Apprenticeship Building America, Round 2 (ABA2) Overview

Overview of Grant Opportunity

- Proposed category to apply under
 - Category 3: Registered Apprenticeship Hubs: Grantees will establish industry or sector-led multi-partner networks capable of serving as multiemployer RAP sponsors and/or intermediary partnerships with the primary focus of supporting industry's needs for creating and expanding RAPs in in-demand sectors and occupations.
 - Local/regional or Statewide-focused Registered Apprenticeship Hubs: Serve as Registered Apprenticeship intermediaries to convene local stakeholders with the ultimate goal of developing and launching RAPs. These organizations serve as intermediaries with RAP expertise working across local communities and/or multiple regions in a multiemployer sponsor and/or technical assistance (TA) capacity.

Eligibility

Workforce Development System Entities – Organizations involved in administering the workforce development system established under WIOA (29 U.S.C. 3151), which are limited to State Workforce Development Boards, Local Workforce Development Boards, and Indian Tribe and Tribal Organizations and Native Hawaiian Organization (as defined in WIOA Section 166(b) (29 USC 3221(b));

Required Grant Activities

Engage industries and support them in the creation of registered apprenticeships and high-quality pre-apprenticeships, promote and conduct outreach to industry partners and stakeholders on the topic of apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships, build partnerships to create sustainable registered apprenticeship and high-quality pre-apprenticeships, engage underrepresented and underserved communities and provide pathways to apprenticeships for them, leverage resources to ensure programs receive the support they need, make data-informed decisions regarding apprenticeships, and assist with aligning policies and systems around apprenticeships all while engaging in the cross-cutting principles of DEIA, job quality, sustainability, research and evidence-based approaches, and innovation.

Funding and staffing requirements

- There are no matched funding requirements for the grant, and no new FTEs or TGF positions will be needed as the Colorado Apprenticeship Hub existing roles will perform the grant activities.
- Period of performance: 48 months

Proposed Plan

- The Colorado Apprenticeship Hub is already doing the required grant activities for ABA2 through the IDEA grant and will be able to immediately engage in activities that will benefit the ABA2 grant.
- The Colorado Apprenticeship Hub will expand existing work by focusing on incorporation of equity-focused community-based organization into the apprenticeship ecosystem. The outcome of the grant will be the creation of new sustainable registered apprenticeship and high-quality pre-apprenticeship programs that lead to high-quality career pathways and incorporate proper supports for apprentices and pre-apprentices, helping ensure more participants successfully complete their programs.
- Employer incentive funding: A portion of the grant may be used for employer incentive funds to be awarded to new employers, joint labor management organizations, or industry associations (or other partners included in a multiemployer partnership) to directly fund new or expand existing RAPs by providing funds to complete one or more of the following activities:
 - 1) Registration of RAPs with the Department of Labor or relevant SAA;
 - 2) Costs related to design and start-up of RAPs;
 - 3) Classroom education or online training for apprentices;
 - 4) Train-the-trainer costs or activities;
 - 5) Training supplies for apprentices (in consultation with the Department);
 - 6) Curricula development.