

Worksystems, Inc. - Reboot Northwest

Attachment A: Project Abstract

1. **Lead Applicant Name:** Worksystems, Inc.
2. **Lead Applicant City/State:** Portland, Oregon
3. **Primary Partnership Entities:** Workforce Investment System: Worksystems, Inc., Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County; Consortia of Businesses: Technology Association of Oregon (137 Companies), Oregon Bio (160 Companies); Employers: IBM, Epson, Leatherman; Training Providers: Clackamas Community College, Clark College, Mt. Hood Community College, Oregon Tech, Portland Community College.
4. **Areas Served by Grant:** Oregon Counties: Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington; Oregon Cities: Banks, Barlow, Beaverton, Canby, Cornelius, Damascus, Durham, Estacada, Fairview, Forest Grove, Gaston, Gladstone, Gresham, Happy Valley, Hillsboro, Johnson City, King City, Lake Oswego, Maywood Park, Milwaukie, Molalla, North Plains, Oregon City, Portland, Rivergrove, Sandy, Sherwood, Tigard, Troutdale, Tualatin, West Linn, Wilsonville, Wood Village ; Washington Counties: Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum; Washington Cities: Battle Ground, Camas, Castle Rock, Cathlamet, Kalama, Kelso, Longview, Ridgefield, Vancouver, Washougal, Woodland, Yacolt.
5. **Total Funding Level Requested:** \$8,455,004
6. **Project Name:** Reboot Northwest
7. **Summary of Program Activities and List of Credentials to be Awarded:**

Reboot Northwest is the Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Region's dynamic collaboration that will reboot the careers of **1,000** long-term unemployed (LTUE) job seekers and veterans. Rooted in tested strategies that will deliver results, the partnership is supported by a strong, regional, bi-state coalition in Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington of three Local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), 39 employers, 4 industry associations representing 458 local businesses, and 15 training providers. Along with support from local CBOs, public agencies, and economic development organizations, Reboot Northwest will infuse our local high-growth Manufacturing and Tech industries with locally-trained workers while addressing the key workforce issue that has hampered our states' and nation's economy: long-term unemployment.

Reboot Northwest will adapt an innovative and tested career development model created in our region to take current efforts to scale and meet the needs of local employers. Through purposeful and community-based outreach, we will identify 850 long-term unemployed residents and 150 career-seeking veterans in the bi-state Portland Metro area who have an interest or experience in our fast-growing IT and Manufacturing sectors. Each participant will then be matched with an America's Job Center-based Career Coach, who will serve as a single point of contact for participant support, career planning and resource navigation throughout grant enrollment. Guided by Coaches, participants will undergo a holistic, multi-week assessment process that will result in structured Career and Resource Plans. This assessment process includes strategies that have proved highly successful at engaging barriered job seekers in the pursuit of target-industry employment, including Career Link - a cohort-based, three-week industry boot camp. Reboot preparatory strategies align with best practices for engaging long-term unemployed job-seekers by providing immediate, robust engagement in services through a strengths-based approach.

After developing and finalizing Career and Resource Plans that include customized training pathways, participants will engage in occupational skill trainings that bridge the skill gaps that have prevented them from finding employment in the H-1B industries. Post-secondary training and industry partners have worked with the Collaborative to develop a menu of accelerated training pathways that will fast-track participants through certification and credentialing programs giving them the in-demand skills needed by industry.

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With fresh, relevant credentials in hand, partnering employers will help to train Reboot participants through paid work experiences and on-the-job training, resulting in skilled talent ready for unsubsidized employment. Employers will also be heavily engaged in highlighting career opportunities to participants via Career Link, Reboot NetWork events and other forums.

Reboot Northwest will help our target participants **reboot** their approach, **retool** with updated credentials, **refine** their skills through work-based learning, and become **reemployed** with partner companies.

List of Credentials to be Awarded: MS Degrees, BS Degrees, AAS Degrees, Short-term College Certificates, Industry Recognized Certificates, Professional Licenses

8. **Populations to be Served:** Long-term unemployed (85%) and Veterans (15%).
9. **Targeted H-1B Industry(s)/Occupations:** Advanced Manufacturing: Engineers, Engineering Technicians, Machinists, Machine Tool Operators, Industrial Machinery Mechanics, Inspect, Testers, Sorters, Samplers and Weighers, Managers (Operations, Production, etc.), Supervisors of Production Workers; IT/Software/Technology (Tech): Computer Programmers, Computer Software Engineers, Computer Support Specialists, Network and Computer Systems Administrators.
10. **Required Employer Partners:** Four Industry Consortia Representing 458 Local Target-Industry Businesses: Manufacturing 21, Oregon Bio, Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition, Technology Association of Oregon; 39 Individual Employers: American Precision Industries, Cascade Networks, Cascade Web Services, Catalyst IT Services, CID Bio-Science, Clackamas County DHHHS, Columbia Machine, Connor Manufacturing, ControlTek, Cranston Machinery, Dectron, EID Passport, Enoch Precision Machining, EPSON, ESCO, Fabrication Products, IBM, IKM, Kaiser Permanente, KCR Manufacturing, Leatherman Tool Group, Linear Tech, OCHIN, Orchid Ortho, Oregon Iron Works, Package Containers, PacifiCorp, PCC Structurals, Pendleton Woolen Mills, Pioneer Pump, Product Manufacturing, Inc., Employers Overload, Serena Software, Silicon Forest Electronics, Sunset Manufacturing, Tenn Max, Thompson Metal Fab, Treehouse, Wall to Wall
11. **Additional Key Partners:** Training Providers: Epicodus, ITT Technical Institute, Lower Columbia College, New Horizons Career Center, Oregon State University, PDX Code Guild, Portland Code School, Prosper IT Academy. Community-Based Organizations and Programs: Easter Seals, Experience Works, Partners in Diversity, Portland VA, Partners In Diversity, Native American Youth and Family Center, Goodwill, Urban League; Metro-Area Housing Authorities: Home Forward, Housing Authority of Clackamas County, Housing Authority of Washington County, Vancouver Housing Authority.
12. **Public Contact Information:** John Gardner, Director of Business Services, Worksystems, Inc. (503) 478-7354, jgardner@worksystems.org