Upcoming ETA Funding Opportunities

Upcoming ETA Competitive Funding Opportunities

Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants (TAACCCT)
The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) anticipates that it will award up to $500 million in grants through this funding opportunity. The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grants program (TAACCCT) funds eligible institutions of higher education to offer, develop or improve training and education programs to serve workers who are eligible for training under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for workers program. Eligible institutions may be located all the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico or the U.S. territories. The TAACCCT program provides community colleges and other eligible institutions of higher education with funds to expand and improve their ability to deliver education and career training programs that can be completed in two years or less, are suited for workers who are eligible for training under the TAA for workers program, and prepare program participants for employment in high-wage, high-skill occupations. As a result of this Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA), the Department helps ensure that our nation’s institutions of higher education are able to help workers eligible for training under the TAA for workers program and other adults succeed in acquiring the skills, degrees, and credentials needed for high-wage, high-skill employment while also meeting the needs of employers for skilled workers. In accordance with requirements of the TAACCCT, the Department intends to award at least 0.5 percent of the total amount of available funds to eligible institutions in each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, where the TAA for workers program operates. The complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

Workforce Innovation Fund Grants

The Innovation Fund supports innovative approaches to the design and delivery of employment and training services that generate long-term improvements in the performance of the public workforce system in terms of job-seeker and employer outcomes and cost-effectiveness. The first solicitation has closed. The second solicitation, to be announced in spring, 2012 makes up to $20 million in additional funds available for Pay for Success pilots. These pilots represent an innovative approach to funding public social service programs by leveraging up-front capital from private or philanthropic investors. Under this model the government pays for services only after clearly defined outcomes are achieved. This allows effective and evidence-based solutions to be identified and implemented while maximizing taxpayer dollars by paying only for demonstrated results.
YouthBuild Grants
Based on the availability of FY 2012 funding, the Department of Labor will make awards for the YouthBuild program. The YouthBuild program is a community development program that serves youth ages 16-24. 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. The YouthBuild program uses a dual model combining academic education and occupational skills training leading to the completion of a high school diploma or GED. Participants receive an opportunity to gain industry recognized certifications in construction trades while gaining hands on experience in the construction industry. This grant program provides funding, resources, and technical assistance to public or private non-profit organizations. To learn more about YouthBuild, visit www.doleta.gov/youth_services/YouthBuild.cfm or the complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

Serving Juvenile Ex-Offenders through Training and Service-Learning
The Department of Labor will make grant awards totaling about $30 million as authorized by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) to serve juvenile offenders ages 18 through 21 who have been involved in the juvenile justice system from the age of 15 or above and have never been convicted of a crime as an adult under Federal or State law. This grant program provides training, education, subsidized work experience and the rebuilding of community trust. Training provided is expected to lead to the acquisition of credentials in demand industries in the grantee’s local area. Service-learning projects conducted which are part of this program are defined as projects integrating meaningful community service with instruction and reflection that enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and encourage lifelong civic engagement. For more information about Reintegration of Ex-Offenders programs visit http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/Discretionary.cfm and the complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

Serving Juvenile Ex-Offenders in High-Poverty, High-Crime Areas
The Department of Labor will make grant awards totaling about $20 million as authorized by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) for four grants of $5 million each to serve juvenile offenders, ages 16 through 21, in high-poverty, high-crime communities. The purpose of these grants is to improve the long-term labor market prospects participants. These grants will include a combination of workforce development, education and training, case management, mentoring, restorative justice, and community-wide violence reduction components. These grants will be awarded through a competitive process open to any non-profit organization with IRS 501(c)(3) status with the capacity to implement multi-site, multi-state projects. For more information about Reintegration of Ex-Offenders programs visit http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/Discretionary.cfm or the complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.
Serving Adult and Youth Ex-Offenders through Strategies Targeted to Characteristics Common to Female Ex-Offenders

The Department of Labor will make grant awards totaling about $12 million as authorized by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) to serve adult or youth female offenders. Applicants may elect to serve either of these populations, but may not serve both. The purpose of these grants is to improve the long-term labor market prospects of female ex-offenders. These grants will utilize gender specific strategies to engage women and assist them in transitioning into their communities, families and into the workplace. Activities will include a combination of workforce development, education and training, intense case management/life coaching and mentoring that address the specific need of each participant. For more information about Reintegration of Ex-Offenders programs visit http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/Discretionary.cfm or the complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

Disability Employment Initiative

Based on the availability of funding, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), in coordination with Department of Labor's (DOL's) Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), will make available a third round of cooperative agreements in late winter to state agencies that administer the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) this spring. These funds will provide an opportunity for states to develop and implement a plan for improving effective and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the workforce. DOL will use this funding to implement the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI), through which the Department intends to make grant awards designed to: 1) improve educational, training, and employment opportunities and outcomes of youth and adults with disabilities who are unemployed, underemployed, and/or receiving Social Security disability benefits; and 2) help these individuals with disabilities find a path into the middle class through exemplary and model service delivery by the public workforce system.

Senior Community Service Employment Program

The Department of Labor plans to issue a SGA for national grantees to provide services for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) in winter 2012. This program, authorized under Title V of the Older Americans Act, provides subsidized, part-time employment and training services to unemployed low-income individuals 55 or older with poor employment prospects. The program fosters individual economic self-sufficiency and promotes useful opportunities for community service activities. Subject to the FY 2012 funding for this program, this bid opportunity, designed for public or non-profit organizations capable of administering a multi-State program, expects to award a total of about $350,000,000 among 10 – 20 successful applicants, including at least one award each to organizations serving Native Americans and Pacific Island/Asian Americans. The complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm or the complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

Workforce Data Quality Initiative Grants

The Department of Labor will make awards under the second round of Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) grants totaling about $12 million. This grant program provides funding, resources, and technical assistance to states building or expanding upon longitudinal data systems. Funding allows states to create the ultimate longitudinal data system through establishing matches with individual-level information from pre-kindergarten to post-secondary and through the workforce system while protecting individual privacy. The WDQI complements the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems program administered by the Department of Education. The SGA is anticipated in late winter 2012. More details on the WDQI can be found at http://doleta.gov/performance/workforcedatagrant09.cfm or the complete solicitation may be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.
Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO)
The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Women’s Bureau and Employment and Training Administration (ETA)’s Office of Apprenticeship, anticipates that it will award up to $1,800,000 in grants through this funding opportunity. The program provides grant funds to eligible community-based organizations that provide preparatory education to help women obtain job readiness skills and industry specific training. Grantees also provide technical assistance to help employers and labor unions recruit, place and retain women in registered apprenticeship programs that lead to non-traditional occupations. Grant funds may be also be used to offset the cost of equipment, tools, child care and transportation services for apprentices. Applicants must demonstrate the establishment of a consortium consisting of a minimum of a registered apprenticeship program (RAP) sponsor, a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) local area, and a Community Based Organization (CBO), which may be faith-based organization (FBO), with demonstrated experience in providing training, placement, and support services to women for non-traditional occupations. Employers/RAP sponsors will be responsible for placing women into their apprenticeship programs. WIA partners will co-enroll participants for the purposes of tracking performance against the common measures and may also provide additional supportive and job search assistance services. This solicitation is expected to be published in the late winter of 2012.

Workforce Investment Act, Section 166 Grants
The Department of Labor will issue a Solicitation for Grants (SGA) -Waiver of Workforce Investment Act Section 166 Designation Process for Program Year 2012. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), will award $47,526,000 to grantees designated to provide employment and training services to Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians under Section 166 of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) for PY 2012 and 2013. Approximately $350,000.00 of these funds will be available for competition. The SGA is anticipated in March 2012. For more information about WIA Section 166 programs visit http://www.doleta.gov/dinap or the complete solicitation can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.