. Per the significant dates section, does the 18-month program clock start October 1, 2009, or will grantees have a ramp up or implementation phase?**

It is estimated that project start up dates will be October 1, 2009, and run for 18 months. Project "ramp up" or implementation must be included in the 18-month term.

### **3. Will participants under the program funded by this SGA be subject to WIA income eligibility?**

No, under WIA Directive [WIAD02-14](#), 15 Percent Project Requirements, income eligibility is not required for adults.

### **4. Must partners outlined in the grant proposal be procured after the grant is awarded?**

For the "required" partners under this proposal, the grantee does not need to go through a procurement process. However, for other subrecipients, the grantee will need to follow their local procurement procedures.

### **5. Can a 4-year university college extension program be included as a training partner?**

Yes, they can be included as a partner.

**6. If specific Green Employers have identified occupational titles within their companies in Marketing, Sales, Financing, Customer Service, can these occupations and wage ranges be projected in Narrative Section III, Part 5?**

The chart is intended to demonstrate those occupations that individuals will be trained and placed in. The intent of this SFP is to place individuals in energy efficiency, water efficiency, renewable energy (distributed generation and utility-scale), and alternative and renewable transportation technologies. If the occupations you listed above encompass the training requirements in the targeted technologies of the SFP, then they may be listed in the chart.

**Target Population**

**1. I would like to include high school construction students as possible trainees under Category 1a? Is this allowed?**

The focus of Category 1a—Green Building Retraining Partnerships is to target adults 18 years of age or older who are unemployed or underemployed construction workers and retool them for employment in the green building sectors. It would be more suitable to serve high school students under Category 2—Green Building or Clean Energy Pre-Apprenticeship Training Partnerships where the focus is on training new workforce entrants as well as unemployed or underemployed individuals.