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\$500 million Available for Green Job Grants

On Wednesday, June 24, the Department of Labor (DOL) released solicitations for five new competitive grant opportunities to fund green job training initiatives. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) included \$750 million to establish competitive grant programs for job training in high growth and emerging industry sectors, \$500 million of which was reserved specifically for green job training. Although DOL has yet to announce how it will award the untargeted \$250 million, it has allocated a total of \$500 million to fund the following grant programs:

State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants

Funding Level: \$50 million

Eligible

Applicants: Only State Workforce Agencies may apply for these funds, either individually or collectively.

Eligible Use of Funds:

Grants will allow agencies to collect and analyze labor market data to assess economic activity in energy efficiency and renewable energy (green) industries. Funding will also support the dissemination of information about the green job market and the impact of the stimulus on this emerging field. Awards are expected to range between \$750,000 and \$1.25 million for individual state applications, or \$2 million to \$4 million for consortium applications.

Application Due: August 14, 2009

Energy Training Partnership Grants

Funding Level: \$100 million

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit organizations are the only eligible applicants. Nonprofits may apply under two separate categories: a) national labor-management organizations with local networks, or b) statewide or local nonprofit partnerships.

Eligible Use of Funds: Grants will fund projects that provide training and placement services to prepare workers to enter green industries. Priority will be given to projects that benefit workers impacted by national energy and environmental policy, workers in need of updated training, unemployed workers and veterans. Awards are expected to range between \$2 million and \$5 million.

Application Due: September 4, 2009

Pathways Out of Poverty

Funding Level: \$150 million

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit organizations are the only eligible applicants. Nonprofits may apply under two separate categories: a) national nonprofits with networks of local affiliates or other established partners, or b) local entities.

Eligible Use of Funds: Grants will be awarded to projects that provide training, education and job placement assistance to impoverished individuals, to facilitate their entry into green industries. Projects must target the unemployed, high school dropouts, people with criminal records, or disadvantaged individuals living within high poverty areas. Awards are expected to range between \$2 million and \$8 million

Application Due: September 29, 2009

State Energy Sector Partnership and Training Grants

Funding Level: \$190 million

Eligible Applicants: State Workforce Investment Boards are the only eligible applicants. Local Workforce Investment Boards may partner with their State Boards.

Eligible Use of Funds: Grants will fund activities in support of a holistic state-wide energy sector strategy. In order to apply, a board must formulate a strategy to build a green workforce in their respective state. Funding can be used to fund a variety of training and workforce development activities articulated in the strategy. An unspecified portion of these funds is reserved for communities affected by the restructuring of the auto industry. Awards are expected to range from \$2 million to \$6 million.

Application Due: October 20, 2009

Green Capacity Building Grants

Funding Level: \$5 million

Eligible Applicants: Only active DOL-funded grantees are eligible to apply.

Eligible Use of Funds: Grants will support the integration of green job training into the curriculum of active DOL-funded training programs. Funding can be used for new equipment, staff development, or the hiring of new staff. Awards are expected to range between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

Application Due: August 5, 2009

To obtain more information about these grant programs or to download an application, please visit the Department of Labor's grant portal at:

http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm

To sign up for client alerts, visit: www.fergusongroup.us/eAlerts.html



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