

# **Workforce Development Initiative**

## **Consolidated Funding Application**

### **(CFA)**



**Regional Economic  
Development Councils**

# Overview

- New \$175 million Workforce Development Initiative, with funding from SUNY, CUNY, ESD, the NYS Department of Labor and the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority
- Announced in Governor Cuomo's 2018 State of the State and released in the FY 2019 Enacted Budget
- New Executive Office of Workforce Development (OWD) created to coordinate, and improve transparency of, workforce development efforts across state entities
- Two-phase, NO-DEADLINE funding application process: 1) initial evaluation by REDC workforce committee; 2) final review by an interagency panel
- Priority focus on projects that support the regional workforce development strategy, serve populations with barriers to career advancement, and/or improve the flexibility of workforce systems to address industry needs



# Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

- Serves as a single point of entry for workforce development funding
- Developed to streamline and expedite the application process for funding
- Designed to ensure:
  - Less bureaucracy
  - Greater efficiencies
  - Improved community input
  - Enhanced partnerships



## Phase One: REDC Endorsement

- Applicants submit a general CFA proposal to their local REDC including information pertaining to:
  - *Workforce problems faced by the region and how project will address it*
  - *Local and regional partners involved in the project*
  - *Estimated project costs including leveraged funds*
  - *Performance targets*
- Proposals reviewed by a newly established Workforce Development Committee at every REDC
- Workforce Development Committee makes recommendations to REDC Co-Chairs
- Phase 1 concluded by REDC Co-Chairs making final recommendations to Office for Workforce Development



# REDC Workforce Development Committees

Each REDC is establishing a new Workforce Development Committee by May 15, 2019 to ensure stage one review includes critical members of the local workforce and economic systems.

The Committee will include experts from the following fields:

- Economic Development
- Higher Education
- Local Workforce Investment Boards
- Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)
- Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative (ESPRI) rep from each region



## Phase Two: Interagency Committee Approval

Phase 2 review conducted by an interagency committee.

The Office of Workforce Development will:

- Review REDC recommendations on Phase 1 applications and determine the appropriate funding source(s)
- Send the applicant the full CFA / Phase 2 application, tied to the identified funding source(s)
- Convene the interagency committee, which will evaluate the completed CFA applications and make a final determination

NOTE: Applications for statewide or multi-region projects will be submitted to the Office of Workforce Development, which will forward to the interagency committee for Phase 1 and Phase 2 review.



# Eligibility

Successful applicants will have a clearly articulated proposal that addresses a workforce problem faced by the region and a comprehensive implementation strategy.

In addition, applications may be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The role of local and regional partners;
- Project cost; the extent of leveraged funds;
- Performance targets that are measurable and achievable;
- Transferable nature of the training or accreditation;
- Description of any public/private partnerships and how they will expand workplace learning.



# Workforce Funding Options

## Public-Private Partnerships to Advance 21st Century Skills (SUNY / CUNY)

A mix of capital and operational funding to expand the infrastructure and capacity of SUNY and CUNY to produce skilled talent that meets the needs of regional employers.

Four SUNY / CUNY programs that provide funding for:

- SUNY / CUNY 2020: Capital costs including building of classroom / training lab space; technology upgrades; equipment purchases
- Job Linkage: Industry-engaged curriculum development, data analysis, or experiential learning in regionally significant or growing industries
- Workforce Development: Business/industry-partnered training workshops
- Apprenticeship Program: Development and operation of Registered Apprenticeship programs in growing or in-demand industries



# Workforce Funding Options

## Employer-Driven Skills (ESD, DOL, NYSERDA)

Funding will expand employer investment in a skilled workforce pipeline.

ESD Employee Training Incentive Program previously was included in REDC CFA process, and incents employers to invest in incumbent worker training

NYS Department of Labor (DOL) Unemployed/Underemployed Worker Training program funds efforts to support full or part-time employment for unemployed or underemployed works

New York State Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) funds focus on building operations and maintenance programs



# Workforce Funding Options

## Workforce Solutions (DOL, Pay for Success)

Provide flexible funding for innovative workforce development projects. Funds will support strategic regional efforts that meet businesses workforce challenges including:

- Addressing long-term industry needs
- Improve regional talent pipelines
- Enhance flexibility and adaptability of local workforce entities, and
- Expand apprenticeships.

Some funds (Pay for Success) subject to requirement that individuals trained remain in jobs for at least 6 months to receive full state funding.



## Examples of Potential Projects

- Workforce development and innovation in college and university settings;
- Opportunities for populations which traditionally face barriers to career advancement, including women and young workers, ex-offenders, veterans, immigrants, refugees, and persons with special needs;
- Projects addressing worker dislocation due to foreign competition;
- Development and operation of programs that award recognized credentials to program graduates (e.g., apprenticeships, certifications, etc.);
- Curriculum development for career- or job-specific purposes.



**QUESTIONS?**

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