

Statewide Intermediary Work-Based Learning Grant

Webinar Q&A – May 11, 2023

1. Every public school in the district or does that include private, parochial or charter schools as well?
 - a. **Yes, all schools.**

2. How might SF542, if signed by the Governor, impact the intermediary activities?
 - a. **It will not impact the activities.**

3. On the "State Context" slide - is there a definition for "in-depth WBL opportunity"?
 - a. **This information is from the February 2021 Economic Recovery Task Force Recommendations. The related information is as follows: Provide all high school students with at least one in-depth WBL opportunity before graduation and expand funding to aid school districts in creating and/or increasing quality WBL opportunities. Options, building upon exploratory WBL in elementary and middle schools, should include universal access to Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) programs, Registered Apprenticeships, internships aligned with academics and business/ industry standards, Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses with industry-recognized credentials, and authentic professional projects in the classroom or community.**

4. There seems to be mention of "targeted industries". What does that mean? Is there actually a list of industries that are only valid to count toward performance metrics or requirements? This is the list referred to in the Notice of Funding.
 - a. **In general, high demand industries are what the grant is looking to target. Iowa Code 256.40(2)(4) states that "targeted industries" is defined in section 15.102. Iowa Code 15.102(11) states "targeted industries" means the industries of advanced manufacturing, biosciences, and information technology. However, 256.40 also highlights other learning opportunities such as science, technology, engineering, or mathematics occupations, occupations related to critical infrastructure and commercial and residential construction. 256.40 also underscores internships and apprenticeships in general.**

5. Can there be multiple awards for each region?
 - a. **No, there will be one award per region.**

6. Just to confirm, the guidelines indicate "educational organizations" as potential grant recipients. This would presumably include school districts. But they would be expected to deliver these services to all their neighboring districts within the community college region?
 - a. **Yes.**

7. Can you describe an example of "Employer Skill Development Activities"?
 - a. **Basic work-based learning education, internship basic principles, RA basic principles, how to build relationships with schools, how to structure a high school internship program etc.**
 - b. **Would this be meetings with them or formal group trainings? Could be either.**

8. Is food for students and/or employers a valid expense if it is for an event?
 - a. **No.**

9. Can business apply?
 - a. **Yes.**

10. When is notice given of grant award?
 - a. **Target is June 16, 2023, this is only a target.**

11. Per the Performance Measures, do the apprenticeship programs have to be registered with the Department of Labor (DOL)? Do the Pre-RA programs have to be Quality Pre-RA programs?
 - a. **The programs do not have to be registered with the DOL – see definition: "Registered Apprenticeship": an employer-driven, "learn while you earn" model that combines on-the-job training with job-related instruction in curricula tied to the attainment of industry recognized skills standards and uses the Department of Labor framework. The on-the-job training (OJT) is provided by the employer who hires the apprentice, although some employers also provide the job-related instruction.**

12. What happens if our performance measure is less than the suggested minimum?
 - a. **That will be considered during application scoring.**

13. How has this been communicated out to AEA's and schools?
 - a. **The opportunity has been communicated via Governor's Press Release and social media and various other methods. IWD will work with the Iowa Department of Education to facilitate further communication.**

14. Can fees be charged for events, or sponsorships to support events?
 - a. **Not for events supported by the grant.**

15. If we do other events, can we count those costs towards match requirement?
 - a. **The match is for the project work being submitted so it must support the activities proposed.**

16. Can grant funds be used for small stipends for educators participating in professional development?
 - a. **Regarding the allowance of stipends for teachers to pursue externships, this could be allowed based on 256.40(2) if the externship fulfills any of the purposes identified in this section. Specific documentation for this would be required.**

17. Can you review the 25% matching requirement and expectations?
 - a. **Applicants are required to match the funds received with financial resources equal to at least 25% of the amount of funds received at the time of application submission. The financial resources used to provide the match may be private donations, in-kind contributions, or public funds other than the grant funds received from this grant opportunity. Documentation of the availability of matching funds must be included as an attachment with the grant proposal. Approved documentation for verification of matching funds includes a letter of explanation detailing the dollar amount from a third-party financial institution, a bank statement or letter from a Certified Accountant showing the funds available for the purpose of the grant.**

18. Just to make it absolutely clear, there will be one entity per region awarded in the 15 community college regions. Is this correct?
 - a. **Yes.**

19. What happens if we don't get enough money to cover salary and expenses?
 - a. **It is up to applicants to develop budgets within the grant amount available.**

- 20. Educator Skill Development Activities:** How much level of explanation/detail is required is pursuing this option as a focus of a grant application? Particularly teacher externship.
- a. Follow the directions provided in Appendix A.**
- 21.** Are we required to complete an activity in every single school district in our region?
- a. No, services need to be made available and the intent is to proactively engage every school district in relevant work.**
- 22.** Can labor organizations, such as regional building trades councils, be eligible applicants? It appears to be the case based on the definition of applicant.
- a. Yes.**
- 23.** Can you provide an example of an additional Work-based learning Regional Priority and how this differs from the Funding Priorities?
- a. The funding priorities identified are focused on the training aspect of the work-based learning continuum, other regional priorities could be strategies that fall into the other areas of the continuum (awareness, exploration, preparation) for example based on employer feedback you know that students interns are in need of additional preparation so that is a priority, or in your region health care is the highest demand occupation therefore more awareness and exploration activities will focus in addressing this need.**
- 24.** Can state agencies apply?
- a. No.**