

QUESTIONS RE: SGA/DFA PY 06-10: APPRENTICESHIP, ALTERNATIVE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS AND EXPANSION

Q. If our planning phase will take less than 6 months, are we still limited to only 12 months for the implementation phase?

A. Yes, applicants should budget for 12 months of operation.

Q. For the expansion grants, can the recipients be a mix of existing and new program with at least two new programs being in the sub grantee group?

A. Funds must be used for the expansion sites not existing sites.

Q. What is the match requirement?

A. Leveraged resources should be 20% of requested amount and can be federal and non federal.

Q. Can the first year of pre-release be considered as pre-apprenticeship training with apprenticeship occurring post-release?

A. No

Q. Regarding the Alternative Education category can your site be co-located? i.e. in a high school

A. Yes

Q. Is it fifty participants total or fifty at each site?

A. For the expansion category, the fifty participants was only an example to provide characteristics of youth. There is no set number that must be served in the expansion grant. Applicants should indicate in their proposal, the number of youth to be served in the first year in the expansion grants and the number to be served when the projects are fully mature.

Q. For the Expansion grants, can the lead applicant propose that the new sites be implemented by COBs that are already serving youth, including youth offenders? The difference would be that the two new sites could serve more youth, and do it with a new model that serves this population better?

A. The applicant need to make the case that these are expansion sites. Simply adding a new population to be served does not make it an expansion site.

Q. What is the expected start-up date for these grants?

A. Grantees can have up to six months of planning before starting their implementation phase.

Q. Up to 6 months of planning for all three categories?

A. Yes

Q. How do you evaluate the quality of leveraged resources?

A. Applicants should be able to describe in detail the source of leveraged funds and make the case that they would not be used in the same way were it not for this grant.

Q.If partners are identified in the proposal will they be assured of funding or must all sub grants be bid out?

A. OMB Circulars require that an entity's procurement procedures must ensure that all procurement transactions are conducted, as much as practical, to provide open and free competition. If a proposal identifies a specific entity to provide services, the DOL/ETA's award does not provide the justification or basis to sole source the procurement, i.e., avoid competition, unless the activity is regarded as the primary work of an official partner to the application

Q. For the Registered Apprenticeship grants, can related classroom instruction only be proposed while in the correctional facility with the work side of the apprenticeship program satisfied upon release?

A. Yes, but they must be part of a registered apprenticeship program and the apprenticeship sponsor must document a willingness to accept both the classroom instruction and the enrollee to continue the apprenticeship after release.

Q. If a building is needed to house such program does it have to be a new building or can it be a pre-existing building that meets standards needed.

A. It can be a pre-existing building.

Q. Are community colleges eligible to apply for this grant?

A. No the applicant will need to partner organization that is an eligible applicant.

Q. Will you have a reporting system or do we have to use an internal reporting system?

A. DOL will provide a template of required data elements. DOL expects that the awardee will have in place a internal reporting system capable of tracking and reporting out these data elements..

Q. Will an applicant's program partner that is required to submit a letter of commitment ALSO need to sign an MOU if the partner is contributing leveraged resources? Or will detailing those leveraged resources in the letter of commitment suffice?

A. Stating the commitment once is fine.

Q. Please repeat link where the webinar and questions/answers will be posted?

A. Direct link to presentation slides:
<http://www.workforce3one.org/members/getfileinfo.cfm?id=894>

Q. Please clarify match - is it 20% required in leveraged resources? That is, is \$200,000 leveraged resources required for \$1m grant?

A. Yes

Q.Under the Project Design, Key Partners, Service Strategy and Program Outcomes section, it mentions utilizing a minimum cohort of 50 participants under the project expansion category. Is this the number of participants to be served or is this the number of participants who demonstrate project effectiveness for the project to be expanded?

<p>A. For the expansion category, the fifty participants was only an example to provide characteristics of youth. No set number that must be served in the expansion grant. Applicants should indicate in their proposal, the number of youth to be served in the first year in the expansion grants and the number to be served when the projects are fully mature.</p>
<p>Q. What is the maximum percent of the total budget for each line item?</p>
<p>A. No maximum for any budget item.</p>
<p>Q. Do you need a letter of commitment for all partners identified in the proposal?</p>
<p>A. You need a letter of commitment from any partner that you want to receive credit for in the proposal.</p>
<p>Q. Please readdress the question regarding letter plus MOU.</p>
<p>A. You can supply either letters of commitment or MOUs, you do not need both.</p>
<p>Q. Should the leveraged resource document be included with the cost proposal?</p>
<p>A. Yes.</p>
<p>Q. You stated a limitation of equipment at \$5,000. If the equipment includes a curriculum and is part of the educational program, such as building a computer will this be an allowable expense? Is the \$5,000 a total cost for equipment or is it per piece?</p>
<p>A. \$5,000 is simply the limit for which you need approval from the grant officer. Purchases above \$5000, are allowable, they simply need approval from the grant officer. Equipment and educational software are allowable expenses, with grant officer approval if they are over \$5,000. Equipment that is part of a complete system, like a bank of computers should be valued for their total cost.</p>
<p>Q. We are considering applying to expand a project that is run by a partner CBO. The project is construction training that takes place at a local community college site. Would it be allowable to propose the creation of new sites that would in turn transport participants to the community?</p>
<p>A. The applicant should make a case that demonstrates that they are expanding to two new sites.</p>
<p>Q. What performance standards will be applied to grant recipients?</p>
<p>A. The Registered Apprenticeship grants will be accountable for the adult WIA core measures including placements, earnings change, and retention. Alternative Educational Pathways grants will be accountable for the youth common measures including reading and math gains and educational attainment. Project expansion grants will be subject to performance measures based upon project focus.</p>
<p>Q. Can existing sites receive funds to provide technical assistance to new sites?</p>
<p>A. There are no existing sites as this is a new SGA. If referring to expansion, base programs can provide TA to new expansion sites.</p>

<p>Q. Do you know how many states are applying for this grant?</p> <p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. Discuss sustainability. Funding wise and inmate's completion of apprenticeship.</p> <p>A. Grants may receive additional years of funding provided availability of funds and satisfactory programs.</p>
<p>Q. If continuation funding will be a possibility, how should project sustainability be addressed "once DOL grant funds cease"?</p> <p>A. The applicant should make the best case in their proposal describing how they will be able to sustain the project at whatever point DOL grant funds cease.</p>
<p>Q. Please repeat about the 12 months, no more no less...BUT we might only need a month or two to plan.</p> <p>A. DOL requires 12 full months of operations regardless of planning period</p>
<p>Q. Can apprenticeship funds be used to buy trade-related equipment (such as welding equipment for welding apprentices)?</p> <p>A. Yes, with grant office approval.</p>
<p>Q. What are the parameters/restrictions for involvement of the Federal Office of Apprenticeship during the application, planning and implementation phases?</p> <p>A. They will assist projects after grant award.</p>
<p>Q. Please clarify if there are a minimum number of youth who need to be served under the "alternative education pathways" program.</p> <p>A. One hundred youth need to be served in the first year and that number can be expanded in subsequent years</p>
<p>Q. Will you post all questions (assume you'll combine same/similar questions) even if not answered during the webinar?</p> <p>A. Yes</p>
<p>Q. Are the performance measures the same as WIA Common Measures?</p> <p>A. The Registered Apprenticeship grants will be accountable for the adult WIA core measures including placements, earnings change, and retention. Alternative Educational Pathways grants will be accountable for the youth common measures including reading and math gains and educational attainment. Project expansion grants will be subject to performance measures based upon project focus.</p>
<p>Q. For the alternative education grants, is it okay to spread out 16 to 17 year olds across more sub-sites, and integrate them into a population group that includes a wider age group?</p> <p>A. Need to show that you are enhancing or starting a school, not just adding a new population.</p>

<p>Q. Do you intend to repeat this SGA next year should funding be available?</p> <p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. If an agency runs a program for youthful offenders in a community, would adding significant new connections to workforce preparation activities be considered an expansion?</p> <p>A. No the applicant will need to expand to two new sites.</p>
<p>Q. The State of Florida does not recognize apprenticeships behind the fence for inmates. Can we use the funds to establish a pre-apprenticeship program with the intention to enrolling the released inmate in an apprenticeship program upon release?</p> <p>A. Florida does recognize apprenticeship programs that start behind the fence and ends outside. We have an Office of Apprenticeship staff in Florida and he will be happy to explain to them the process. His name is Richard Melton.</p>
<p>Q. I apologize, I may have missed it, and can you repeat the SGA site?</p> <p>A. www.doleta.gov/sga</p>
<p>Q. Under the Alternative Education category so the participant has to be currently active in the juvenile justice system - i.e.: currently on probation on the time of enrollment or can they are off probation at enrollment?</p> <p>A. They can be off probation at the time of enrollment.</p>
<p>Q. With the expansion, can we expand to three new geographical locations and maintain one or more existing locations at the same time?</p> <p>A. Grant funds can only be used for expansion.</p>
<p>Q. Do you require specific staff credentials?</p> <p>A. No</p>
<p>A. Is GED completion an acceptable outcome under the Alternative Education program?</p> <p>Q. Schools supported under these grants must offer state-recognized high school diplomas, and DOL sees this as the focus of alternative education grants. GED attainment is recognized in the youth common measures as an acceptable outcome.</p>
<p>Q. What positions are not allowed with these funds?</p> <p>A. There are no specific not allowed positions</p>
<p>Q. Is there a numerical expectation of partners in the Alternative Education?</p> <p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. If we are a contract of the WIB can we apply or does it have to be the local WIB?</p> <p>A. You can apply if you meet eligibility criteria in the SGA</p>
<p>Q. My question regarding the cohort of 50 refers to the Expansion category. Is it a total of fifty or fifty at each of the three sites?</p>

<p>A. 50 was given as an example. There is no specific numerical requirement for youths served in the expansion grants. You should specify the number in your proposal.</p>
<p>Q. Our organization runs local youth and community development nonprofits, some of which provide programming that is tailored to youthful offenders. If we were to replicate and expand this programming to a mix of new and existing sites, would we be eligible for funding? By new sites, we mean new geographic sites. By existing sites, we mean sites that are already operating but providing youthful offender programming for the first time.</p>
<p>A. Expansion is for two new sites. It is not enough to just add a new population of youth at an existing site.</p>
<p>Q. Are juveniles involved with youthful offender re-entry programs eligible for participation?</p>
<p>A. Yes, if they meet other participant eligibility program requirements.</p>
<p>Q. If there is an existing local workforce board in your area that handles employment and training, can you still apply?</p>
<p>A. Yes, if you meet eligibility criteria.</p>
<p>Q. So, not a match AND a discussion on leveraged resources needed???</p> <p>SGA says differently...</p>
<p>A. For all three categories, leveraged resources must equal at least 20 percent of the requested amount. These resources can be Federal and non-Federal and can be in-kind or cash. Applicants will be rated on both the quality and the amount of leveraged resources. Leveraged resources can come from a variety of sources, including: public sector (e.g., Federal, state, or local governments); non-profit sector (e.g., community organizations, faith-based organizations, or education and training institutions); private sector (e.g., businesses or industry associations); investor community (e.g., angel networks); philanthropic community; and the economic development community. Applicants must describe in detail how such leveraged funds will be used and demonstrate how these funds will contribute to the goals of the project.</p>
<p>Q. With awards projected for June 30, is there a proposed project start date that ETA would like to see with funded projects?</p>
<p>A. July 1 is the start date with up to six months of planning.</p>
<p>Q. To be in a registered apprenticeship program in our state, an apprentice must have a GED prior to entry. This requirement could severely limit our pool. As a result, can GED time be considered an eligible project activity?</p>
<p>A. GED can be part of a program, but not the entire program.</p>
<p>Q. Can I get a listing of the attendees and their affiliations?</p>
<p>A. We do not as a matter of course provide this information.</p>
<p>Q. What is a "new" apprenticeship?</p>
<p>A. A new registered apprenticeship is one that is not currently offered in the institution.</p>

<p>Q. Do we need a new population or can we use an established population?</p> <p>A. In the apprenticeship category you need a new population. In the expansion category, you need a new population. In alternative educational category, you can have an established population if you are enhancing a school. Note that any population served needs to be offenders.</p>
<p>Q. In terms of expansion projects, the SGA is not specific as to what DOL has in mind with regard to expansion into other communities. Can we assume this can be defined by the applicant- that it can either be other cities or other communities/neighborhoods within the same city?</p> <p>A. Expansion communities can be new states, counties, cities, or neighborhoods (within the same city). In rural areas, it can also be new small towns.</p>
<p>Q. Is there a minimum ask amount... what if we don't need the entire \$1 million?</p> <p>A. Applicants should ask for the entire \$1 million.</p>
<p>Q. Is there a requirement related to the number of each gender of individuals that must be served? Is there a proportional requirement?</p> <p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. Can any funds from the grant be used to support activity at the original site whose program is being replicated?</p> <p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. The Alternative Education portion where it says "must offer state-recognized high school diploma" if there is a partnership with a school district and they will officially offer the diploma on credits that our agency submits. Does this meet the requirement?</p> <p>A. Yes, but you need to provide supporting documentation.</p>
<p>Q. Can you please explain further the difference between the budget as it relates to the planning period and budget as it relates to implementation phases?</p> <p>A. The 424A budget should be a combination of up to the 10% planning and implementation The backup budget should separate these two budget phases. The planning period budget can be up to 10%. The implementation budget should reflect 12 full months of operation.</p>
<p>Q. Are there a minimum number of participants required for the Project Expansion component?</p> <p>A. No set number that must be served in the expansion grant. Applicants should indicate in their proposal, the number of youth served in the first year in the expansion grants and the number served when the projects are fully mature.</p>
<p>Q. For the project expansion grants, can one of the expansions be to an existing site while adding one additional site, or does the expansion need to be two additional sites?</p> <p>A. Must be new two sites.</p>

<p>Q. For the apprenticeship program, is the first year of pre-release exclusive of the 12 month service delivery? Is the project funded for 12 months in addition to the one year pre-release?</p> <p>A. Most of the first year funding will go to training behind the fence. If additional funding is provided a portion of these funds will go to the post release phase of apprenticeship.</p>
<p>Q. For the Expansion category grants, do the sites have to be brand new or can they be existing sites that are emerging in using the model?</p> <p>A. Must be two new sites.</p>
<p>Q. What if your program typically focuses on 15-25 yr old high risk youth are you eligible for more than one segment?</p> <p>A. Applicants can apply for grants in more than one of these categories, but separate applications must be submitted for each category.</p>
<p>Q. Does the formal registration process have to be completed in order to submit an application by mail (other than the necessary attainment of the DUNS number)?</p> <p>A. Yes, please note you can get a DUNS number over the phone by calling 1-866-705-5711.</p>
<p>Q. Does this cohort include any from the original program being replicated, or must it come entirely from the two new sites?</p> <p>A. The only place in the SGA where the term cohort is used is in reference to the need for applicants to provide information that will demonstrate project effectiveness in the following workforce related outcomes; Unsubsidized full-time employment, Placement in post secondary institutions, High school diploma and/or GED attainment.</p>
<p>Q. How do you propose we handle the different indirect rates from the sub grantees vs. that of the lead applicant?</p> <p>A. The primary recipient is responsibility for negotiating indirect cost rate with its sub-grantees which is separate and distinct from the primary recipient's indirect cost rate. However, the limitations placed on the primary recipient's indirect cost reimbursement by the administrative cost limit should be reflected in the indirect cost reimbursement of sub-grantees.</p>
<p>Q. We are not a 501© 3 because we are state controlled institution of higher education. We are non profit, we just don't have 501©3 because we are state controlled. Can we apply as the University of Oregon? If not, can we apply through our foundation which is 501c3 but not a community agency?</p> <p>A. Neither the college or its foundation is eligible to apply. The University would need to partner with an eligible applicant.</p>
<p>Q. When do you expect people to start charter or alternative schools?</p> <p>A. Within six months of grant award.</p>

<p>Q. Do you want separate proposals if applying for two of the categories?</p> <p>A. Yes</p>
<p>Q. Can a School District be a provider of services under the Project Expansion category as a sub grantee of a WIB, so long as the WIB is the applicant?</p> <p>A. Yes</p>
<p>Q. My school takes no more than nine students at a time--does that disqualify us?</p> <p>A. There is no minimum number of youths to be served for schools proposing enhancement.</p>
<p>Q. What is the formal definition of a Community Based organization?</p> <p>A. The grant announcement does not define a community based organization.</p>
<p>Q. In the SGA, under allowable uses of funds #4 you indicate that supportive housing, mental health and substance abuse referrals are allowed, does this mean that funds can be used to pay for housing as well as mental health and drug treatment?</p> <p>A. The grant announcement allows referral to these services but not the actual provision of such services. It is expected that the grantee would partner with other agencies that provide these services.</p>
<p>Q. Can one agency apply for more than one grant in a category?</p> <p>A. Yes, but you must submit separate proposals.</p>
<p>Q. Is there a printed version of this presentation available?</p> <p>A. Yes, the presentation can be found at: http://www.workforce3one.org/members/getfileinfo.cfm?id=894</p>
<p>Q. Under the Registered Apprenticeship Option--must the apprenticeship program be new, and/or developed specifically for this initiative? It cannot be existing registered programs?</p> <p>A. Can be an existing apprenticeship program that exists outside prison but it must be new to the prison.</p>
<p>Q. How are you defining "proven" programs?</p> <p>A. It is up to the applicant in their proposal to make the case that their program is worth replicating. In particular the SGA asks applicants to provide information that will demonstrate project effectiveness in the following workforce related outcomes; unsubsidized full-time employment, placement in post secondary institutions, high school diploma and/or GED attainment.</p>
<p>Q. Could you repeat B Jai's contact info again?</p> <p>A. B. Jai Johnson (202-693-3296) e-mail: Johnson.bjai@dol.gov</p>
<p>Q. If submitting online application, if attachment file is more than than one page, will those pages be counted against the total 15 page attachment limits?</p>

A. No.
Q. Can you clarify how long we have during the planning phase of this grant?
A. Up to six months
Q. Do you discourage for-profit organizations from applying? Your presentation mentions community organizations, but does not discuss profit vs. not for profit.
A.
Q. How many awards are allocated for registered apprenticeship programs and what are their respective amounts?
A. Four awards of \$1 million each.
Q. What is the grant period?
A. Twelve full months of operation and up to six months of planning but key is 12 months of operation. Applicants should budget for a full 12 months of operation, reserving up to 10% for the planning period.
Q. Alternative Education pathways - guidelines says school must offer high school diplomas - later it states GED ok. Is it both?
A. Schools supported under these grants must offer state-recognized high school diplomas, and DOL sees this as the focus of the alternative education grants. A limited number of youth can receive GED instruction.
Q. Thank you for your feedback, where are the application forms on this site?
A. www.doleta.gov/sga
Q. If submitting on-line, how should letters of support, leveraging commitments, etc. be submitted?
A. Submit as a PDF file.
Q. Are letters of support counted in the 15 page attachment section?
Q. Yes
Q. Please define community, can a distinction be made between rural vs. urban?
A. Expansion communities can be new states, counties, cities, or neighborhoods (within the same city). In rural areas, it can also be new small towns.
Q. Do we need an indirect cost rate? Can we use 10% for admin allowed under WIA?
A. If you do not have an indirect cost rate, a provisional rate will be provided. The administrative costs limit for these grants is 15%.
Q. Can chart exhibits be 10 point font and single spaced?
A. Yes
Q. Do MOUs and letters of support count toward the 15 pages of attachments?

<p>A. Yes</p>
<p>Q. You stated we needed to submit an "indirect cost budget". Is this separate from the narrative and the detailed back up budget? Is this required even if the organization has an approved indirect cost rate?</p> <p>A. The indirect cost budget is the cover page of the indirect cost agreement. If you do not have an indirect cost agreement DOL will provide a 90 day provisional rate.</p>
<p>Q. You state that the eligible grant applicant is the Workforce Board. Can a youth provider for the WIB apply under their name? When building the budget and narrative it would reflect the staff and program of the actual youth provider as the WIB does not deliver program.</p> <p>A. Workforce boards are only one of several types of eligible applicants. You can apply if you meet the eligible criterion for the category you are interested in.</p>
<p>Q. Could you clarify what "indirect cost rate" means?</p> <p>A. As specified in OMB Circulars on Cost Principles, indirect costs are those that have been incurred for common or joint objectives and cannot be readily identified with a particular cost objective. In order to utilize grant funds for indirect costs incurred, the applicant must obtain an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement with its Federal Cognizant Agency either before or shortly after the grant award. The Federal Cognizant Agency is generally determined based on the preponderance of Federal dollars received by the recipient.</p>
<p>Q. For the Alternative Educational Pathways option of this grant opportunity, can the enrollees be current juvenile correction facility inmates. In other words, can this funding be sought for an accredited school that is IN/PART OF the juvenile justice secured facility?</p> <p>A. No, the SGA limits eligibility to youth who are returning from a juvenile detention or juvenile correctional facility, are on probation through the juvenile justice system, or have been previously detained or put on probation through the juvenile justice system.</p>
<p>Q. Should adult correctional facilities be among the partners and included in the advisory council?</p> <p>A. They can be but are not a required partner.</p>
<p>Q. I know you covered this, but how many awards are you giving out and what is the breakdown of the awards?</p> <p>A. Registered apprenticeship, four grants at \$1 million each; Alternative Educational Pathways, six grants at \$1 million each; and Expansion, five grants at \$2 million each.</p>
<p>Q. Are organizations that have received previous Youth Offender grants from DOL ETA eligible for the funds in this solicitation? My organization received a \$1m grant in 2005 that was extended by \$900,000 in 2006.</p> <p>A. Yes provided they are otherwise eligible.</p>

<p>Q. Could you clarify what, if anything, we need to do regarding section VIII.B? OMB Information Collection No. 1205-0458 (pg 24338)?</p> <p>A. There is no requirement for this section.</p>
<p>Q. Will letters of support be considered a separate section and not counted toward either the 20 page technical narrative nor the 15 pages for supporting info such as org chart, timeline, etc. (pg 24336; V.A.4)</p> <p>A. Letters of commitment will be a part of the 15 pages of supporting information.</p>
<p>Q. Should the grant application address the relationship between the grantee and the inmate apprentice after release?</p> <p>A. Yes, the grantee is expected to set up a registered apprenticeship program that spans both the pre-release and release phases.</p>
<p>Q. Can replication include increasing an already-existing youth program's ability to work with court-involved youth (as opposed to just creating a totally new program)?</p> <p>A. The applicant needs to make the case that they are expanding an existing program into two new sites. Simply adding a new population of youthful offenders to an existing site does not meet this requirement.</p>
<p>Q. Under the Expansion category, can the population come from the adult correctional system, if they are between 18-21?</p> <p>A. No, as specified in the SGA the population to be served in this category must come from the juvenile justice system.</p>
<p>Q. Are local juvenile courts considered "community organizations" that are eligible for project expansion?</p> <p>A. No, they would need to partner with an eligible applicant.</p>
<p>Q. Could you clarify what is meant by the request "describe how enrollees will be referred to the expansion sites" (pg. 24336 V. A. 3)?</p> <p>A. Describe how you would do outreach and recruitment.</p>
<p>Q. May a profit-making organization working in partnership with a public school district apply for alternative educational pathways funds?</p> <p>A.</p>
<p>Q. Should an apprenticeship proposal include more than one registered apprenticeship?</p> <p>A One is sufficient.</p>
<p>Q. The SGA references Key Partners as a part of its evaluation criteria (pg. 24335, V.A.) under the 4th item "Linkages to Key Partners, Leveraged Resources and Sustainability", but under V.A. 3 Project Design, Key Partners are flagged in this section and "Additional Partners" are flagged under Linkages, Leveraged Resources & Sustainability (see pg. 24335 & 24336 V.A. 4). How would you like us to organize the information re? Partners and in which section?</p>

<p>A. The key (required) partners are described in section 3. For apprenticeship the required partners are the unions and employers who will be the sponsoring agencies. For the alternative education pathways it is the juvenile justice system and the public school system that are the key partners. In the expansion grants, it is the workforce justice system, community business, and school based partnerships necessary to support project expansion. Other partners should be discussed in section 4.</p>
<p>Q. Are county correctional agencies included under state correctional agencies?</p>
<p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. Are there recommendations as to number of offenders to be served in the first year of the apprenticeship?</p>
<p>A. No, the SGA did not specify the number to be served. The SGA did require that applicants indicate how many participants would be served when the program is fully operational.</p>
<p>Q. Can alternative educational pathways funds be used for educational programs that serve youth while they are in residential programs?</p>
<p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. Can apprenticeship funds be used to purchase trade-related equipment (such as welding equipment, for example)?</p>
<p>A. Yes with Grant Officer approval.</p>
<p>Q. For the Alternative Education grants, may an applicant spread out 16-17-year-olds across more sub-grantees and integrate them into a population group that includes a wider age group?</p>
<p>A. Grant funds must be used to establish a new school or enhance an existing school. Simply adding a new population of youth does not constitute an enhancement.</p>
<p>Q. Can an apprenticeship program be structured so that only classroom activity takes place pre-release, and all hands on training is post-release?</p>
<p>A. Yes, if instruction is part of a registered apprenticeship program and the sponsoring agency agrees to accept pre-release training as part of the apprenticeship and agrees to continue the apprenticeship upon release.</p>
<p>Q. Is there a cap on per-student expenditures in the apprenticeship program?</p>
<p>A. No</p>
<p>Q. If partners are identified in the proposal will they be assured of funding or must all sub grants be bid out?</p>
<p>A. OMB Circulars require that an entity's procurement procedures must ensure that all procurement transactions are conducted, as much as practical, to provide open and free competition. If a proposal identifies a specific entity to provide services, the DOL/ETA's award does not provide the justification or basis to sole source the procurement, i.e., avoid competition, unless the activity is regarded as the primary work of an official partner to the application</p>

Q. Your answer to the question about procurement seems to be in conflict with the Note in the SGA about contracting with partners to proposal development when the service is regarded as the primary work of the partner.

A. OMB Circulars require that an entity's procurement procedures must ensure that all procurement transactions are conducted, as much as practical, to provide open and free competition. If a proposal identifies a specific entity to provide services, the DOL/ETA's award does not provide the justification or basis to sole source the procurement, i.e., avoid competition, unless the activity is regarded as the primary work of an official partner to the application

Q. Is the youth apprentice solicitation grant intended only for juveniles in DOC programs, or is it inclusive of juvenile (only) justice education programs in states?

A. No, the apprentice category of the solicitation is intended to serve young adults between 18 and 24 years of age who are housed in state adult correctional institutions.

Q. We are a 501c (3), not for profit, business. We also operate federally funded programs that include YouthBuild and WIA Youth Programs. Does this mean that we are a federally recognized organization?

A. Federally recognized organizations refer to federally recognized tribal organizations.

Q. We currently operate a certified and accredited alternative education day school. It is Not a Charter School. Because we are not a Charter School, does this mean we are not eligible to apply?

A. You will still be eligible to apply.

Q. Stated on page24333: Applicants may be national or local community and faith-based organizations, local workforce investment boards, Indian/native, American, native Hawaiian, Alaskan Native and Pacific Islander Tribal Governments or organizations that are federally recognized?

A. An omission occurred and it should read in the following manner: Applicants may be national or local community and faith-based organizations, local workforce investment boards, Indian/Native American, Native Hawaiian, Alaskan Native and Pacific Islander Tribal governments or tribal organizations that are federally recognized.

Q. In Section III. Eligibility Information and Other Grant Specifications it states that "local workforce Investment boards" are eligible applicants for all three tracks: Registered Apprenticeship, Alternative Educational pathways and Project Expansion. Vermont has one workforce investment board per federal law. Its "local workforce investment board" is a statewide workforce investment board by definition; therefore, can Vermont as a state apply for all three tracks? In the past, the Vermont Department of Labor has applied for grants on behalf of its statewide WIB. Would this be allowed for all three tracks as well?

A.Yes..

Q. The Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC) would like to know if it is eligible to apply for this grant under category (2): The Alternative Educational Pathways opportunity. The ADC is a Public Educational agency (PEA) that provides education in state correctional complexes to minors under 18 years of age and to youth ages 18-24, as well as providing mandatory literacy and GED classes to the adult incarcerated population. However, we are not a juvenile justice agency; we are a criminal justice agency that serves juveniles remanded as adults.

A. No, youth currently in a correctional facility are not eligible in this category. The SGA limits eligibility to youth who are returning from a juvenile detention or juvenile correctional facility, are on probation through the juvenile justice system, or have been previously detained or put on probation through the juvenile justice system.

Q. Is there a state registered apprenticeship program in the District of Columbia that is overseen by the US Department of Labor as defined on page 24330 of the Federal Register announcement of the program?

A. The Secretary of Labor has granted recognition to 26 state Apprenticeship Councils (SAC), the District of Columbia, and three territories as the entities for state registration and/or approval of local apprenticeship programs and agreements for Federal Purposes. The State Director for the DC State Apprenticeship Council is Lewis Brown, the office is located at 609 H Street N.E., 4th Floor, Room 401, Washington, DC 20002, phone number is (202) 698-5099. The Office of Apprenticeship conducts reviews on the SAC to ensure that they are following the Federal regulations as it relates to registered apprenticeship.

Q. Does the 18 month period of performance include a 90-day or up to 6 months planning period (see Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 84, pg 24332, II.A and II.B.)

A. Up to six months of planning is permitted.

Q. Please give me the definition for organizations that are federally recognized.

A. Federally recognized organizations refer to federally recognized tribal organizations.

Q. Since we have received federal grants to administer does this constitute federally recognized?

A. Federally recognized organizations refer to federally recognized tribal organizations.

Q. Section 1.C. Project Expansion indicates: "Applicants are requested to propose replicating an existing model project in at least two additional sites." Is this to indicate that the proposal should plan to continue the replicating model in its existing location, as well as add two additional sites?

A. Grant funds can only be used to operate the expansion sites.

Q. Is this to indicate that the proposal should plan to only provide services in areas that the exiting replicating model is not presently providing services?

A. Yes.

<p>Q. On Page 24331 Federal Register First Column to the left-third paragraph: Upon release and through previously established coordination, participants will complete their registered apprenticeship training and enroll in an approved registered apprenticeship program. Does this mean that the youthful offenders would emerge from the proposed program and transition to yet another registered apprenticeship program?</p> <p>A. The applicant must implement a single registered apprenticeship that spans both the pre-release and post-release period.</p>
<p>Q. Could the offender’s transition from the proposed program into employment in partnership w/participating employers. Would that be acceptable?</p> <p>A. The registered apprenticeship training started under this grant is expected to be one unified program that begins within the correctional facility and continues uninterrupted post-release. The portion of the Registered Apprenticeship program participation within the correctional facility should represent no less than one year and no more than 50 percent of all combined apprenticeship training requirements.</p>
<p>Q. We are interested in applying for this funding opportunity, specifically in Part C. “Project Expansion” in two ways: to expand currently provided services to formalize transitional housing and job placement services, and to replicate the Gateways program at two other in-state juvenile institutions. As a college, do we meet the eligibility criteria under this funding opportunity, or would we only be eligible only through partnering with another institution?</p> <p>A. You would be eligible only through partnering with another organization that is national or local community and faith-based organizations, local workforce investment boards, Indian/native American. Native Hawaiian, Alaskan Native and Pacific Islander Tribal Governments or organizations that are federally recognized.</p>
<p>Q. For the “Expansion” category of the SGA, I am still confused over the question regarding eligibility of youth, 18-21, who are either incarcerated in an adult facility, associated with a youthful offender program operated by a state Department of Correction(s) or similarly named agency or are under the jurisdiction of a state parole/probation agency. The two responses on the Webinar seemed contradictory. Can you clarify?</p> <p>A. The expansion category only serves juveniles.</p>
<p>Q. We would very much like to use the Youthful Project Expansion Grant to duplicate a position for another Deputy in our Program.</p> <p>A. It is understandable that additional staff may need to be hired and this is acceptable. What is important is that the request to hire someone to oversee a project expansion effort is but one of numerous components that would have to be addressed in any proposal submitted.</p>
<p>Q. Can you verify the information below for the apprenticeship grant (CFAN# 17.261)? We are applying under the first category of the Youthful Offender Registered Apprenticeship, Alternative Education, and Project Expansion Grants. The RFP indicates</p>

in at least two places that the apprenticeships under the grant must be new.

A. The intent is for applicants to introduce new registered apprenticeship programs in prison facilities. Partnering with a state apprenticeship agency and introducing an existing registered apprenticeship into a facility is fine as long as the existing apprenticeship did not previously serve offenders.

Q. We understand that DOL expects the grant period to begin in July of 2007. With six months of planning an alternative school, under this program, would starting implementation in January 2008 be expected? Would an implementation start of August 2008, which is in line with our County's school year, be acceptable?

A. While the scenario described is less than desirable we would leave it to the applicant to present a proposal outlining their intent.

Q. The statement of need for this grant requires discussion of the crime rate in our community. Would you please refer us to the acceptable resource for this data?

A. Applicants can use the best data that they have available. We have not given guidance or placed requirements on what data to use in discussing the crime rate in the community.

Q. In Maricopa County, the local WIB is not set up to accept funding for WIA services and work in partnership with the local governmental entity that is the designated LWIA, who in turn submit grants and operates programs on the board's behalf. Would a situation such as ours be looked at as not being eligible for this grant?

A. This is acceptable as long as written evidence of this partnership arrangement is provided. It is almost tantamount to an organization serving as a fiscal agent for grant recipient.