

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: WORKFORCE ACCELERATOR FUND—REQUEST FOR
APPLICATIONS

The purpose of this Information Notice is to announce the availability of \$2.5 million for grants to design, develop, and implement projects that accelerate employment and re-employment strategies for California job seekers. The California Workforce Investment Board (State Board) and the Employment Development Department (EDD) will fund projects that bridge education and workforce gaps for targeted populations, advance the goals of California's Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2013-2017, and build workforce system infrastructure and capacity through:

- **Collaboration** among partners in the development of service delivery strategies and alignment of resources to better connect disadvantaged and disconnected job seekers to employment.
- **Innovation** that creates new or adapts existing approaches or accelerates application of promising practices in workforce development and skill attainment.
- **System change** that uses these sub-grants to incentivize adoption of proven strategies and innovations that are sustained beyond the grant period.

The State Board and EDD will invest Workforce Investment Act funds, through the Workforce Accelerator Fund, for projects that accelerate skill development, employment, and reemployment for one or more of the following target populations: long-term unemployed, returning veterans, individuals with disabilities, low-income workers, disconnected youth, and ex-offenders.

Project Goals:

- Improve labor market and skills outcomes for the target groups through the development of strategies that fill gaps, accelerate processes, or customize services to ensure greater access to workforce services and employment opportunities.
- Create new modes for service delivery and funding alignment that can be replicated across the State tailored to regional needs.
- Leverage State investment with commitments from industry, labor, public, and community partners.

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

Eligible applicants include Local Workforce Investment Boards, labor organizations, K-12 education entities, community colleges and adult schools, community-based organizations, business-related non-profit organizations, and workforce intermediaries.

Applications are due June 2, 2014 by 3 p.m.

For more information on this funding opportunity and its requirements, please refer to the Request for Application Notice—[Workforce Accelerator Fund](#).

/S/ JOSÉ LUIS MÁRQUEZ, Chief
Workforce Services Division