

SYNOPSIS

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program

Closing Date:	November 13, 2020
Available Funds:	\$40,000,000
Range:	\$500,000 - \$2,500,000
Number of Awards:	15-40
Period of Performance:	48 months
Awardees:	Partnerships must include healthcare providers and education and training providers
Match:	None; however, applicants are encouraged to generate at 15% of the total amount of requested funds.
Eligible Entities:	Healthcare employers, non-profit organizations, primary care associations, tribes, and tribal organizations

Purpose: To alleviate healthcare workforce shortages by creating sustainable employment and training programs in healthcare occupations serving rural populations. 1) To increase the number of individuals training in healthcare occupations that directly impact patient care; and 2) alleviate healthcare workforce shortages by creating sustainable employment and training programs in health occupations (including behavioral and mental healthcare) serving rural populations.

Eligible participants must be at least 17 years of age and not currently enrolled in secondary school. Underrepresented populations are of particular interest.

Applicants are encouraged to consider new and emergent technologies including interactive simulations, personalized and virtual instruction, educational gaming, or digital tutors. Also consider whether any training components require in-person instruction.

Applicants are encouraged to design their grant programs to assist \unemployed individuals seeking entry or reentry into the workforce and unemployed workers in needs of new skills and full-time employment opportunities.

Focus is on three groups of workers – unemployed, underemployed, incumbent workers

Applicants are required to track and report participant level characteristics and data on proposed outcomes and out puts that the project will achieve during the period of performance. Outcomes are measurable characteristics that direct result from the implementation of specific project design activities. Outputs are tangible products or services that result from the project. You must also report on six WIOA primary indicators of performance.

Projects must align with other workforce development activities occurring in the state to ensure sustainability beyond the grant period. Successful applicants will leverage the public workforce development system's demonstrated experience in improving workers' employment-related skills and their involvement in initiatives to help address workers' barriers to employment. Successful applicants will provide evidence that state or local workforce development boards are involved.

Must design grant programs to help participants access a viable healthcare career pathway through education and training that results in employment in middle- and high-skilled jobs.

The grant program is designed to support healthcare programs that focus on **direct patient care** (See Appendix A)

Applications must address healthcare occupations specified in this FOA or demonstrated in-demand healthcare occupation(s) in the service area proposed through labor market information or other supporting documentation.

Applicants must identify the geographic scope of the proposed project. Applicants can propose to serve rural areas at the local/regional or statewide level with healthcare training.

Allowable Activities:

Workforce development strategies must:

- Engage healthcare providers and employers in the adoption and deployment of employment and training services to address specific healthcare needs in rural areas;
- Establish new or expanding existing career pathways in the healthcare sector that focus on the skills, competencies, and credentials needed for middle to high-skilled direct patient healthcare occupations;
- Offer high quality training options (such as work-based learning training models) to prepare individuals to successfully move into middle- to high-skilled employment in healthcare occupations;
- Create an infrastructure to successfully sustain the program components after the life of the grant;
- Provide supportive services to participants necessary to ensure they are able to participate fully in employment and training activities; and
- Identify an existing system through the partnership with the local workforce development board or other WIOA partners for the purpose of collecting and reviewing program data, and monitoring results to assess program performance.

Workforce Strategies can include: On-the-Job Training (OJT); customized training for cohorts; Incumbent Worker Training; Registered Apprenticeship Programs; Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs; pre-apprenticeship programs that lead to grant-funded apprenticeship programs; and paid work and paid internships, classroom training, and technology-based training strategies. All projects will incorporate a strong up-front assessment

component that allows for a customization of services and training to meet the needs of the program participants to get a job, retain their employment, or advance to a new position in healthcare occupations.

Required Partners: Requires signed Memorandum of Understanding or Partnership Agreement to including at minimum the following:

1. Employer partners (minimum of two) committed to hiring individuals trained through the grant
2. Education and training providers –
3. If applicant is proposing to provide Registered Apprenticeship Program, the federally recognized State Apprenticeship Agency must be included
4. Entities involved in administering the workforce development system established under Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Required Proposal Elements:

1. SF 424
2. SF 424A
3. Budget Narrative
4. Project Narrative
5. Attachments to Project Narrative
 - a. Abstract
 - b. Documentation of Partnership Commitment
 - c. Organizational Chart
 - d. Project Workplan
 - e. Performance Outcomes Table
 - f. Past Performance Documentation
 - g. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
 - h. Financial System Assessment Information

Project Narrative

1. Limit to 25 double-spaced and numbered pages, 12 font, Times New Roman
 - a. Statement of Need (10 points)
 - b. Expected Outcomes and Outputs (26 points)
 - c. Feasibility of Proposed Outcomes (6 points)
 - d. Project Design (24 points)
 - e. H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant Partnership (12 points)
 - f. Rural Healthcare Program Training Design (8 points)
 - g. Project Work Plan (4 points)
 - h. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (8 points)
 - i. Financial, Data Collection, and Performance Reporting Systems (2 points)
 - j. Past Performance – Programmatic Capability (30 points)
 - k. Budget and Budget Narrative (2 points)

I. Priority Consideration (2 points)

Applicants must include a Past Performance Chart that states the objectives of the grant, population served, funding amount, performance goals and the outcomes of those goals.

Applicants must submit a Spending Rate Analysis to include the total grant amount, and the percentage of grant funds spent during the original period of performance.

APPENDIX A: Qualifying Positions

Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors
Marriage and Family Therapists
Mental Health Counselors
Rehabilitation Counselors
Child, Family, and School Social Workers
Healthcare Social Workers
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers
Health Educators
Social and Human Service Assistants
Community Health Workers
Registered Nurses
Acute Care Nurses
Critical Care Nurses
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists
Cytogenetic Technologists
Histotechnologists and Histologic Technicians
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
Nuclear Medicine Technologists
Radiologic Technologists
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Technicians
Psychiatric Technicians
Surgical Technologist
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists
Occupational Health and Safety Technicians
Home Health Aides
Psychiatric Aides
Nursing Assistants
Occupational Therapists

Occupational Therapy Assistants
Occupational Therapy Aides
Physical Therapist Assistants
Physical Therapist Aides
Massage Therapists
Medical Assistants
Medical Equipment Preparers
Pharmacy Aides
Phlebotomists