



Workforce Issuance

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☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: September 22, 2020

Subject: **H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program Funding Opportunity**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners that the Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has announced the H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program, FOA-ETA-20-12, and approximately \$40 million in grant funds. Funds are authorized under the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), as amended (codified at 29 USC 3224a) for the H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program. The intent of this grant program is to alleviate healthcare workforce shortages by creating sustainable employment and training programs in healthcare occupations (including behavioral and mental healthcare) serving rural populations

Background: The recent COVID-19 crisis has placed an unprecedented strain on our nation's healthcare system. Rural areas have struggled with providing needed healthcare services to their communities. The purpose of the grant program is to:

- (1) increase the number of individuals training in healthcare occupations that directly impact patient care; and

(2) alleviate healthcare workforce shortages by creating sustainable employment and training programs in healthcare occupations (including behavioral and mental healthcare) serving rural populations.

Funding Opportunity Number:	FOA-ETA-20-12
Application Deadline:	November 13, 2020
Estimated Total Funding:	\$40,000,000
Anticipated # of Awards:	15 - 40
Award Ranges:	\$500,000 - \$2,500,000
Period Performance:	48 Months, Starting January 15, 2021
Eligible Applicants:	WIOA State & Local Workforce Development Boards, under Sections 101 and 107 of WIOA (29 U.S.C. 3111 and 3122); Indian/Native American Tribal Government (federally recognized). See FOA for a complete list.

Action

Requested: Please share with managers, staff, and partners as appropriate.

Attachment: FOA-ETA-20-12 / H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program Funding Opportunity