

Analysis

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant

Analyst: Doug Wilson

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to the U.S. Department of Labor, in the amount of \$1,132,575, for the State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant.

Analysis: The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) is requesting approval to apply for a Round III State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant from the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for \$1,132,575. The purpose of this three-year grant is to expand the number of apprentices, support the diversification of apprenticeships across industries, and integrate registered apprenticeships into state workforce programs and strategies. Grant requirements include that the state serve at least 800 participants in apprenticeship programs through this grant. One use of the grant funds is to increase the Medical Assistants Registered Apprenticeship program on the South Coast. Grant funds will also be used to increase business outreach, improve data systems, and increase the capacity to start new apprenticeship programs statewide.

The Agency has worked with Employment Department, Department of Education, Bureau of Labor and Industries, and local Workforce Development Boards in developing this application. Applications are due June 3, 2019.

This is a formula driven grant with allocations provided for each state and territories. The amount of this request represents Oregon's share of the overall funding. There is no requirement for a state match or maintenance of effort. The HECC does not require additional position authority and will need expenditure limitation for this grant for 2019-21. If notice of approval is received in time, the necessary expenditure limitation can be included in the HECC budget bill.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: Approve the request.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission Brickman

Request: Authorization to apply for a grant of up to \$1,132,575 from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration for Round III of the State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant opportunity.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The purpose of the grant is to provide funds to states to increase the number of apprentices in Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs); to support and encourage diversification within RAPs, including increasing the diversity of apprentices and growing apprenticeships across industry sectors; and support the integration of RAPS into state workforce development, education, and economic development strategies. This grant helps to further the Governor's Future Ready Oregon Initiative through the expansion of work currently underway on other State Apprenticeship Expansion grants. There is no required state match or maintenance of effort required for this grant.

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) is working with the Oregon Employment Department, the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries, and Local Workforce Development Boards on this application. The grant will require Oregon to serve 800 participants in RAPs. HECC's planned activities under the grant include expanding the Medical Assistants Registered Apprenticeship program, which is located in the south coast area. HECC also plans to conduct business outreach, improve data systems, and enhance the capacity of state and local staff for the purposes of beginning new apprenticeship programs. The Coos, Curry, and Douglas County Workforce Board has developed a strong coalition and partnerships within this industry and plan to expand apprenticeships beyond Medical Assistants into Surgery Technician and Nursing occupations.

In addition to providing sub-grants for the purposes of the State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant program, the HECC will use existing staff for project management at both the state and local levels to provide oversight, monitoring, and reporting of the recipients.



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

255 Capitol Street NE, Third Floor

Salem, OR 97310

www.oregon.gov/HigherEd

May 17, 2019

The Honorable Senator Betsy Johnson, Co-chair
The Honorable Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, MD, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request:

The Higher Education Coordination Commission (HECC) respectfully requests approval to apply for up to \$1,132,575 through the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant Round III grant opportunity. The Department of Labor issued this grant through Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) #17-18 on May 3, 2019, and the application is due on June 3, 2019. The grant period is from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Agency Action:

The purpose of the grant is to expand the number of apprentices in the state, support and encourage diversification of apprenticeship opportunities across industry sectors, and support the integration of registered apprenticeship programs into state workforce development, education and economic development strategies and programs. HECC is working with the Employment Department, Department of Education, Bureau of Labor and Industries, Apprenticeship and Training Division, the Local Workforce Development Boards and others to develop the application.

The grant requires that Oregon serve 800 participants in Registered Apprenticeship Programs. Planned activities will include expanding the Medical

Assistants Registered Apprenticeship program located in the south coast area. Other efforts will focus on business outreach, improving data systems, and enhancing the capacity of state and local staff to start new apprenticeship programs. The HECC Office of Workforce Investments will use the funds to make sub-awards to entities that have the capacity and experience to serve participants.

Receipt of this grant will support the Higher Education Coordinating Commission's continuing work to support the Governor's Future Ready Oregon initiative and will allow us to expand the work already being done on two other State Apprenticeship Expansion grants totaling \$3.3 million.

The HECC Office of Workforce Investments will administer the grant and has identified existing staff to coordinate the application process and provide project and grant management.

Action Requested:

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission respectfully requests approval to apply for \$1,132,575 through the US Department of Labor's State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant. There is no state match or maintenance of effort requirement required for this grant application. In addition, there are no position or funding limitation requests associated with this grant.

Legislation Affected:

None

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Cannon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" and last name "Cannon" clearly distinguishable.

Ben Cannon
Director