YouthBuild Grants

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor

ACTION: Notice: Amendment to SGA/DFA PY 12-02

SUMMARY: The Employment and Training Administration announced on January 17, 2013 the availability of funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) for YouthBuild Grants to be awarded through a competitive process. Please note that this Amendment only applies to applicants that have previously received funding from the Department of Labor (DOL) to operate a YouthBuild program. If the organization has never received funding from DOL to operate a YouthBuild program, applicants should respond to Section V.C. Required Criteria for New Applicants, which remains unchanged.

This amendment to the SGA revises Section V.B.1.d, replacing the current section with a narrative on retention in education and employment which must be provided by all previously-funded applicants.

The document is hereby amended as follows.

1. Required Evaluation Criteria for Previously-Funded Applicants

We are amending this section to revise the sub-criterion for Retention in Education or Employment and replace it with a narrative that all previously-funded applicants are required to submit. All other criteria in Section V.B.1 remain unchanged. Note that all other sub-criteria within Section V.B.1 (sub-sections a, b, c, e, and f) will still be scored based on past performance data from the YouthBuild MIS and the DOL financial reporting system; as specified in the SGA, grantees do not need to submit reports for these sub-criteria. However, the new Section V.B.1.d does require a narrative response in the application, as specified below.

Section V.B.1.d, the following text is replaced with the new text:

Old Text - d. Retention in Education or Employment (Maximum 7 points):

- Applicants with retention rates of 75.00% or higher will receive 7 points for this subsection.
- Applicants with retention rates of 65.00% – 74.99% will receive 6 points for this subsection.
- Applicants with retention rates of 55.00% - 64.99% will receive 5 points for this subsection.
- Applicants with retention rates of 45.00% - 54.99% will receive 4 points for this subsection.
- Applicants with retention rates of 35.00% - 44.99% will receive 3 points for this subsection.
- Applicants with retention rates of 30.00% – 34.99% will receive 2 points for this subsection.
- Applicants with retention rates of 29.99% or below will receive 0 points for this subsection.
New Text – Retention in Education or Employment, Narrative Response (Maximum 7 points):

The applicant must fully describe and document in a narrative its performance related to participant retention in education or employment under a DOL-funded YouthBuild program, a non-DOL-funded YouthBuild program or another youth workforce development and construction training program that is comparable to YouthBuild in its complexity and duration in the provision of education and skills training for at-risk youth.

Applicants must describe a DOL-funded YouthBuild grant except in the case where they have not completed such a grant. If an applicant has not completed a DOL-funded YouthBuild grant, it may choose to include a program or project that was funded by a Federal agency other than DOL, state or local agencies, one or more foundations, or funded from individual donations and contributions. All applicants may reference only one project and must provide the project grant number. Applicants that use a grant not funded by DOL must include the name, title, organization, email address and telephone number of an individual from the previous grantor entity or agency who has oversight for the program referenced above and can verify the information stated by the applicant; if this contact information is not provided, the application will receive 0 points for this sub-section. ETA reserves the right to contact the identified individual to confirm the retention information provided by the applicant.

Specifically, the applicant must describe its retention strategy under the project, identify the retention goal(s) required by the grantor(s)/funder(s), and specify the actual outcomes obtained with regard to those goal(s). Scoring under this criterion will be based on the extent to which applicants provide evidence of the following factors:

- The applicant specifies a DOL-funded YouthBuild program or an appropriate non-DOL-funded program comparable to YouthBuild;
- The applicant describes a comprehensive retention strategy that was designed to effectively ensure that participants are retained in education or employment after exiting the training program; and
- The applicant’s identification of the goal(s) and outcomes obtained for retention demonstrates its full success in achieving those goals.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Kia Mason, Grants Management Specialist, Division of Federal Assistance at (202) 693-2606 or Mason.Kia@dol.gov.

Signed March 1, 2013 in Washington, D.C. by:

Steven A. Rietzke
Grant Officer, Employment & Training Administration