

Workforce Issuance

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To: Chief Elected Officials

MassHire Workforce Board Chairs MassHire Workforce Board Directors MassHire Career Center Directors

MassHire Fiscal Officers

MassHire DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director

MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: November 19, 2020

Subject: RFR: Apprenticeship Innovation Fund

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and

other local workforce development partners of the <u>Apprenticeship Innovation Fund</u> opportunity, supported by Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and

posted to CommBuys on Friday November 13, 2020.

Background: The Apprenticeship Innovation Fund (AIF) is funded by the USDOL State Apprenticeship

Expansion 2020 (SAE2020) grant recently awarded to EOLWD/MassHire DCS, and pays for or defrays the cost of related technical instruction (RTI), or classroom instruction, for the addition of new apprentices to Registered Apprenticeship programs (RAPs) in Massachusetts. All funded programs must be approved by the Division of Apprentice Standards (DAS) prior to contractual award and are intended to grow the total number of apprentices in new industries and in-demand occupations that contribute to the safety, health and quality of life for residents, and increase apprenticeship adoption in regions

with low apprentice participation while also continuing to increase workforce diversity and incentivize new apprenticeship programs in high-growth, high-demand sectors.

Action

Requested: Please share with staff and partners as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately

Inquiries: Bid Solicitation BD-21-1043-1043C-1043L-56360

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- Questions accepted through November 27, 2020
- Responses will be posted by December 21, 2020
- Bid closes December 21, 2020
- Award Notifications will be made on or around January 15, 2021.