



## EDD AWARDED DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE ROUND SEVEN

On September 14, 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced awards to six states of \$14.9 million in grants to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities through Round Seven of the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI). California was one of those six states, and the Employment Development Department (EDD) is the grant recipient for this \$2.5 million dollar grant.

The DEI Round Seven states will use these funds to:

- Improve employment outcomes and increase the number of individuals with disabilities who earn credentials.
- Provide more and diversified job-driven training opportunities.
- Facilitate academic and employment transition among youth.
- Incorporate flexible approaches to designing and providing training and supportive services, including customized employment strategies to help job seekers with significant disabilities.
- Build effective community partnerships and collaborations across multiple service delivery systems and blending and braiding of resources.
- Promote more active engagement with the business sector.

To assist California in achieving outcomes at the local level, the EDD awarded DEI Round Seven funding to the following Local Workforce Development Areas through a competitive process:

- North Central Counties Consortium (NCCC)
- San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP)

In addition to working with NCCC and SDWP, the EDD will promote the goals of the DEI with other Local Workforce Development Areas throughout California.

If you have any questions regarding the DEI, please email [LaJuana.Thompson@edd.ca.gov](mailto:LaJuana.Thompson@edd.ca.gov).

For more information, please review the [DOL DEI News Release](#).

/S/ JOSÉ LUIS MÁRQUEZ, Chief  
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