



**TRIVIUM CONSULTING:
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT BRIEF**



**Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration**

Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program
[Funding Opportunity Announcement \(FOA\)](#) Summary

Original Application Due Date: July 7, 2023

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Program Basics

The purpose of the Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program is to fund public-private partnerships that develop, strengthen, and scale training for job-seekers in industries such as

- advanced manufacturing;
- information technology;
- professional, scientific, and technical services occupations that support renewable energy, transportation, and broadband infrastructure sectors.

Eligible Lead Applicants

Applicants should have an established organizational focus on advanced manufacturing, information technology, and/or professional, scientific, and technical services occupations related to renewable energy, transportation, and/or broadband infrastructure sectors. Seven types of entities are eligible as lead applicants:

1. National or Community-based Nonprofit Organizations.
2. Labor Unions, Labor-Management Organizations, and Worker Organizations.
3. Education/Training Providers (including institutions of higher education)
4. Workforce Development Entities established under WIOA.
5. Economic Development Agencies
6. Native American Tribal Governments
7. State, County, and Local Governments

Award Duration

- 60 Month Period of Performance

Award Amount

- *Range of Award Amounts:*
 - Development Track: \$500,000-\$2,000,000
 - Scaling Track: \$2,000,000-\$5,000,000
- *Estimated Number of Awards to be made:* 15-25.
- *Estimated Available Funds for the program:* \$80,000,000.

Matching Requirements

There are different cost sharing and matching requirements for each track:

- *Development Track*
 - No required cost matching, however applicants on this track are highly encouraged to contribute 15% of the total amount of requested funds as **leveraged funds**.
- *Scaling Track*
 - The Department requires Scaling Track applicants to contribute 15 percent of the total requested funds to support the grant project as **matching funds**. Such funds may be in the form of cash or in-kind contributions and must be 15 percent of the total requested funds to support the grant project.
 - Any resources contributed to the project in addition to cost sharing or matching funds will be considered leveraged resources.
 - To be allowable as part of match, an expenditure must be an allowable charge for Federal grant funds and considered necessary and reasonable to accomplish the project or program objectives.
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Two Tracks

- The program has two tracks which applicants may apply to.
 - 1) Development Track
 - 2) Scaling Track.
1. *Development Track: Developing and Implementing Local/Regional Worker-Centered Sector Strategy Programs.*
 - a. Establish local/regional partnerships that will implement sector-based training programs across one or multiple infrastructure-related sectors.
 - b. Use evidence-based training strategies.
 - c. May propose to implement innovative education, training, and partnership development strategies.
 - d. Target rural and/or smaller communities and historically marginalized, underrepresented, and underserved populations.
 2. *Scaling Track: Scaling Effective Worker-Centered Sector Strategy Programs.*
 - a. Scale an existing training model with demonstrated effectiveness to the statewide or national level, that has been successful in one infrastructure-related sector.
 - b. Invest in established statewide or national partnerships that will support growth in evidence-based worker-centered sector strategies.

Partnership Requirements

Both tracks require public-private partnerships to develop worker-centered sector strategies. The required partners are listed below: note that each track requires a different number of Employer Partners

- **Employer Partners:**
 - Partners committed to providing hiring opportunities for participants trained through the grant.
 - The Department strongly encourages partnerships with Minority Business Enterprises, Minority-Owned Businesses, Woman-Owned Businesses, Veteran-Owned Businesses, businesses owned by people with disabilities, and small businesses.
 - At least two required for *Development Track* applicants.
 - At least four required for *Scaling Track* applicants.
- **Education/Training Provider(s)**
 - One or more public or private nonprofit education and training providers, including institutions of higher education.
- **Workforce Development Entities**
 - Entities involved in administering the public workforce system established under WIOA.
- **Worker Organizations, Labor-Management Organizations, or Labor Unions**
 - Outside of a union, this could include worker associations, coalitions, alliances, guilds, or another similar worker advocacy group that is not considered a formal union.
 - To aid in identifying related unions within the target service area(s), applicants can use the Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards' (OLMS) Union Search Tool: <https://olmsapps.dol.gov/query/getOrgQry.do>
 - Applicants proposing service areas where there may not be such organizations actively operating, such as in some smaller or rural communities, will be required to document this.
- **State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAAs):** Applicants proposing Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) in states with federally recognized SAAs must include the SAA as a required grant partner. (*Required only if applicant is proposing to provide RAP training.*)

Core Principles for Project Design

Both tracks require public-private partnerships to develop workforce training programs which incorporate the following core principles into their grant project design to ensure equitable access to quality jobs:

1. Strategies for ensuring diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility;
2. Career pathways that lead to middle- to high-skilled employment; and
3. Worker-centered sector strategies.

Applicants should engage workers during the initial grant proposal development phase to ensure that worker needs and priorities and job quality are incorporated into the project design.

Selection Criteria

Reviewers will award points to each application based on the following criteria, whose content are detailed in the FOA:

Criterion	Points (maximum)
Statement of Need	10
Expected Outputs and Outcomes	16
Project Design	54
Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity	8
Past Performance – Programmatic Capability	10
Budget and Budget Narrative	2
Priority Consideration: Service Area includes smaller and/or rural communities	2
TOTAL	102

In order to evaluate the quality of each applicant’s explanation, each “Criterion” above will be rated based on the definitions below. In order to receive the maximum points for each rating factor, applicants must provide a response to the requirement that fully describes the proposed program design and demonstrates the quality of approach, rather than simply re-stating a commitment to perform prescribed activities.

Standard Rating	Definition	Standard for Calculating Points
Thoroughly Meets	The application thoroughly responds to the rating factor and fully and convincingly satisfies all of the stated specifications.	Full Points
Partially Meets	The application responds incompletely to the rating factor or the application convincingly satisfies some, but not all, of the stated specifications.	Half Points
Fails to Meet	The application does not respond to the rating factor or the application does respond to the rating factor but does not convincingly satisfy any of the stated specifications.	Zero Points