

Competitive Grants for Green Jobs Training as Authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Congress provided \$500 million for competitive grants for green jobs training as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act). Although originating under the same authorizing language, the Department of Labor (DOL) has split this funding into five separate grant competitions for strategic partnerships and other entities to prepare workers for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

This document provides brief summaries of each grant program, along with links to the full grant announcements in the Federal Register. The Workforce Alliance will host an Audio Update to discuss these grant opportunities and other green job and sector training initiatives under the Recovery Act on July 1 – to register please click [here](#).

Pathways Out of Poverty Grants – Applications due 9/29/09

\$150 million for grants to national and local nonprofit organizations to provide career pathways for unemployed individuals, high school dropouts, individuals with a criminal record, and disadvantaged individuals living in areas of high poverty. Training must be targeted towards careers in the seven energy efficiency and renewable energy industries identified under the Green Jobs Act (§171(e) of the Workforce Investment Act), or for green occupations in certain other industries if applicants can demonstrate that they are emerging industries producing jobs within the community. Grants may be awarded to national nonprofit entities that deliver services through local affiliates and who propose projects serving 3-7 communities in at least two states, or to local public or private nonprofit organizations proposing projects that serve a single community. Both national and local applicants must implement projects through strategic partnerships that include nonprofit organizations, the public workforce investment system, education and training providers, public and private employers and industry associations, and labor organizations. Grantees may use no more than five percent of grant funds to provide supportive services.

State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) and Training Grants – Applications due 10/20/09

\$190 million for grants to state workforce investment boards, in partnership with state workforce agencies, local workforce boards, and One Stop Career Centers, to provide training and related activities that reflect a comprehensive statewide energy sector strategy. Training must be targeted towards careers in the seven energy efficiency and renewable energy industries identified under the Green Jobs Act (§171(e) of the Workforce Investment Act), including the energy efficient building, construction and retrofit industries, the biofuels industry, and the energy efficiency assessment industry. Applicants must form State Energy Sector Partnerships—



which must include representatives from the state workforce investment board, state workforce agencies, local workforce boards, One Stop Career Centers, state cabinet officials from agencies receiving Recovery Act funding related to energy efficiency and renewable energy resources, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit employers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, and labor organizations—to inform the planning and implementation of the grant. Grantees may use no more than five percent of grant funds to provide supportive services. Approximately \$25 million of the total funds available through this SGA will be reserved for projects in communities impacted by automotive-related restructuring.

Energy Training Partnership Grants – Applications due 9/4/09

\$100 million for grants to national labor-management organizations and statewide or local nonprofit partnerships to provide training for target populations, with priority given to projects that serve workers impacted by national energy and environmental policy, individuals in need of updated training related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, unemployed workers, and veterans or past and present members of reserve components of the Armed Forces. Projects may also serve individuals with a criminal record and populations that have not traditionally been employed in construction and skilled-trade occupations, such as women and minorities. Training must be targeted towards careers in the seven energy efficiency and renewable energy industries identified under the Green Jobs Act (§171(e) of the Workforce Investment Act), or for green occupations in certain other industries if applicants can demonstrate that they are emerging industries producing jobs within the community. Applicants must propose partnerships that include representatives from labor organizations, local workforce investment boards and One Stop Career Centers, and employers and industry organizations. Grantees may use no more than five percent of grant funds to provide supportive services. Approximately \$25 million of the total funds available through this SGA will be reserved for projects in communities impacted by automotive-related restructuring.

Green Capacity Building Grants – Applications due 8/5/09

\$5 million for grants to current DOL grantees receiving funding under certain programs, including the National Farmworkers Jobs Program, the Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative, Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Occupations, YouthBuild, and others. Grant funds may be used to support capacity building for these organizations to provide training for entry-level positions leading to career pathways in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, with priority given to serving workers impacted by national energy and environmental policy, veterans, unemployed individuals, and other populations. Funds may not be used for supportive services.



State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants – Applications due 8/14/09

\$50 million for grants to state workforce agencies, or consortiums of such agencies, to collect, analyze, and disseminate labor market information and to enhance the labor exchange infrastructure for careers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. Applicants must demonstrate that projects will be implemented through strategic partnerships which must include state labor market information and research entities and state workforce investment boards, and may include additional partners such as employers, labor organizations, colleges and universities, community-based organizations, and others.

