Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program Competitive Grant FY 2020-2021 Questions and Answers

Posted November 16, 2020

Question #1: This year we have started to transition to our non-profit from a Governing Board. Are we allowed to use our agency number under the Governing Board or do we need to get a new agency number? If so, how would we go about getting an agency number for our non-profit?

Answer #1: The Department assign agency codes and project numbers to the awarded fiscal agency. Eligible applicants are required to submit a grant application and appropriate risk analysis documents (FDOE-610/620). If awarded funds, the eligible applicant will be assigned appropriate codes by the Department.

Question #2: What should the naming convention be if you will be submitting more than one application?

Answer #2: If an agency elects to submit more than application, utilize the following naming convention:

- 2021PCOG AgencyName1
- 2021PCOG AgencyName2

Question #3: If the applying agency completed the Assurance Form last year, is a new Assurance Form required?

Answer #3: Private Colleges, Community-Based Organizations and Other Agencies are required to submit the General Terms, Assurances and Conditions annually with each grant application.

Question #4: We are preparing an application for one occupation/trade, and it may sponsored by a Joint Apprenticeship at one high school, and a Non-Joint Apprenticeship at another high school. Does this require us to submit two separate applications?

Answer #4: If the project is for a district wishing to create a "single" preapprenticeship program that will be operated in two or more high schools, then they only need to submit one application (even if there are multiple occupations and Apprenticeship Program Sponsors).

Question #5: Can a CareerSource/Workforce Development Board apply for these grant funds?

Answer #5: Eligible applicants may review the Request for Proposal to determine their eligibility:

Eligible Applicant(s)

 Other entities authorized to sponsor an apprenticeship or preapprenticeship program, as defined in F.S. 446.021.

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Question #6: The Request for Proposals of the Pathways to Career Grant, on page 8, under unallowable expenses, shows tuition as a non-allowable expense. Does this also mean that the sponsoring agency, and the supplemental training facility (Technical College or school) cannot charge tuition under this program grant? Can you provide clarity on this, perhaps a source of reference?

Answer #6: Yes. Tuition is considered an unallowable expenditure within this RFP. However, programs not partnering with a Local-Education-Agency (LEA) for related technical instruction may assess fees for Related-Technical-Instruction (RTI). Conversely, LEA's that deliver RTI on behalf of a registered program are prohibited from assessing tuition and fees in accordance with F.S. 1009.25.

Question #7: Will the employer need to pay those accepted into the apprenticeship program wages? If so, is this an allowable grant expenditure?

Answer #7: The employer is responsible for the payment of apprentices/preapprentices wages. Wages are considered an unallowable expenditure for these grant funds.

Question #8: Can an apprenticeship program charge a tuition or educational fee to an apprenticeship participant?

Answer #8: An apprenticeship program may charge a tuition or educational fee to the apprenticeship participant. However, grant funds may not be used to cover the costs of such expenditures.

Question #9: Where can we access the application to register an apprenticeship program in the state?

Answer #9: Please contact the appropriate area Apprenticeship Training Representative (ATR). A full list of the Regional ATR's is located on page 18 of the RFP Word Document.

Question #10: Where can I access more information on the differences between time-based, competency-based, and hybrid approaches?

Answer #10: Please refer to Florida Administrative Code <u>FAC 6A-23.004</u> parts 1 – 3 Standards of Apprenticeship. The various training approaches only apply to the On-the-Job component of a Registered Apprenticeship program, not Related-Technical-Instruction or class instructional methods.