

Work-based Learning Opportunity Grant - Internships

Ray Martinez, J.D.

Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs & Workforce Education

Ginger Gossman, Ph.D.

Senior Director

Douglas Brock, J.D.

Assistant General Counsel

THECB

**Texas Higher Education
COORDINATING BOARD**

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Agenda

GEER and Work-based Learning (WBL)

Purpose, Goal, and Focus

Awards

Project Criteria

Allowable Expenses

Application Calendar

Selection Criteria

Evaluation Criteria

Application Outline

Q&A

GEER and Work-based Learning (WBL)

- The COVID-19 pandemic widened gaps and opportunities for professional experience and hands-on training through work-based learning opportunities like internships and apprenticeships.
- These **Work-based Learning Opportunity Grants** are designed to strengthen the education to workforce pipeline, drive student opportunity, and aid in the state's economic recovery due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This grant program stems from an allocation of \$94.6 million in GEER funds to the Coordinating Board and has \$3.1 million in dedicated funds.

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships

- **Purpose:** To reinforce the vital connection between higher education and the workforce and strengthen their collaborative roles in economic development.
- **Goal:** To support the expansion of existing, off-campus internship programs in the spring or summer 2022.
- **Focus:** Providing or increasing wages for student interns and/or assisting with education related costs for interns with financial need.

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Awards





Award Schedule

\$250,000 Maximum Award

- Competitive grant award: Applications will be evaluated, ranked, and awarded until funds are fully obligated.
- Public two-year and public four-year institutions, may submit a maximum of one application.
- Grant period ends Sept. 30, 2022.

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Project Criteria

Funding will be provided to eligible applicants who propose one or more of the following programmatic elements:

-  1. Converting non-paid internship programs to paid
 -  2. Increasing the number of students participating in paid internships
 -  3. Increasing wages for students participating in paid internships
 4. Providing financial support to student interns with demonstrated need
-  Preference will be granted to applications that propose converting unpaid internships to paid internships or to expanding existing off-campus internship programs.

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Allowable Expenses

Allowable Uses

- Converting non-paid internship programs to paid work-based learning opportunities for students
- Increasing the number of students participating in paid work-based learning opportunities
- Increasing wages for students participating in paid work-based learning opportunities
- Providing financial support to student interns with demonstrated need

Prohibited Costs

- Non-allowable uses of funds include any and all non-allowable costs specified in federal UGG as well as the following: travel expenses, institutional marketing and/or communications expenses other than those pertaining to the grant project; and technology that is not for instructional use (e.g., laptops for staff).

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Application Calendar

- Jan. 13** Invitation for Applications
- Jan. 20** Informational Webinar at 9 a.m.
- Jan. 25** Last Day for Applicant Inquiries
- Jan. 31** Application Deadline
- Feb. 15** THECB Announces Grant Awards

Description of Project. Project description demonstrates how current off-campus internship programs are structured and supported, including data on how many students participated in internships in AY 2020-21 and how many were paid.

Identification of Grant Priorities. Project focus is on at least one of the two grant priorities: converting unpaid internships to paid internships and expanding existing internships. *Note: Expanding internships can be achieved by increasing the number of students participating in paid internships or by increasing wages for students participating in paid internships.*

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Core Selection Criteria

Demonstration of Employer Relationships.

Current employer partners for existing internships are listed and described.

Description of Project Goals and Activities.

Project goals and activities and related execution activities are clearly articulated, thorough, and relevant.

Description of Applicant. Description of capacity to undertake project is clear and includes an account of employer or industry partners that will participate in this grant project. included.

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Core Selection Criteria

Project Timeline. Project timeline clearly indicates project activities, estimated duration and estimated completion and is aligned with the project description. Timeline entries seem reasonable and achievable. Timeline also aligns with semester schedules through summer 2022. *Note: Semester structures do not have to be 16-weeks; 12-weeks, 8-weeks, etc. is acceptable.*

Allocation of Funds to Project Goals. Project budget maximizes the impact of available funds and limits or excludes direct administrative costs and indirect costs to administer the grant.

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Selection Criteria

WBL Opportunity Grant – Internships Evaluation Criteria

Application Section	Application Elements	Max. Points
4.1.a	Description of Project	5
4.1.b	Identification of Grant Priorities	
	Converting Unpaid Internships to Paid Internships	5
	Expanding Existing Internships	5
4.1.b	Demonstration of Employer Relationships	5
4.1.c, 4.1.d	Description of Project Goals and Activities	5
4.2	Description of Applicant	5
5.0	Project Timeline	5
Budget Form	Allocation of Funds to Project Goals	5
	Total Points Possible	40

Application Outline

- 1) Certification
- 2) Contact Information
- 3) Requested Grant Amount
- 4) Project Description
 1. Project Summary
 - a. Describe existing internship infrastructure
 - b. Identify grant priorities and connection to employers
 - c. Goals and activities
 - d. Hourly wages and anticipated hours worked
 2. Description of Applicant
- 5) Project Timeline
- 6) Budget Request Form
- 7) Federal Certification Forms

Questions

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WorkBasedLearning@highered.texas.gov