



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 25.267

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MassHire DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Diane Hurley, Acting Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: May 24, 2024

Subject: **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY CALL FOR IDEAS: Critical Sector Job Quality Grants
Funding Opportunity**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and local workforce partners that MassHire Department of Career Services is seeking ideas regarding the Critical Sector Job Quality Grants funding opportunity.

Background: With this solicitation, The U.S. Department of Labor seeks to expand job quality in the care, climate resiliency and clean energy transition, and hospitality sectors.

These sectors represent a cross-section of occupations that are critical to our economy's continued growth and vitality (care and climate resiliency), and a sector that provides income and support for the most marginalized populations and which was devastated by the pandemic and continues to struggle to rebound (hospitality). To improve working conditions in these sectors, this grant program will develop evidence-based workforce strategies that provide

An equal opportunity employer/program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TDD/TTY 1-800-439-2370 - Voice 1-800-439-0183

employers a pathway to improve employment in these sectors, with a particular focus on workers in underrepresented populations that have faced social, economic, and other barriers to jobs with higher-quality working conditions. Applicants must propose projects that fit in one of two tiers—smaller planning grants or larger implementation grants—both of which require strong partnerships with industry, labor, and local economic leaders.

Please note, there are two funding tiers for this solicitation:

Tier 1: Developing New Partnerships and Programs (Planning Grants)

This tier will provide smaller grants (Up to \$500,000 for 18 months) to support the formation of worker-centered sector partnerships in local or regional economic areas to design workforce strategies to enhance equity and job quality within the care, climate resiliency, and hospitality sectors.

Tier 2: Launching Effective Worker-Centered Sector Strategy Programs (Implementation Grants)

This tier will provide larger grants (\$500,000 to \$3 million for 3 years) to invest in established partnerships that have a proven history of implementing sector strategies and are ready to implement specific worker-centered sector strategies that will improve job quality within the care, climate resiliency, and hospitality sectors.

Funding Opportunity Number:	<u>FOA-ETA-23-13</u>
Application Deadline:	July 15, 2024
Estimated Total Funding:	\$12,000,000
Award Range:	Up to \$3,000,000
Anticipated Number of Awards:	10
Eligible Applicants:	Labor Unions and Organizations, Labor-Management Partnerships, and Worker Centers and Organizations, Workforce Intermediaries, State and Local Workforce Development Boards, Native American Tribal governments and Native American Training Program entities, Education/Training Provider(s), Industry-based Intermediaries, and Industry Associations, National or Community-based Nonprofit Organizations, State, County, and Local Governments, State Registered Apprenticeship Agencies (if the geographic

scope includes part of a state that is a State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA) state).

Action

Required:

If your local area is interested in submitting a project for consideration, please review funding opportunity [FOA-ETA-23-13](#) in its entirety, and develop a 2-3 page summary of the proposed project using the attached template.

Proposed projects are to be sent to: Gregory Jackson at Gregory.Jackson@mass.gov, and Jack Rhatigan at John.rhatigan@mass.gov, by close of business Monday, June 3, 2024.

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

Effective:

Immediately

Attachment:

Call for Ideas Template