

TO: Executive Committee

DATE: 08/03/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Grant Opportunity – Department of Labor – Pathways Out of Poverty

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Approval for the Department of Workforce Investment to gather regional support for the application process of the Department of Labor Pathways Out of Poverty grant.

DISCUSSION: On July 16, 2009, the Quality Employment and Development Ad Hoc Committee (QUED) met. The committee discussed a Department of Labor (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) grant solicitation entitled Pathways Out of Poverty. The individual grant award ranges from \$2-4 million dollars, and requires participation of 1-3 counties. The committee recommended presenting the solicitation to the Executive Committee for approval to gather regional support for the application process.

**ATTACHMENT(S):
Grant Summary**

Solicitation for Grant Application Summary

Grant Name: Pathways Out of Poverty

Funding Source: Department of Labor/American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Deadline: September 29, 2009

Eligible Applicants: Community Colleges/Workforce Investment Boards

Webinar: N/A

Partnership Requirements: Nonprofit Organizations, Public Workforce Investment System, Education and Training Community, Public and Private Employers and Industry-Related Organizations, Labor Organizations.

Communities/Area to be served: 1-3 Counties

Total Funds Available: \$150 million

Number of Grants to be Issued: Varies

Amount of Individual Grants: \$2-4 million

Cost Sharing (Leverage): Cost sharing or matching funds are not required...leveraged resources are strongly encouraged and may affect applicant score.

Purpose of Grant: Provide training and placement services to prepare individuals seeking pathways out of poverty for "green careers".

Participant Target: Unemployed individuals, high school dropouts, individuals with a criminal record, disadvantaged individuals within areas of high poverty.

Industry Target: Energy efficient building, construction, and retrofit industry; renewable electric power industry; energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry; biofuels industry; deconstruction and materials use industries; energy efficiency assessment industry serving residential, commercial or industrial sectors; manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

Potential Occupations by Target Industry: New and emerging occupations in the new green technology field divided into 3 categories. (1) Existing occupations expected to experience primarily an increase in employment demand; (2) Existing occupations with significant change to the work and worker requirements; and (3) New and emerging green occupations.

Allowable Activities:

- Classroom occupational training
- On-the-job training activities, including activities related to transitional jobs programs, that lead to permanent employment
- The development and implementation of registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs
- Internship programs
- Customized training
- Basic skills training
- Initial assessment
- Job search and placement
- Updating curriculum

Support Services: Yes

Describe Successful Training: Prepare participants for employment within the industries described above, and (1) Include sound recruitment and referral strategies for targeted populations; (2) Integrate basic skills and work-readiness training with occupational skills training, as necessary; (3) Combine supportive services with training services to help participants overcome barriers to employment, as necessary; and (4) Provide training services at times and locations that are easily accessible to targeted populations.

Length of Grant: 24 months