Carl D. Perkins
Equitable Access and Opportunity Program

RFA and Application Training
March 9, 2022
Agenda

• Welcome and Remarks (Dr. Tina Jackson)
• Introduction to the RFA: What’s New
• Evidence Tiers Review
• Application Parts, Cover Page, Certifications
• Submission Requirements
• Time for Questions
Welcome and Remarks

Dr. Tina Jackson, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Workforce Education
Introduction to the RFA

The Evidence-Based Equity RFA is similar to other Perkins RFAs. The following slides introduce innovative components of the Equity RFA.
RFA Section 1.2 SYNOPSIS OF PROGRAM

• Competitive grant program utilizing Perkins State Leadership funds

• Funds will support high-quality, evidence-based programs for student equity

• **Purpose**: Increase equitable access to CTE programs and equitable opportunities for success

• **Target Audience**: New and current students with documented barriers to attaining high-value credentials
RFA Section 5 APPLICATION PROCESS

• Find the Application, Performance Evaluation Plan, Budget Form, and Required Signature Pages at https://www.highered.texas.gov/peaop

• This grant program will not utilize the Perkins Grant portal. Send all application documents and email to Perkins.Equity@highered.Texas.gov

• Applications will be reviewed by two review teams: an application evaluation team and a tier evidence evaluation team
RFA Section 7 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Description: Awards to institutions that design evidence-based programs for students in Perkins V’s nine Special Populations categories (target audience):

Individuals
1. with disabilities
2. from economically disadvantaged families (including low-income youth and adults)
3. preparing for nontraditional fields
4. who are out of the workforce
5. Who are homeless
6. Single parents, including single pregnant women
7. English learners

Youth aged 17-24
8. in or aging out of foster care
9. with a parent in the military and on active duty.

Goal: Advance sustainable, evidence-based approaches to equitable access and opportunity for CTE students in target audience.

General Requirements for Grants:
- Designed to make a significant, scalable impact on the recruitment and support of students in target audience.
- Sustainable after the grant period toward for ongoing impact on the institution’s current and future students in target audience.
8.1 Glossary of Evidence Terms

8.4 Evidence Tier Definitions and Requirements

- High Evidence Program Tier
- Moderate Evidence Program Tier
- Performance Program Tier
- Experience Program Tier
- New Program Tier
RFA Section 9 INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION

• This section provides further information on:
  • Application Cover Page
  • Determining Evidence Tiers
  • Programmatic Narrative
  • Budget
### Section 10 APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

**Application Evaluation Points:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated Level of Commitments</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated Student Need</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Project Plan</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Key Staff</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extent and Durability of Impact</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Replicability</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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**Tier Evidence Bonus Points:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Evidence Tier</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate Evidence Tier</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance Tier</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Experience Tier</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Tier</td>
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RFA Appendices

Appendices of the RFA are similar to past RFAs with the exception of APPENDIX B: PROGRAM APPLICATION.

Appendix B will assist applicants with completing the application which is a fillable PDF.
Evidence Tiers Review

For a thorough explanation of Texas Evidence-Based Grant-Making, watch the February 10, 2022, Evidence-Based Grant-Making webinar posted at https://www.highered.texas.gov/peaop.

Review RFA Section 9.2, Determining Evidence Tiers, before selecting the evidence tier for your application.
New Program Tier

New programs have no evidence of effectiveness and have not been evaluated. An applicant must explain why the proposed program will achieve the outcomes specified in the main body of the application and demonstrate that there is capacity to collect sufficient data to track outcomes from the program.

Experience Program Tier

Primary support for these programs’ effectiveness is provided through anecdotal participant success stories or other testimonials. Experience programs must have been providing services for at least one year prior to grant application.

Performance Program Tier

1. Data provided to demonstrate evidence for this tier must be outputs and outcomes data from programs that the applicant conducted during the past five years.

2. Data to demonstrate programs’ effectiveness must be historical data showing that (a) the program creates an intended change in participants and (b) participants show a positive outcome following participation in the program.

3. To demonstrate programs’ effectiveness, applicant must have historical output and outcome data for at least two years, either directly collected or from the similar program being used as evidence.
High or Moderate Evidence Program Tiers

Moderate Evidence Program Tier

1. Conducted at least one study that includes both a comparison group and a statistically valid technique to assess causation that eliminates or minimizes confounding factors.

2. Study must show that (a) the program has both a positive and meaningful outcome and (b) there is a modest degree of confidence that the outcome is primarily caused by the program.

High Evidence Program Tier

1. Conducted two or more well-designed and well-implemented Randomized Controlled Trials or Interrupted Time Series studies that include both a comparison group and a statistically valid technique to assess causation that eliminates or minimizes confounding factors.

2. Studies must have had minimal attrition.

3. Studies must show that (a) the program has both a positive and meaningful outcome and (b) there is a high degree of confidence that the outcome is primarily caused by the program.

For high and moderate evidence ratings, please see Causal Evidence Guidelines, Version 2.1. at CLEAR.dol.gov.
Application Parts, Cover Page, and Certification Pages

Forms can be found on the program website https://www.highered.texas.gov/peaop as fillable PDFs.
Email the completed Application, Project Evaluation Plan, and Budget forms to Perkins.Equity@highered.texas.gov.

Transmittal email must use the subject line APPLICATION [INSTITUTION NAME].

Narrative portions of application must be separated by HARD RETURNS into paragraphs for readability. Applications submitted without paragraphing will be returned for correction.

There is no word limit for the narrative sections.
Performance Evaluation Plan (PEP)

• Similar to PEPs of previous Perkins Leadership grants (example on next slide).

• A notes tab on the Excel spreadsheet assists colleges with completing the PEP.
Performance Evaluation Plan, continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>[State Goal in this box.]</td>
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**OBJECTIVES** (Add measurable objectives for Goal as needed.)

**Objective 1:**

Measure:

Data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities/Strategies (Add lines for additional activities as needed)</th>
<th>Timeline Planned</th>
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Budget Form

• Excel budget follows current Perkins grant format for schedules A, B, D, E, F, G, and CB-100 (example on next slide).

• Capital expenditures are unallowable for this program.

• A notes tab on the Excel spreadsheet assists colleges with completing the budget.
## Budget Form

### Schedule A- Salaries and Fringe Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>II. Title/Position</th>
<th>III. % of Time on Project</th>
<th>IV. Amount</th>
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**Total** $
Cover Page and Required Certifications

• Email the completed Cover Page, Certification Regarding Lobbying, and FFATA to Perkins.Equity@highered.texas.gov.

• Transmittal emails must use the subject line REQUIRED SIGNATURE PAGES [INSTITUTION NAME].

• All forms are fillable PDFs. Electronic signatures are allowable.
Submission Requirements
Submitting the Program Application Parts, Cover Page, and Certification Pages

• All documents must be transmitted to the equity email Perkins.Equity@highered.texas.gov.

• Follow subject-line title requirements for email transmissions.

• Application, Performance Evaluation Plan, and Budget Form must be submitted together by June 14, 2022, 11:59 pm CT.

• Cover Page, Certification Regarding Lobbying, and FFATA must be submitted together by June 21, 2022, 11:59 pm CT.

• Missing documents may hinder evaluation or result in denial of the application.
### Full Application Calendar (RFA Sec. 2.3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1, 2022</td>
<td>RFA Posted on THECB Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1, 2022</td>
<td>Inquiry Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14, 2022</td>
<td>Applications Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 21, 2022</td>
<td>Application Cover Page and Certification Regarding Lobbying Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22-July 12, 2022</td>
<td>Evaluation of Applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 13, 2022</td>
<td>Notifications to Institutions of Grant Award</td>
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<td>July 13-26, 2022</td>
<td>Negotiations toward Final Contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 27-August 31, 2022</td>
<td>Process Notices of Grant Award (NOGAs)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Questions?
RFA and Application Contact Information

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Dr. Stephanie Perkins
Program Director, CTE
Division of Workforce Education

Stephanie.Perkins@highered.Texas.gov
Webinar recording and slide deck will be posted at https://www.highered.texas.gov/peaop.

Thank you for attending!