

**Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration**



Upcoming ETA Funding Competitive Opportunities

H-1B Ready to Work Partnership Grants: \$150 million Announced: February 19, 2014

This grant program is designed to provide long-term unemployed workers with individualized counseling, training and supportive and specialized services leading to rapid employment in occupations and industries for which employers use H-1B visas to hire foreign workers. A small percentage of other unemployed and/or incumbent workers may also be served through this program. These grants are financed by a user fee paid by employers to bring foreign workers into the United States under the H-1B nonimmigrant visa program. This program was authorized under Section 414 (c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), as amended (29 USC 2916a). Grant awards will be made only to the extent that funds are available.

Grants will be awarded to the lead applicant of a public and private partnership of entities that includes: the workforce investment system; training providers, such as community colleges and community-based and faith-based organizations; and, business and business-related groups, trade associations, nonprofit business or industry, organizations functioning as workforce intermediaries for the expressed purpose of serving the needs of businesses, individual businesses, or consortia of businesses. As a pre-condition to be considered for Ready to Work funding, there must be at least three employers or a regional industry association consisting of at least three employers who are actively engaged in the project. Additional partners that reflect the character and resources of the local or regional economy and the community are strongly encouraged. Finally, the department is committed to producing strong evidence on the effectiveness of the grantee programs and full participation in any national evaluation initiated by DOL is a condition of all grants awarded.

The complete solicitation may be found at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/pdf/SGA_DFA_PY_13_07.pdf

The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement: June 19, 2014

Workforce Innovation Fund Grants Announced: May 14, 2014

The Workforce Innovation Fund will award approximately \$45 million in grants to support 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 complete solicitation may be found at <http://www.doleta.gov/grants/pdf/SGA-DFA-PY-13-06.pdf>

The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement: June 18, 2014

**Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants (TAACCCT)
Announced: April 16, 2014**

Approximately \$450 million is available for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grants program (TAACCCT), which 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 in 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.

The complete solicitation may be found at <http://www.doleta.gov/grants/pdf/SGA-DFA-PY-13-10.pdf>

The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement: July 7, 2014

**Disability Employment Initiative: \$16 million
Announced: May 27, 2014**

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. The Department will use this funding to continue the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI), through which the Department intends to make grant awards to state workforce agencies 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 find a path into the middle class through exemplary and model service delivery by the public workforce system.

The complete solicitation may be found at <http://www.doleta.gov/grants/pdf/SGA-DFA-PY-13-11.pdf>

The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement: July 8, 2014

**National Guard Youth ChalleNGe and Job ChalleNGe Demonstration: \$9 million
Anticipated Solicitation Announcement: Summer 2014**

The purpose of this program is to improve the long-term labor market prospects of youth who have had prior involvement in the juvenile justice system, and have successfully completed the 22-week Residential Phase of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program. The Job ChalleNGe Demonstration will build on the Youth ChalleNGe Program's eight core components – academic excellence, life coping skills, job skills, health and hygiene, responsible citizenship, community service, leadership/followership, and physical fitness – by emphasizing programming focused on improving program participants' employment outcomes. The Job ChalleNGe Demonstration will supplement the Youth ChalleNGe model's Job Skills component that prepares participants for long-term, gainful employment. The Job ChalleNGe Demonstration is intended to enhance these activities by providing participants with a robust vocational experience over the ensuing 150 days that will place them on a pathway towards credential attainment and/or employment.

American Apprenticeship: Fall 2014

The Department of Labor is making \$100 million in existing H-1B funds available for **American Apprenticeship Grants** to reward partnerships that help more workers participate in apprenticeships. This competition will help more Americans access this proven path to employment and the middle class: 87 percent of apprentices are employed after completing their programs and the average starting wage for apprenticeship graduates is over \$50,000.

The new American Apprenticeship Grants competition – which will be launched in the fall – will focus on partnerships between employers, labor organizations, training providers, community colleges, local and state governments, the workforce system, non-profits and faith-based organizations that:

- Launch apprenticeship models in new, high-growth fields: Many fast-growing occupations and industries with open positions, such as in information technology, high-tech services, healthcare, and advanced manufacturing, have an opportunity to adopt and adapt apprenticeship programs, to meet their skilled workforce needs.
- Align apprenticeships to pathways for further learning and career advancement: Apprenticeships that embed industry-recognized skills certifications or reward workplace learning with college credit provide an affordable educational pathway for those who need to earn while they learn, and apprenticeships linked to pre-apprenticeship programs can help more Americans access this training and get on an early pathway to a good career.
- Scale apprenticeship models that work: Across the country, there are pockets of excellence in apprenticeship, but all too often these successful models are unknown in other regions or to other employers. These grants will build from strength and invest in innovations and strategies to scale apprenticeships – including to market the value of apprenticeships, make them more attractive to women and other Americans who have been underrepresented, increase the return on investment for workers and, or build national and regional partnerships to expand apprenticeships.