

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

The purpose of this Information Notice is to alert the Workforce Community regarding three grant application opportunities which have been newly added to the Department of Labor's (DOL) Grant Application Award Database (www.dol.gov/dol/grants/funding-ops.htm).

- **Training to Work 2 – Adult Reentry** -- This is an ex-offender program for which non-profit community- and faith-based organizations may apply. Local Workforce Investment Boards may want to alert and work with eligible applicants in their areas to bring Training to Work 2 – Adult Reentry into their service areas and to integrate these programs with the local employment and training delivery system. Applications for second—round funding are **due by April 18, 2014**. The number of this funding opportunity is SGA-DFA-PY-13-03. It may be reviewed at www.dol.gov/dol/grants/funding-ops.htm.
- **YouthBuild** – This is an alternative education program that combines academic education and occupational skills training leading to the completion of a high school diploma or GED and appropriate occupational certificates to 16 to 24 year-olds at risk of falling out of the labor force. YouthBuild participants must also receive leadership development training and must be provided access to community service activities to ensure that they maintain a connection to their communities through volunteerism.

DOL has expanded YouthBuild beyond its initial focus, construction skills training, to now include skills training in high-demand occupations such as health care and information technology. However, because construction skills training is central to the overall philosophy of YouthBuild and has been found to provide a visible transformational experience for young people who have rarely had opportunities to see tangible and positive results from their efforts, all grantees must continue to offer construction skills training as one of the training options.

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

Moreover, new applicants must demonstrate success with core construction skills training and are not eligible to offer other vocational training as first-time YouthBuild grantees.

The target population for YouthBuild is high school dropouts who may be youth aging out of foster care, youth with disabilities, adjudicated youth, or other at-risk populations.

Eligible YouthBuild providers include community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, local school boards, community action agencies, Indian tribes and other agencies primarily serving Indians, community development corporations, local and State housing development agencies and local and State youth services/conservation corps. However, other entities may apply if they provide education or employment training under a federal program other than YouthBuild. This appears to permit WIA entities which are not traditional YouthBuild grantees to apply.

Approximately one-third of 2014 YouthBuild funding will be awarded to new grantees. The award maximum is \$1.1 million for up to 40 months.

Applications for second-round YouthBuild funding are **due by April 22, 2014**. The number of this funding opportunity is SGA-DFA-PY-13-04. It may be reviewed at www.dol.gov/dol/grants/funding-ops.htm.

- **Ready to Work Partnerships** -- This solicitation will fund local partnerships which will prepare and place primarily (85%) long-term unemployed workers into middle- and high-skilled jobs of the kinds for which employers have submitted H1-B foreign labor petitions. Awards will be between \$3 and \$10 million for up to 48 months.

Projects must provide strong up-front assessment that guide customized services on any of the following tracks:

- Intensive coaching and other short-term, specialized services culminating in direct job placements.
- Short-term training leading to employment.
- Accelerated skills training along a career pathway that leads to an industry-recognized credential, and employment.

Partnerships must include a workforce investment system entity, a training provider(s) (e.g., community colleges, community-based, faith-based organizations) and businesses/ business-related groups. At least three employers or a regional industry association with at least three employers representing the industry(ies)/occupations(s) and service areas targeted through the project must be actively involved.

Applications may be submitted by one of the required partners. It must have “expertise and credibility with employers and workers in the H-1B industry(ies) and/or occupations targeted through the project, as well as the capacity to manage a multi-partner and complex initiative”.

Applications are **due by June 1, 2014**. The number of this funding opportunity is SGA-DFA-PY-13-07. It may be reviewed at www.dol.gov/dol/grants/funding-ops.htm.

Please contact your [Regional Advisor](#) if you have a question about this Information Notice.

/S/ JOSÉ LUIS MÁRQUEZ, Chief
Workforce Services Division