Welcome to the Reimagine Grant Partners Meeting!

Before we begin our session, here are a few suggestions for participants:

- Please test your audio and then MUTE yourself.
- Introduce yourself via chat, and include your first breakout session choice: Business Engagement, IT Career Pathways, or Credentialing Pathways.
- You are encouraged to **use the hand raise feature** at the bottom of your screen when you'd like to comment during the meeting.
- **For bandwidth conservation,** please turn off your video unless you are speaking to the group or in a breakout session.
- We will be monitoring chat for questions and technical issues.



Stakeholder Input Session Education Stabilization Fund – Reimagine Workforce Preparation (ESF-RWP) Grant Program

Eleni Papadakis

Workforce Board, Executive Director

Joe Wilcox, Workforce Board Workforce Board, Policy Analyst

July 23, 2020





Purpose of the ESF-RWP Program

To provide support to help States with the highest coronavirus burden as directed by the CARES Act.

The goal of the grant is:

"Creating new education and training opportunities designed to **help dislocated workers** quickly return to employment, expanding postsecondary options and opportunities, and supporting entrepreneurship in stabilizing both the local economy and institutions of higher education, thus restoring pre-pandemic economic growth."

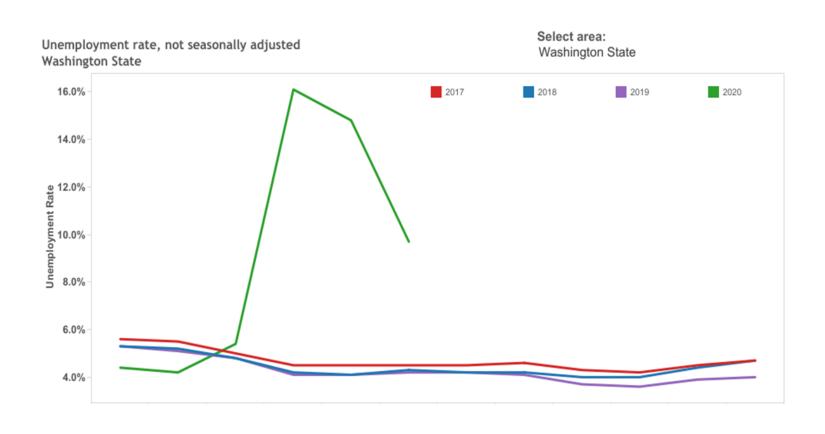


Award Estimates

- Type of Award: Competitive Grants
- **Available Funds:** \$127,500,000
- Estimated Number of Awards: 8-9
- **Estimated Range of Awards:** \$5,000,000-\$20,000,000
- Average Award Size: \$15,000,000
- Project Period: Up to 36 months
- Cost Sharing/Match: Not required

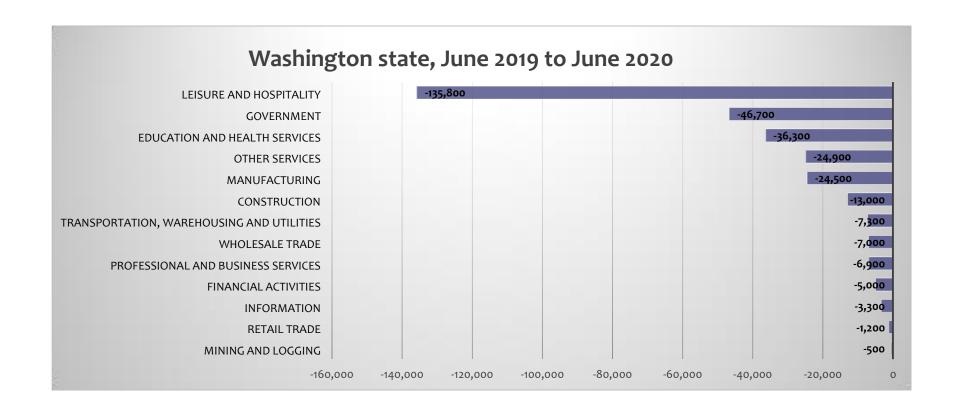


Purpose of the ESF-RWP Program





Employment Change by Industry





Purpose of the ESF-RWP Program

To provide support to help States with the highest coronavirus burden:

- 1) Create or expand short-term education and training opportunities and/or or career pathways programs that help citizens return to work, become entrepreneurs, or expand their small businesses; or Career pathways, navigation, and support.
- 2) To enable States to create or expand small business incubators that offer education and training, mentorship, as well as shared facilities and resources that will help small businesses recover and grow and new entrepreneurs thrive.



Absolute Priority 1

Project will focus on:

a) Creating, developing, implementing, replicating, or taking to scale short-term educational programs and training courses or programs, and/or career pathways programs, including those focused on facilitating and strengthening entrepreneurship and small business ownership.

Applicants must propose a project that focuses on one or more of the following:

- 1) Helping displaced workers return to gainful employment;
- 2) Helping new workers enter jobs within in-demand industry sectors or occupations (as identified at the national, State or local level);
- 3) Transitioning underemployed workers to new fields; or
- 4) Assisting small business owners to gain the skills needed to create new businesses or grow current businesses and become more resilient.



Absolute Priority 1 (continued)

- b) Funding the creation, development, implementation, replication, or scaling of industry sector-based education and training models and programs that:
- 1) Are initiated and organized by employer stakeholders, which may include business leaders, trade associations, professional societies or community business organizations;
- 2) May partner with institutions of higher education or other post-secondary education and training providers; and
- 3) May include the engagement of third-party intermediaries, which are organizations that help bridge the gap between employers and educational institutions to the benefit of students.



Absolute Priority 1 (continued)

Projects under Absolute Priority 1(a) and 1(b) may include apprenticeships and other work-based learning programs and must provide individuals the opportunity to earn badges, certifications, micro-credentials, licenses, or other credentials that employers affirmatively signal will contribute to qualifying a candidate for employment or promotion in an in-demand industry sector or occupation (as defined in this notice).

Funding Restrictions

Grantees must make information on all credentials (including badges, certificates, certifications, licenses, and degrees of all levels and types) and competencies (knowledge, skills and abilities) achieved as a result of funding under this program publicly accessible through the use of linked open data formats that support full transparency and interoperability.



Application Requirement

Provide an analysis of State assets and collaborative efforts
 (including supports already provided from Federal and non Federal sources) to respond to the economic impacts of COVID 19 and the need for:

Short-term educational programs, including those that support small business owners and entrepreneurs and/or those that provide industry sector-based education and training programs that lead to industry-recognized credentials.



Application Requirement

Describe how the applicant will recruit unemployed or dislocated workers; workers seeking job transition or advancement; entrepreneurs; small business owners or other potential participants.



Competitive Preference Priorities (within Absolute Priority 1)

Within this Absolute Priority, competitive preference will be given to applications that address one or both of the following Competitive Priorities:

- 1) DISTANCE EDUCATION (up to 5 points)
- 2) SERVING LIFELONG LEARNERS IN DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES up to 3 points)
 - a) Designated Opportunity Zones
 - b) Rural Communities



Opportunity Zones in Washington

139 designated <u>opportunity zones</u>

- 132 low-income communities.
- 7 non-low-income contiguous tracts.
- 71% are urban, and 29 % are rural.
- Tax incentives for investment in these zones
 - Capital gains
 - Tax reduction
 - Deferred tax payments



Digital Literacy and IT Pathways

- In demand across nearly all industries.
- Generally pay living wages.
- Digital skills gap growing economic, geographic and racial disparities (including opportunity zones).
- Wide range of education and training options.
- Existing training programs and credential systems can be expanded upon.
- Ability to employ distance learning (including rural areas).



Digital Skills Across Industries

Industry	Projected Job Growth 2017 - 2027
Health Care Telemedicine practitioner, Equipment technician	111,100
Manufacturing Smart factory manager, 3D printing, Robotics operator	8,700
Information Technology Software publishers, Al developer, data analyst	46,300
Construction Drone Pilots, Online and Virtual Trainer	36,200

*Child Care

Lost significant childcare capacity due to pandemic, already understaffed prior.

Three Pronged Approach

- 1. IT Credential and Competency Transparency
- 2. Access to IT Hardware
- 3. IT Service Corps



IT Pathways Across Washington

- Collaboration with existing education and training institutions.
- Industry-designed programs.
- Registered Apprenticeships.
- Career Launch Programs.
- Building block to further education pathways.
- Credentials for increased on-the-job competencies.
- Entrepreneurship training.
- Virtual, hybrid, and on-the-job training.



IT Credential and Competency Transparency

- All credentials, including badges, certificates, certifications, licenses, and degrees of all levels and types;
- and competencies-- knowledge, skills, and abilities,
- publicly accessible through the use of linked both in data formats that support transparency and interoperability
- allow a student to have portability with those credentials so that they can carry with them to the industry sector.
- Industry recognized.
- Incorporates all learning components within the grant, can be expanded upon further.



Access to IT Hardware

- Ensure equitable access to computer hardware.
- Training for computer repair and maintenance.
- Reduce electronic waste.



IT Service Corps

- Modelled on Washington Service Corps' AmeriCorps program.
- Provides wages and training for the short term.
- Outreach computer literacy services for underserved populations.
- Mentorship for service members.
- Encourages public service.



Review of Grant Goals

Create or expand short-term education and training opportunities and/or or career pathways programs by:

- a) Creating, developing, implementing, replicating, or taking to scale short-term educational programs and training courses or programs, and/or career pathways programs, including those focused on facilitating and strengthening entrepreneurship and small business ownership; and/ or
- b) Funding the creation, development, implementation, replication, or scaling of industry sector-based education and training models and programs.

Thank you!

Learn more at https://cte.ed.gov/grants/funding-opportunities

Eleni Papadakis

eleni.papadakis@wtb.wa.gov

Joe Wilcox

joe.wilcox@wtb.wa.gov

