

Workforce Innovation Fund Solicitation for Grant Applications General Frequently Asked Questions

What is the timeline of the Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) announcement and funding?

The SGA will be announced in Winter 2011 and awards will be made in early summer, 2012.

Who can apply?

Eligible institutions are: (i) State Workforce Agencies; (ii) Local Workforce Investment Boards; (iii) entities that are eligible to apply for WIA Section 166 grants; (iv) consortia of State Workforce Agencies; (v) consortia of Local Workforce Investment Boards; and (vi) consortia of entities eligible to apply for WIA Section 166 grants.

Can my consortium include a mix of organizations that are both State Workforce Agencies and Local Workforce Investment Boards?

No. A Local Workforce Investment Board, acting as the lead applicant for a consortium, may only apply on behalf of a consortium of eligible Local Workforce Investment Boards. Likewise, a State Workforce Agency, acting as the lead applicant for a consortium, may only apply on behalf of a consortium of eligible State Workforce Agencies representing two or more states. Consortia of State Workforce Agencies and Local Workforce Investment Boards may, however, include entities eligible to apply for WIA Section 166 grants as consortia members.

Can I apply for more than one grant as the lead applicant?

No. Applicants may submit no more than one application as the lead applicant. Applicants that do submit more than one application as the lead applicant will be deemed non-responsive and none of their lead applications will be considered for funding. Applicants, however, may participate in an unlimited number of applications as a consortium member.

What project type I should apply for?

If you are proposing new or emerging structural and/or service delivery reform ideas that have been tried in limited circumstances (if at all) but are supported by strong logic models and/or successful outcomes data, you should apply as Project Type A: New and Untested Ideas.

If you are proposing structural and/or service delivery reform ideas that have been implemented and tested previously, where the testing indicates some potential for success and that more rigorous evaluation is needed, you should apply as Project Type B: Promising Ideas.

If you are proposing structural and/or service delivery projects that a) further develop ideas that are already supported by strong evidence and/or b) take ideas supported by strong evidence to a larger scale, you should apply as Project Type C: Adapting Proven Ideas.

What amount of funding is available? Is there a limit?

Up to \$98.5 million in grant funds will be awarded to approximately 20 to 30 applicants. Individual grant amounts will range from \$1 million to \$12 million depending on the project type. The grant amounts for Project Type A must range in size from \$1 – 3 million dollars; Project Type B must range in size from \$3 – 6 million dollars; and Project Type C must range in size from \$6 – \$12 million dollars.

Workforce Innovation Fund Solicitation for Grant Applications General Frequently Asked Questions

How long are the grants?

The period of performance for project type B or C will be up to 40 months for technical grant performance, with an additional 12 months available to complete evaluation activities. The grant performance period for project type A will be up to 36 months.

Is there anywhere I can go for assistance in preparing my application?

ETA encourages new prospective applicants to view the online tutorial, “Grant Applications 101: A Plain English Guide to ETA Competitive Grants,” available through Workforce3One at:

http://www.workforce3one.org/page/grants_toolkit.

In addition, ETA encourages prospective applicants to view the online tools available at http://www.doleta.gov/workforce_innovation. The tools include two online tutorials—*Making the Case for What Works: Using Evidence Based Practices to Support Innovation* and *Fully Articulating Your Vision: Using Logic Models to Support Innovation*. Prospective applicants may also view the *Workforce Innovation Fund* webinar.

UPDATE (January 27, 2012): Information previously presented here has been removed, as it led to a document which is no longer available online. Please utilize the remaining online resources listed above.