



TRIVIUM CONSULTING: FUNDING OPPORTUNITY BRIEF



Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration AMERICAN APPRENTICESHIP INITIATIVE

Based on: Department of Labor (DOL) Program Solicitation CFDA 17.268

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270372>

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Submission Deadline: April, 30, 2015 (Applications must be received no later than 4 p.m. Eastern Time)

FUNDING and AWARD INFORMATION

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$100,000,000

Award Ceiling: \$5,000,000

Award Floor: \$2,500,000

Award Number: 25

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration, applications must include a partnership of private and public sector entities. The Department seeks a diversity of partners and partnership structures to support innovation and seed diverse approaches. To be eligible for consideration, applications must include at least one entity from: (1) the private sector; i.e. a business, a consortium of businesses, business-related nonprofit organization, or a private organization functioning as a workforce intermediary for the express purpose of serving the needs of businesses; and (2) the public sector; i.e. the workforce investment system; public education or training provider; or DOL-recognized State Apprenticeship Agency. A lead applicant must be a public or non-profit organization. For-profit private business, for-profit consortium of businesses, for-profit business organizations, and for-profit education/training providers cannot be the lead applicant; however, they may apply as part of the public/private partnership.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL, or the department, or we), announces the availability of approximately \$100 million in grant funds, as amended for the American Apprenticeship Initiative. This initiative is intended to provide a catalyst in supporting a uniquely American Apprenticeship system that meets our country's particular economic, industry and workforce needs. American are innovative work-based learning and post-secondary earn-and-learn models that meet national standards for registration with the U.S. Department of Labor. By launching the American Apprenticeship Initiative, the department is taking a critical first step in charting a new path forward for innovation in apprenticeship and raising the visibility of apprenticeship as a post-secondary education and training pathway. Grants under this program must focus on helping more employers and workers participate in American Apprenticeships within industries and occupations for which employers are using H-1B visas to hire foreign workers such as, Information Technology, and/or other high-growth industries including but not limited to Advanced Manufacturing, Business Services, and Healthcare; and the types of high-demand skill sets (e.g., digital and information technology skills) now required across most industries. The American Apprenticeship Initiative is intended to raise the technical skill levels of American workers so they can obtain or upgrade employment.





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PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- **Promoting Apprenticeship to Employers, Workers, and Other Key Stakeholders:** Increasing awareness of the value and benefits of American Apprenticeships for both employers and workers as well as educators through increased education, marketing and outreach
- **Increasing Apprenticeship Opportunities for All Americans:** Developing strategies that increase opportunities for underrepresented (including women and minorities), low-skilled populations, and veterans into skilled occupations and industries while also addressing the barriers, income and support needs, and preparatory training unique to targeted populations; this would include quality pre-apprenticeships⁶ and other strategies that can serve as on-ramps to American Apprenticeship opportunities;
- **Promoting Career Pathways and Aligning Apprenticeships with Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) and Workforce Investment Systems:** Engaging states, regions, and local areas to align, at a minimum, education and training systems and career technical education, community college, and university systems behind apprenticeship as an area for cooperation and co-investment and linking apprenticeship to credit and industry-recognized credentials that allow for further advancement;
- **Sector Focus and Employer Commitments:** (1) demonstrate clear sector strategies and must include significant employer engagement, including a minimum of three distinct employer partners to work with DOL (or federally-recognized State Apprenticeship Agencies) to register new apprenticeship programs and hire apprentices, and (2) display a commitment to transform and adapt alternative work-based learning programs or rigorous education-based internship models into American Apprenticeship programs, and/or (3) significantly expand existing and successful registered programs (e.g., scaling industry models to a national, multi-state, regional, or statewide level through an industry association with multiple employer partners, a national employer with multiple sites and other employers that are part of its supply chain, or state-led initiatives that imbed apprenticeship strategies in support of state and regional labor market needs;
- **Innovative Public Policies and Public-Private Partnership Models:** Implementing new and innovative public polices (e.g., tax credits, apprenticeship utilization requirements for publicly-funded state or local projects, expansion of eligibility for educational benefits or funding, leveraging workforce or other funding streams, or other policies) at the regional, state, and local level or public-private partnerships that increase demand for American Apprenticeship and support long-term sustainability;
- **Planning for a Sustainable Expansion:** Demonstrating thoughtful plans and policies for sustainably expanding the apprenticeship models and documenting the evidence for continued investment;
- **Program Evaluation:** Ensuring full participation (by grantee and sub-grantees) in any evaluation initiated by the department as a condition of all grant awards (see details of program evaluation requirements in Section IV.E Funding Restrictions); and providing a strong plan to report the achievement of the project's goals and milestones and effectively measure its outputs and outcomes.





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CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information please contact Jeannette Flowers at (202) 693-3322 or via email at Flowers.Jeannette@dol.gov and must specifically reference FOA-ETA-15-02, and along with question(s), include a contact name, fax and phone number.

