



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants Fourth Round (SCC4)

Prospective Applicant Webinar FOA-ETA-23-15

August 31, 2023

Tips for viewing this webcast

- ▶ You should have a hard copy of FOA-ETA-23-15 available when viewing this Webcast
- ▶ When applying for ETA competitive grants, use our Web-Based Toolkit for Prospective Applicants:
[https://www.workforcegps.org/resources/2016/05/27/14/00/Applying for ETA Competitive Grants- A Web-Based Toolkit-
for Prospective Applicants](https://www.workforcegps.org/resources/2016/05/27/14/00/Applying%20for%20ETA%20Competitive%20Grants-%20A%20Web-Based%20Toolkit%20for%20Prospective%20Applicants)



Today's Speakers



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Today's Speakers



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Today's Speakers



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Key SCC4 FOA Areas of Focus

- ✓ Program Purpose, Project Design, and Expected Outcomes
- ✓ Award Information, Eligibility, Partnerships – and Reminders
- ✓ Application Submission Requirements

Program Purpose, Project Design, and Expected Outcomes

Program Purpose

- ▶ The Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants (SCC4) program aims to build the capacity of community colleges to:
 - ▶ Meet the skill development needs of employers
 - ▶ Equitably support students in obtaining good jobs in in-demand industries
- ▶ Successful applicants will:
 - ▶ Enhance sector-based career pathways programs using strategies rooted in evidence and designed to build further evidence on their effectiveness in leading to positive employment outcomes.
 - ▶ Use the diverse strengths of their SCC4 Partnership members to accomplish and sustain systems change.

Project Design

► Core Elements

- Core Element 1: Sector-Based Career Pathways Programs
- Core Element 2: Good Jobs, Equitable Employment Outcomes, and Student Voice
- Core Element 3: Strategy Options (focused on employer engagement, comprehensive student supports, and academic and training offerings)
- Core Element 4: Sustainable Systems Change

► Results-Driven Project Design

► Evaluations

Core Element 1: Sector-Based Career Pathways Programs

- ▶ Emerging or existing sector strategy must support at least one career pathways program.
- ▶ Enhanced career pathways program must include and equitably provide the skills and credentials needed for placement in good jobs.

Given our local context and labor market demand, which sector initiatives or emerging sector priorities in our local area should we prioritize to best support the enhancement of a career pathways approach? And which career pathways program(s), aligned with the identified sector initiative, offer the best opportunity to train people for good jobs that have strong local demand and strong potential to address equity gaps in employment outcomes?

Core Element 2: Good Jobs, Equitable Employment Outcomes, and Student Voice

- ▶ [Good Jobs Principles](#), focusing on pay and skills and career advancement
- ▶ Equity Gap Analysis
- ▶ Student Voice
- ▶ Data Review and Analysis Process

Which occupations pay family-sustaining wages in the local community and lead to career progression? What are the critical equity gaps for underserved populations locally that impact employment in those occupations, as well as the education that supports employment opportunities? Why do those gaps exist? What practices, policies, rules, and processes are needed to increase our capacity to support good jobs and equitable employment for our underserved communities?

Core Element 3: Strategy Options

Group	Choose (at least)	Funding Source
A: Employer Engagement	1 of 6 options	Grant or leveraged
B: Comprehensive Supports	1 of 4 options	Grant or leveraged
C: Academic and Training Offerings	1 of 3 options	Grant or leveraged
	<i>Optional</i> additional enhancements: Choice of 4	Leveraged

Which Strategy Options will enable us to achieve positive employment outcomes in good jobs and close or reduce identified equity gaps for local underserved communities?

Core Element 4: Sustainable Systems Change

- ▶ Changing policies, rules, procedures, and practices to ensure equitable access to good jobs
- ▶ Making structural changes to how a college operates and its culture, rather than focusing on addressing perceived student deficits

How can we ensure that the systems changes we make are institutionalized and sustained over the long term? What does the available evidence say about the strategies that will more likely lead to sustainable systems change that perpetuates solutions?

Results-Driven Project Design

- ▶ Theory of Change
- ▶ Comprehensive Project Work Plan
- ▶ Participant Tracking and Outcomes
 - ▶ Career Pathways Program(s) Participant Estimate and Tracking Plan

The applicant's comprehensive work plan, including progress on annual milestones, forms the basis of the Department's assessment of grantee performance.

Note: Sample formats of the Theory of Change and Project Work Plan are available as attachments on the [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) FOA page, under Related Documents.

Evaluations

- ▶ Required Developmental Evaluation
- ▶ DOL National Impact Evaluation
 - ▶ Feasibility study to determine evaluation design option and grantee projects to include.
 - ▶ Grantees selected for inclusion will receive:
 - Additional funding;
 - Period of performance exception; and
 - Access to employment outcomes data for some or all of their project participants that might not otherwise be available to them.
- ▶ Evaluation Learnings and Peer Learning

Award Information, Eligibility, Partnerships, and Reminders

Award Information

- ▶ Approximately \$65 million will be used to fund approximately 13-17 grants.
- ▶ Applicants may apply for up to \$5.75 million for initial consortia grants and \$1.75 million for initial single institution grants.
- ▶ The minimum for both types of applicants is \$1.5 million.
- ▶ The Department expects to award approximately \$10 million of the \$65 million total award amount as additional funding to grantees selected for the national evaluation.

Eligible Applicants

- ▶ The eligible lead applicant must be a community college that is a public institution of higher education as defined in Section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act, and at which the associate degree is primarily the highest degree awarded, as shown by the college's designation at <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>.
- ▶ The lead applicant must apply as one of the following:
 - ▶ Single institution lead; or
 - ▶ Consortium lead representing a consortium of institutions that will undertake systems change within a labor market area.
 - Consortium members may include community colleges and public and private, non-profit four-year institutions, as defined in Section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act.
- ▶ Leads of both single institution and consortium applicants must form an SCC Partnership.

Eligible Applicants: Past SCC experience

- ▶ Any SCC4 applicant (lead or consortium member) that received grant funding in SCC1-3 for one of the following industries must demonstrate that they are proposing a different industry for their SCC4 application:
 - ▶ advanced manufacturing (includes automation, robotics, and other subsectors)
 - ▶ clean or renewable energy
 - ▶ construction (including shipbuilding/repair and other subsectors)
 - ▶ education
 - ▶ healthcare (includes allied health, emergency services, nursing, other subsectors)
 - ▶ information technology (includes cybersecurity and other subsectors)
 - ▶ public sector
 - ▶ supply chain and logistics (includes transportation, distribution, logistics, distribution-materials management, and other subsectors)
 - ▶ telecommunications or broadband infrastructure

SCC Partnership: Required Partners

- ▶ All Applicants:
 - ▶ One or more **public workforce development system** partners;
 - ▶ For each sector proposed, at least three **employers** that are part of the proposed established sector or commit to being part of an emerging sector effort; and
 - ▶ For each sector proposed, a **sector convenor**;
- ▶ Consortium Applicants only:
 - ▶ At least one other institution, in addition to the consortium lead.

SCC Partnership: Optional Partners that are Strongly Encouraged

- ▶ Worker organization, labor-management partnership, or labor union
 - ▶ DOL [Union Search Tool](#)
 - ▶ Labor-management partnerships
 - ▶ Non-union worker-focused entities
 - ▶ Entities targeting populations of workers and/or students
- ▶ Community-based organization

Applicants will be evaluated on criteria for engagement with this category of partners.

Other Optional Partners

- ▶ State-level or community college district-level entity
- ▶ Tribal organizations
- ▶ Adult education providers
- ▶ Technical colleges
- ▶ State Apprenticeship Agencies
- ▶ Economic development agencies
- ▶ Housing and community development programs
- ▶ Foundations and philanthropic organizations
- ▶ Federally-funded programs, such as those authorized by:
 - ▶ Adult Education and Family Literacy Act
 - ▶ Perkins V
 - ▶ Temporary Assistance to Needy Families programs
 - ▶ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training programs

Individuals Eligible to Participate in SCC4

- ▶ Three broad categories of workers: **new entrants to the workforce, dislocated workers, and employed workers**
- ▶ Limitations:
 - ▶ Dual-enrolled students
 - ▶ Incumbent workers

Reminders

- ▶ Read the entire FOA!
- ▶ Know what will get you points!
- ▶ Read the Frequently Asked Questions!
- ▶ Consider eligibility
 - ▶ Verify eligibility for lead
- ▶ Document commitments from all required partners
- ▶ Review the questions for each Core Element to develop your project design
 - ▶ Consider which partners will support your project design

Application Submission Requirements

Content and Form of Application Submission

Section IV.B

- ▶ SF-424 Application For Federal Assistance
- ▶ Project Budget (SF-424A and Budget Narrative)
- ▶ Project Narrative
- ▶ Attachments to the Project Narrative

SF-424 and Project Budget

Section IV.B.1 and Section IV.B.2

- ▶ SF-424 Application For Federal Assistance
 - ▶ Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
 - ▶ Must register with System for Award Management (SAM)
 - ▶ Project Budget
 - ▶ SF-424A: Budget Information Form
 - ▶ Budget Narrative

Project Narrative

Section IV.B.3.A

- ▶ Guidelines are found in Section IV.B.3.A, Project Narrative
- ▶ The Project Narrative is limited to 25 double-spaced single-sided 8.5 x 11 inch pages with Times New Roman 12-point text font and 1-inch margins. You must number the Project Narrative beginning with page number 1.
- ▶ Evaluated using the evaluation criteria identified in Section V.A

Attachments to the Project Narrative

Section IV.B.4

In addition to the Project Narrative, applicants must submit attachments.

- ▶ Must be clearly labeled as Attachments.
- ▶ Only Attachments listed in Section IV.B.4 of the FOA are excluded from the page limit.
- ▶ No additional materials will be considered.
- ▶ See Section IV.B.4 for information on valid attachment file names.

Application Screening Criteria

Section III.C.1

Application Requirement	Instructions	Complete?
The deadline submission requirements are met	Section IV.C	
Eligibility	Section III.A	
The components of the application are saved in any of the specified formats and are not corrupt. <i>(We will attempt to open the document, but will not take any additional measures in the event of problems with opening.)</i>	Section IV.C.2	
Application federal funds request does not exceed the ceiling amount of \$5,750,000 for consortium applicants and \$1,750,000 for single institutions, nor is it less than	Section II.A	
SAM Registration	Section IV.B.1	
SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance	Section IV.B.1	
SF-424 includes a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)	Section IV.B.1	
SF-424A, Budget Information Form	Section IV.B.2	
Budget Narrative	Section IV.B.2	
Project Narrative	Section IV.B.3	

Evaluation Criteria

Section V.A

Criterion	Points (maximum)
a. Statement of Need Labor Market Area, Sector(s), and Occupational Employer Demand (4 points) Equity Gap Analysis (6 points) (See Section IV.B.3.a. Statement of Need)	10 total
b. Expected Outputs and Outcomes Theory of Change (6 points) Strategy Options (4 points) Career Pathways Program(s) Participant Estimate and Tracking Plan (4 points) Sustainable Systems Change (6 points) Project Work Plan and Annual Milestones (8 points) (See Section IV.B.3.b. Expected Outcomes and Outputs)	28 total
c. Project Design Institutions of Higher Education Selection (4 points) Career Pathways Programs (8 points) Demonstration of Industry Sector and Employer Engagement (6 points) Demonstration of Workforce Development System Engagement (4 points) Demonstration of Worker Organization, Labor-Management Partnership, or Labor Union Engagement and Community-Based Organization Engagement (4 points) Student Voice (2 points) Advancing Good Jobs (8 points) Advancing Equitable Employment Outcomes (8 points)	44 total

Evaluation Criteria

Section V.A

Criterion	Points (maximum)
(See Section IV.B.3.c. Project Design)	
d. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (See Section IV.B.3.d. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity)	8 total
e. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability (See Section IV.B.3.e. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability)	6 total
f. Budget and Budget Justification (See Section IV.B.2. Project Budget and Section IV.B.3.f. Budget and Budget Narrative)	4 total
TOTAL	100

Proposal Submission

Section IV.C

- ▶ We must receive your application by November 14, 2023.
- ▶ You must submit your application electronically on <https://www.grants.gov> **no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date.**
- ▶ No applications submitted in hardcopy by mail or hand delivery (including overnight delivery) will be accepted for this funding opportunity.
- ▶ Reference **FOA-ETA-23-15.**

Agency Contact and Grants.gov Help Desk

Section IV.C and Section V

▶ **Application Submission Difficulties in Grants.gov** - Contact one of the following:

Call: 1-800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035 to speak to a Customer Support Representative, or

Email: support@grants.gov

▶ The Grants.gov Contact Center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week but closed on federal holidays.

▶ **FOA Technical Questions** – Contact Khanh Tran, Grants Management Specialist, Office of Grants Management, at FOA-ETA-23-15@dol.gov.

Reference: FOA-ETA-23-15



For More Information

- ▶ FAQs are at
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants/apply/find-opportunities>
 - ▶ *Check back frequently for new ones*
- ▶ Questions: Khanh Tran
 - ▶ Grants Management Specialist, OGM
 - ▶ U.S. Department of Labor
 - ▶ FOA-ETA-23-15@dol.gov



Thank You!

