



Work-based Learning Grant Opportunity - Apprenticeships

Frequently Asked Questions

Allowable Expenses

Q: Can funds be used to offset the cost of wages/reimbursements/stipends for apprentices?

A: No. Grant funds may not be used to offset the cost of wages, reimbursements, or stipends for apprentices.

Q: Can we include student cost of books, materials, supplies, and supportive services (such as gas allowances and work tools and clothing) in the budget category titled "supporting training costs"?

A: Yes, as part of this grant you can fund books, materials, supplies, supportive services, work tools, and required clothing. However, you cannot fund gas allowances as that is a travel expense (see Section 5.2.2. Prohibited Costs in the RFA).

Q: Can funds be used to support students in the form of a stipend/scholarship upon completion of the apprenticeship/internship?

A: No.

Institution Eligibility

Q: Is this funding opportunity allowable for apprenticeship schools that are not Texas public two-year institutions of higher education?

A: No. Such use does not fall within the eligible project description as set forth in section 3.2 of the RFA.

Q: Where can we find a very clear definition of public 2-year institutions? What about non-profits that run apprentice and pre-apprenticeship programs?

A: Two-year colleges are defined as "public junior colleges" in [Texas Education Code 61.003](#). A list of public two-year colleges is available on the THECB Texas Higher Education Data site, under [List of Public Institutions](#), see Community Colleges, Technical College System, and State Colleges.

Q: What projects would work if you don't already have existing apprenticeships at your school?

A: According to Section 3.1. in the RFA, eligible applicants are Texas public two-year institutions ... "with at least one existing registered apprenticeship training program or establishing new registered apprenticeship programs." If you do not have an existing

apprenticeship program (RAP), but you are *establishing* an RAP, your institution may still be eligible.

Q: Can a college support registered apprenticeships at other organizations through this funding to help them expand?

A: According to [federal guidelines](#), an institution can support Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP) in one of three roles: training provider, intermediary, or sponsor. This grant program is focused on supporting colleges in the role of an RAP training provider, intermediary, or sponsor.

Q: If we have a pre-apprenticeship program will that make us eligible?

A: An institution must have at least one existing registered apprenticeship training program or be establishing a new registered apprenticeship program(s) to be eligible. Funding may be used to develop a pre-apprenticeship program(s).

Q: How do we know if we are a registered apprenticeship? We provide clinicals for our students, does that apply?

A: You should be able to find a Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) on the federal [Apprenticeship Job Finder](#) website. If you are not sure if you are providing training for an RAP, check with or search for your employer partners.

Q: If the institution has been serving apprentices with various employers but not actually have an existing RAP. Will that be eligible?

A: An institution must have at least one existing registered apprenticeship training program or be establishing a new registered apprenticeship program(s) to be eligible.

Q: Does this include Registered Youth Apprenticeships?

A: As long as an eligible institution is the training provider for the RAP, Youth Apprenticeships can be supported under this grant.

Application Process

Q: We have a RAP that we are trying to develop that is a very new high demand area for our local community, so much of the data available in databases does not reflect the "high demand"...we have several companies moving into the area or expanding in the next two years. Can letters from industry partners be used to help establish high demand?

A: Yes. We recommend you include these letters as an appendix to your application.

Q: Is there a particular workforce database that we should use?

A: There are several workforce data sources that are acceptable: Burning Glass, Emsi, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, etc. Also, the THECB created a [Texas Workforce Development Toolkit](#) in collaboration with Brookings Institution.

Grant Implementation

Q: Is it allowable to do an apprenticeship with another state agency?

A: Yes. If your institution is the training provider for the apprenticeship, other stakeholders or partners are welcome.

Q: Can this grant be used in combination with other grants received from other sources?

A: Yes.