



**TRIVIUM CONSULTING:
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY BRIEF**



The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

YOUTH CAREERCONNECT PROGRAM

<http://www.doleta.gov/grants/pdf/youthCareerConnect13.pdf> (CFDA #17.274)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

- Full Proposal Deadline: January 27, 2014. Applications must be received no later than 4 p.m. ET.

FUNDS AVAILABLE

Estimated Number of Awards: 25 to 40 grants

Anticipated Funding Amount: \$100 million is expected to be available to fund approximately 25 to 40 grants. DOL intends to fund grants ranging from \$2 million to \$7 million. Grants can be used to fund programs in a single site or to fund multi-site programs. The period of performance is up to 54 months with an anticipated start date of April 1, 2014. This performance period includes all necessary implementation and start-up activities, with a five-month planning and implementation period for grantees starting programs in the fall 2014 school year.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligible Institutions: Grants will be awarded to partnerships of public and private sector entities. The fiscal agent must be a public or non-profit local workforce entity, a local education agency, or a non-profit entity with program model experience.

COST SHARING AND MATCHING

Matching Requirements: Applicants are required to provide a match of 25 percent of the grant award. The match can be met with cash or in-kind contributions. Applicants are encouraged to propose a progressive match that increases with each year of the grant.

Please note: Matching funds must be provided during the grant period of performance. Funds used for projects before the period of performance may not be counted as match. Additionally, other Federal funds may NOT count towards the required match unless the statutes governing those Federal funds explicitly allow them to be used as match.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The program is designed to provide high school students with education and training that combines rigorous academic and technical curricula focused on specific in-demand occupations and industries for which employers are using H-1B visas to hire foreign workers as well as the related activities necessary to support such training to increase participants' employability in H-1B in-demand industries and occupations. Furthermore, given the large number of H-1B visas in STEM industries, pending high quality proposals, DOL expects a large share of the grants to support education and training in STEM industries. The ultimate goals for the program are to ensure that participants gain academic and occupational skills by completing the program and graduating from high school; move into a positive placement following high school that includes unsubsidized employment, post-secondary education, long-





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term occupational skills training, or Registered Apprenticeship; obtain an industry-recognized credential in an H-1B industry or occupation for those industries where credential attainment is feasible by program completion, in addition to a high school diploma; and earn post-secondary credit towards a degree or credit-bearing certificate issued by an institution of higher education.

DOL worked closely with the DoEd to develop this Solicitation in response to the Administration's goal of improving the knowledge, skills, and abilities of high school students so that they will be prepared to succeed in college and in a competitive workforce through President Obama's High School Redesign Initiative. In alignment with this initiative, the program encourages America's school districts, the workforce investment system, and their partners to use existing Federal, State, and local resources to transform the high school experience for America's youth. This effort challenges educators to implement learning models that are rigorous, relevant, and focused on real-world experiences while incorporating personalized learning and career and college exploration.

PROGRAM MODELS

Proposed program models must:

- Use a small learning community approach (*see* Appendix A, "Definition of Terms");
- Integrate academic and career-focused curricula around one or more industry theme(s) (*see* Appendix A, "Definition of Terms");
- Demonstrate strong partnerships with employers;
- Result in a high school diploma and, where feasible and applicable, an industry-recognized credential;
- Ensure all students participate in post-secondary education and training that leads to credit toward a post-secondary degree or credit-bearing post-secondary certificate granted by an institution of higher education;
- Incorporate activities that will develop academic and social skills, competencies, and behaviors demanded by the high-growth H-1B industry(ies) and occupation(s) targeted through the SGA and stated in the applicant's statement of need;
- Offer multiple educational and career pathways (*see* Appendix A, "Definition of Terms") with a demonstrated track record of success in serving eligible participants;
- Blend educational and workplace environments to develop work readiness (*see* Appendix A, "Definition of Terms") and technical skills that will lead to entry into and successful completion of post-secondary education, long-term occupational skills training, or Registered Apprenticeship; and
- Ensure that low-income students, other vulnerable youth, including students with disabilities, and populations underrepresented in H-1B fields, such as females and minorities, benefit from this program and have the supports needed to be successful.

The Department is particularly interested in programs that leverage existing Federal, State, and local resources that are already established with the goal of transforming neighborhoods, schools, the workforce, and the regional economy





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PROGRAM CORE ELEMENTS

All applications must address all of the following core elements in the proposal:

Core Element 1: Integrated Academic and Career-Focused Learning

Core Element 2: Employer Engagement

Core Element 3: Individualized Career and Academic Counseling

Core Element 4: Work-based Learning and Exposure to the World of Work

Core Element 5: Program Sustainability

Core Element 6: Program Performance and Outcomes

CONTACT

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