



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 25.269

☐ 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: June 12, 2024

Subject: **FY25 Innovation Career Pathways Grants**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners of the availability and posting of FY25 Innovation Career Pathways Grants.

Background: Innovation Career Pathways are designed to create strong partnerships with employers in order to expose students to career options and help them develop knowledge and skills related to their chosen field of study before they graduate high school.

Two funding opportunities for FY25 Innovation Career Pathways Grants are now available.

- **FY25 0419 Innovation Career Pathways Implementation Competitive RFP.**
The purpose of this competitive grant is to provide designated Innovation Career Pathways with resources to support program implementation. If you

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

are a 2024 designee and/or a designee from 2020-23, you are eligible for this grant. You will only need to do one submission regardless of number of pathway designations.

- **FY25 0436 Innovation Career Pathways Planning Competitive RFP.** The purpose of this competitive grant is to provide Innovation Career Pathway program resources to an LEA who intends to seek Innovation Career Pathway designation from DESE process beginning Fall 2024. Eligible applicants are all Massachusetts public school districts, including charter schools, regional school districts, collaboratives, approved special education schools and other LEAs.

Grant applications must be submitted through the DESE Grants for Education Management System (GEM\$).

Proposals must be received at the Department by 5:00 p.m. Eastern on the date due. Competitive Grants cannot be accepted after the due date.

About GEM\$

- GEM\$ is a cloud-based fiscal and program management grant system.
- Each district has established a user administrator for GEM\$. Please connect with your finance/business office to let them know you wish to apply for this grant. You may contact Jennifer Gwatkin if you need this individual's contact information.
- As GEM\$ has a workflow, which requires individuals other than the "grant writer" to approve (business manager, superintendent), please plan accordingly to ensure a timely submission.
- For reference, a slide deck from GEM\$ training module #2 is available on the GEM\$ home page, under "training slide decks."

Action

Required: Please share with managers and partners as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately.

Inquiries: Questions may be directed to Jennifer A. Gwatkin, Coordinator, Innovation Career Pathways & STEM at 413-314-6714 or jennifer.a.gwatkin@mass.gov.