

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 11-32

Policy Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Investment Board Chairs
Workforce Investment Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Regional Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: George Moriarty, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: May 4, 2011

Subject: **Availability of Funds for H1-B Technical Skills Training Grants**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center operators and other local workforce investment partners of the availability of approximately \$240 million in funds for the H1-B Technical Skills Training Grants program.

Background: On May 3, 2011, the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA) published a Notice of Grant Opportunity and Solicitation in the Federal Register for the H1-B Technical Skills Training Grants program. The program is designed to provide education, training, and job placement assistance to American workers in occupations and industries for which employers are using H-1B visas to hire foreign workers, and the related activities necessary to support such training. H-1B technical skills training grants are financed by a user fee paid by employers to bring foreign workers into the United States under the H-1B nonimmigrant visa program. This technical skills training program was authorized under Section 414 (c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), as amended (29 USC 2916a). Grant awards will be made only to the extent that funds are available.

ETA expects to award approximately 75–100 grants ranging from \$1 million to \$5 million with up to a 48-month period of performance. Two types of grants will be awarded: those that provide On-the-Job Training (OJT) to all participants and

those that use other training strategies. At least \$150 million will be awarded to grantees that provide OJT to all participants. Between the two types of training, ETA expects to fund a minimum of \$45 million to provide training for health care occupations and at least \$60 million to applicants serving long-term unemployed individuals.

Eligible applicants must consist of a partnership among the following:

1. Businesses or business-related non-profit organizations;
2. Education and training providers including community colleges and community based organizations; and
3. Entities involved in administering the workforce investment system established under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and economic development agencies.

Two (2) closing dates have been established for applications: June 2, 2011 and November 17, 2011.

To view the text of the full solicitation that also includes a listing of occupations and industries that utilize H1-B visas, click on the following link:

http://www.doleta.gov/grants/pdf/SGA-DFA-PY-10-13_Final_H-1BSGA.pdf

Inquiries: All inquiries should be directed to Jeannette Flowers, Grants Management Specialist at 202-693-3322 or flowers.jeannette@dol.gov .