



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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May 5, 2017

Dear WDC Directors and Staff,

As you may know, as of Wednesday May 3rd, the Workforce Board has approved seven Upskill Backfill Demonstration Projects for a total of \$1,660,949, from the Governor's WIOA Discretionary Funds.

This leaves approximately \$480,000 for a Phase 2 UBI State-Wide Sector Strategy. This Phase 2 is in many respects a re-release of Phase 1, with many of the same themes and priorities, but with a focus on Cross Regional Workforce Development Council Collaboration, combined with a Statewide Industry Sector approach to workforce development.

Please find the attached revised Application Guidelines, which have been modified to help clarify several issues. In addition we want to keep you updated on a few items that are intended to support your teams with the application process. These include:

1. Revised Guidelines provide clarity on Labor participation on pages 6 & 7;
2. The final date for use of funds in Phase 2 has been moved out from December 31, 2018 to March 31, 2019;
3. We will be scheduling at least one bidder's conference via webinar and possibly two (depending on the response) in the next few weeks....more to come on this;
4. We will be updating our Webpage and FAQs to help answer questions on this Phase 2; and
5. We are very pleased to let you know that our Team comprised of ESD and Workforce Board staff will be hosting a weekly call-in time to help support you through the application and on into the implementation stage of both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 Upskill-Backfill Initiatives. There will be more to come on this Learning Community focus.

All of us involved in the process want to thank our partners for the continuing support in putting the principles of *Talent and Prosperity for All* into practice, through these Upskill-Backfill initiatives and for your patience as work through this grant making process.

Sincerely,

Patrick Woods, Director of Operations
Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board