

US Department of Labor
\$500M Green Jobs Training Grants Under ARRA

Pathways Out of Poverty

Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA)

SGA/DFA PY 08-19

Issued June 24, 2009

http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm

Informational Webinar for Interested Parties
August 11 & 12, 2009

NYS Energy Research & Development Authority
NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal
NYS Department of Labor
NYS Department of Public Service
NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Scope of Presentation

- Background
- Purpose
- Eligible Applicants
- Awards
- Participants to be Served
- Submission Information
 - Cost proposal.
 - Technical proposal.
 - Attachments to the Technical Proposal.
- State Level Coordination & Actions

Background

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 made \$750M available to the US Department of Labor, for competitive grants to train and place workers in high growth and emerging industries.
- \$500M is designated to the energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy (RE) sectors.
- On June 24, 2009 USDOL released five Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGAs) for the \$500M clean energy component.
 - Labor Market Improvement - \$50M
 - Energy Training Partnerships - \$100M
 - Pathways out of Poverty - \$150M
 - State Energy Sector Partnership and Training - \$190M
 - Capacity building - \$5M
- This presentation will focus on the Pathways Out of Poverty SGA.

Purpose

- The purpose of the Pathways Out of Poverty SGA is to:
 - Fund programs to provide training, education and job placement assistance for workers.
 - Prepare individuals seeking pathways out of poverty for careers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, including occupational training, work readiness training, and supportive services as needed.

Eligible Applicants

- Private not-for-profit and public entities (2 categories)
 - National entities.
 - Private not-for-profit which delivers services in 4 or more states through networks of local partners.
 - Must serve 3 to 7 communities between 2 or more states.
 - Local entities.
 - Public entities or private not-for-profits whose service area is limited to a single sub-state geographic region.
 - Must serve one single community.
 - These entities are designated the lead applicant.
- All applicants must involve required partners:
 - The education and training community.
 - Labor organizations.
 - Nonprofits with direct access to the targeted populations.
 - Employers or industry organizations.
 - The public workforce system (WIBs, One-Stops).

Awards

- Up to \$150 million nationwide.
- National entities will receive awards of \$3M to \$8M.
- Local entities will receive awards of \$2M to \$4M.
 - Local entities who receive an award cannot receive sub-grants or sub-contracts from national entities who receive an award.

Participants to be Served

- Eligible categories of participants are:
 - Unemployed individuals.
 - High school drop-outs (18 years of age or older).
 - Individuals with criminal records.
 - Disadvantaged individuals living in areas of high poverty.
- Within these four categories, eligible participants may serve a broad range of individuals, including:
 - Veterans (Priority must be given to veterans and eligible spouses)
 - Individuals with disabilities.
 - Individuals with limited English proficiency.
 - Indian and Native Americans.
 - Older workers.

Proposed Activities

- All projects must incorporate the following training activities:
 - Address skills and competencies of the targeted industries.
 - Support advancement on a defined career path, if one exists in the targeted industries.
 - Take place at times and locations that are convenient and easily accessible for the targeted populations.
 - Integrate supportive services to ensure that participants have the necessary support to overcome barriers to employment.
 - (As appropriate) Result in a pre-existing industry-recognized degree or certificate.
 - (As appropriate) Include basic skills training.
- Grant funds may not be used for wage subsidies.

Submission Information

- Applications are due on September 29, 2009.
- The proposal will consist of three separate and distinct parts:
 1. Cost proposal;
 2. Technical proposal; and
 3. Attachments to the technical proposal.
- Scoring of the Technical Proposal is the primary basis for awarding funding. Others factors considered include:
 - Urban, rural and geographic balance;
 - Representation across industries specified in the SGA and applicant types;
 - Availability of funds; and
 - Proposals most advantageous to the government.

Cost Proposal Submission Information

- The Cost Proposal is required for consideration of the application, but does not affect its scoring.
- The Cost Proposal has four components:
 - SF-424, “Application for Federal Assistance” (http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm).
 - SF-424A, Budget Information Form (*on same page as SF-424*).
 - Budget Narrative – Which describes the costs associated with each line item on form SF-424A.
 - A D-U-N-S number. This can be obtained for free from <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com> or by calling 1-866-705-5711.

Attachments to the Technical Proposal Submission Information

- Attachments to the technical proposal include:
 - A one-page abstract summarizing the proposed project including:
 - Applicant name;
 - Project title;
 - Category (national entity, or state / local entity);
 - Identification of the community to be served, and whether urban, suburban or rural area;
 - Funding level requested.
 - A letter of commitment for each community served.
 - Each letter must describe the roles and responsibilities of the partner(s), and must be signed by the partner(s).
 - USDOL prefers a single letter for each community, co-signed by all required partners for that community.

Technical Proposal Submission Information and Scoring Criteria

- The Technical Proposal is limited to 25 double-spaced single-sided pages, with 12 point text font and 1 inch margins.
- The Technical Proposal must address four criteria, and will be scored on the basis of a total of 100 points as follows.
 - Statement of Need - 20 points.
 - Project Management and Organizational Capacity - 15 points.
 - Strategy and Project Work Plan - 45 points.
 - Outcomes and Deliverables - 20 points.

Statement of Need (20 pts.)

- Statement of Need must address the following two criteria:
 1. Demonstrate Poverty Rate for Each Community Served. (0 or 10 pts.)
 - “Community served” is the geographic area within one or more contiguous Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) where each community to be served is located.
 - 1st – Identify the PUMA for each community to be served. PUMA maps by state are presentd at:
<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/maps/puma5pct.htm>
 - 2nd – Provide the poverty rate for the PUMA listed in the Poverty Data table at:
<http://www.workforce3one.org/view/2000916359251042484/info>.
 - First time users will need to register to access this information. Registration is free and only takes a moment to complete.
<http://www.workforce3one.org/register.aspx>.
 - High poverty is a PUMA with a poverty rate of 15% or greater.

Statement of Need (20 pts.)

2. Overview of Current Economy and Workforce. (10 pts.)

- Demonstrate the need for training in each community:
 - Describe the economy and workforce needs.
 - Describe communities served and workforce needs.
 - Estimate number of participants in each eligibility category.
 - Provide evidence of the need for training, including target populations to be served, current level of skills and education, and specific training needs.
 - Identify other barriers faced by the target populations.

Project Management and Organizational Capacity (15 pts.)

- Project Management and Organizational Capacity must provide evidence and/or demonstrate that the applicant and all of its partners have:
 - Staff capacity to implement the proposal, including the capacity in each designated community. (5 pts.)
 - Fiscal, administrative, and performance management capacity to administer the grant. (5 pts.)
 - Experience leading or participating in: (5 pts.)
 - A comprehensive partnership, and
 - Implementing and operating training, education, and job placement initiatives of similar focus, size and scope.

Strategy and Project Work Plan (45 pts.)

Present compelling evidence that the project fully addresses the needs of workers and businesses in the targeted industries.

The Strategy and Project Work Plan has five key criteria.

1. Summarize the proposed strategies and how the strategies address the needs of the industries and occupations discussed in the “Statement of Need.” (5 pts.)
2. Describe roles of the project partners. (10 pts.)
 - Include services, expertise and activities partners will contribute to successfully train and place workers in jobs.
 - Provide a letter of commitment from each Local Workforce Investment Area served.
3. Describe proposed recruitment, training, placement and retention strategies. (10 pts.)

Strategy and Project Work Plan (45 pts.)

4. Describe funds and other resources that will be leveraged to support grant activities, and describe how these will be used to contribute to the proposed outcomes for the project. (5 pts.)
5. Project Work Plan – The work plan must be presented in a table format, and must include the following information. (15 pts.)
 - The five Project Phases – Startup; Recruitment; Training; Placement; and Retention.
 - Activities – Identify major activities required to implement each phase. Include: Start Date; End Date; and Partner Organization Responsibility.
 - Milestones – List target dates and associated training outcomes projected for recruitment, training and placement.
 - Budget Allocations – Accurate budget for each phase, including sub-budgets associated with each activity.

Outcomes and Deliverables (20 pts.)

Must demonstrate a results-oriented approach to managing and operating the project (three criteria).

1. Performance Outcomes - Project and track outcomes for all participants served with grant funds. (5 pts.)
 - Total participants served.
 - Number beginning education/training activities.
 - Number who receive basic education services.
 - Number receiving grant-funded supportive services.
 - Number completing education/training activities.
 - Number who receive a degree or certificate.
 - Number placed into unsubsidized employment.
 - Number placed into training-related unsubsidized employment.
 - Number who retain an employed status at the 1st and 2nd quarters following initial placement.

Outcomes and Deliverables (20 pts.)

2. Appropriateness and Feasibility; Degrees or Certificates Resulting From Training; and Deliverables. (10 pts.)
 - Appropriateness and Feasibility – Must address:
 - Realism of the expected outcomes, and consistency with the project’s objectives and the community’s needs;
 - Ability to achieve the stated outcomes, and to report results within the timeframe of the grant; and
 - Appropriateness of outcomes relative to requested funding.
 - Degrees or Certificates – Must identify the degree or certificate participants will earn as a result of the proposed training; and defined standards associated with the degree or certificate.
 - Deliverables (if applicable) – Must provide a list of expected deliverables (e.g., updated curriculum and completion dates).

Outcomes and Deliverables (20 pts.)

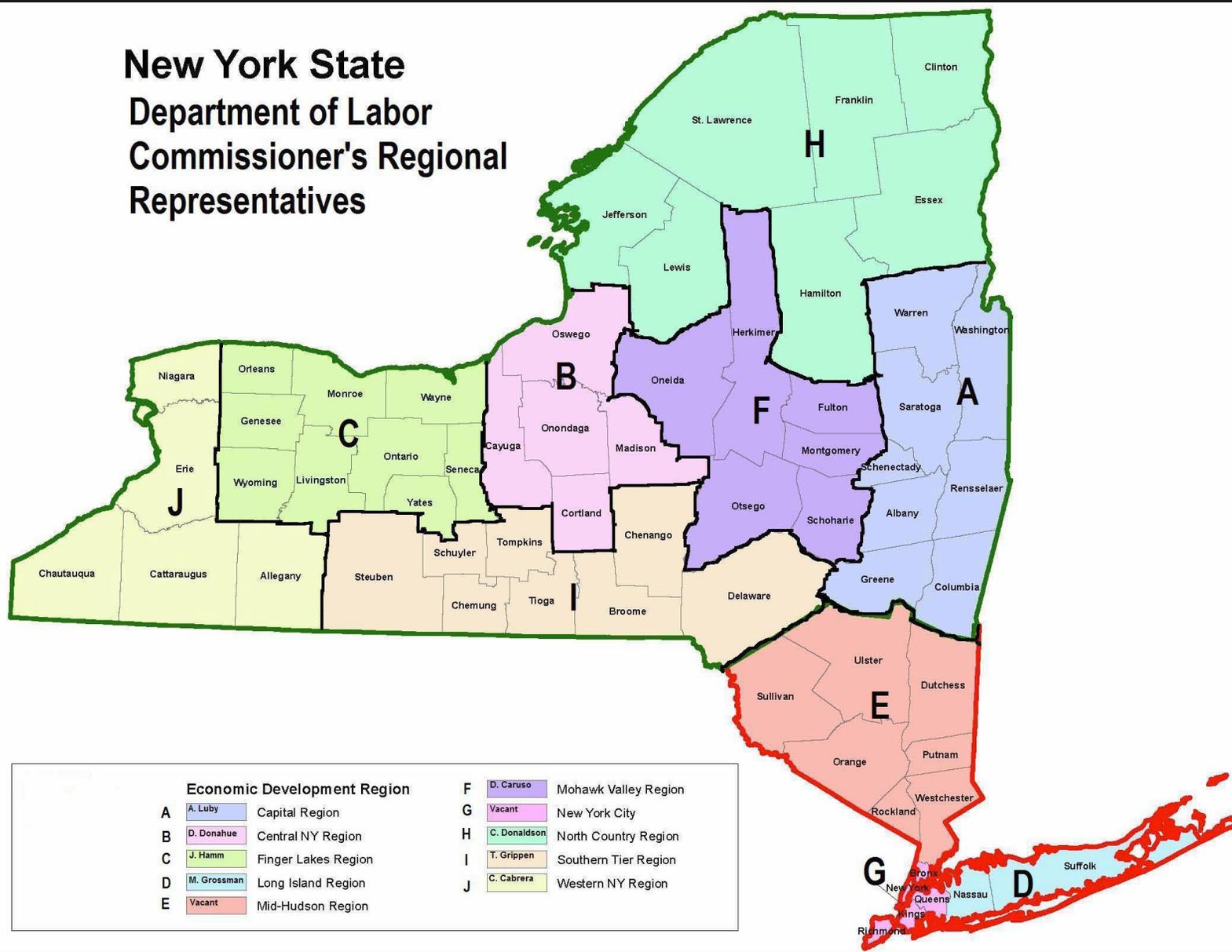
3. Suitability for Evaluation. (5 pts.)

- USDOL intends to select some portion of grantees to participate in a rigorous evaluation. Applicants must describe their plans for meeting the following criteria:
 - Explain a recruitment plan that could yield potentially more applicants than the number of positions available;
 - Be able to collect participant-level information on applicants;
 - Have strategies to minimize attrition and help track those who leave the program before completion;
 - Work with an outside evaluator selected by USDOL;
 - Be willing to work with independent researchers; and
 - Provide additional information on how the proposal will enhance knowledge about programs.

State Level Coordination & Actions

- Position LWIBs and One Stop Career Centers across the solicitations.
- Obtain inventory of proposals under Energy Training Partnership SGA and Pathways out of Poverty SGA.
 - Compile, coordinate and assist within a region.
 - Workforce Development Institute is assisting with proposals from labor organizations.
 - Contact: Paul Shatsoff at pshatsoff@wdiny.org.
- NYSDOL's Commissioner's Regional Representatives are serving as the primary contact for the Region.

New York State Department of Labor Commissioner's Regional Representatives



NYSDOL Commissioner's Regional Representatives

Western Region

Cesar Cabrera - Buffalo, NY

Cesar.Cabrera@labor.state.ny.us

Mohawk Valley Region

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Finger Lakes Region

Joseph Hamm - Rochester, NY

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Capital Region

Ann E. Luby - Troy, NY

Ann.Luby@labor.state.ny.us

Mid-Hudson Region (Vacant)

New York City Region (Vacant)

Mary Batch

Mary.Batch@labor.state.ny.us

New York City WIB Support Requirements

- NYC LWIB commitment letter requirements are found at:
http://www.nyc.gov/html/sbs/wib/downloads/pdf/pathways_out_of_poverty.pdf
- Applicants must submit an abstract (per the SGA), and an executive summary (4 pages max) which includes:
 - Demonstration of the applicant's eligibility per the guidelines of the SGA, including collaboration with the required partners.
 - Synopsis of each criteria component of the technical proposal.
 - Explanation of any existing connection with WIA-funded programs
- Submissions received after September 9, 2009 will not be considered.
- Materials may be submitted to Stephanie Martinez at smartinez@sbs.nyc.gov or mailed to her at:
Stephanie Martinez, NYC Workforce Investment Board
110 William Street, 8th Fl.
New York, New York 10038

State Level Coordination & Actions

- Webinars planned for August 11th & 12th to engage interested parties.
 - Energy Training Partnerships.
 - August 11, 2009 @ 10:30am-12:00pm
 - August 12, 2009 @ 2:00pm - 3:30 pm (repeated)
 - Pathways out of Poverty.
 - August 11, 2009 @ 2:00pm - 3:30pm
 - August 12, 2009 @ 10:30am - 12:00pm (repeated).
- NYSERDA, ESDC, SUNY and NYSDOL are preparing a state level application under Labor Market Information Improvement (A).
 - Green Jobs Portal for labor exchange.
 - Survey of clean energy business identify labor demand.
 - Analysis of State Agency initiatives to identify labor demand.
 - SUNY and CUNY to identify curriculum and graduates.

State Level Coordination & Actions

- NYS will submit an application under State Energy Sector Partnership and Training SGA.
 - Requires establishing a State Energy Sector Partnership.
 - NYSDOL; LWIBs; One-stop Career Centers;
 - State Cabinet officials from agencies receiving ARRA funding related to EE/RR;
 - EE/RE business and industries;
 - Labor organizations.
- Ask \$6M (maximum award).
 - Advance regional clean energy sectors (\$2M).
 - Advance clean energy training (\$4M).
- Application due October 20, 2009.
- Reviewing potential applications under this SGA and the Energy Training Partnership SGA.

Thank you!

Contact Information

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