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Department
of Labor

DIRECT ENTRY PRE-APPRENTICESHIP (DEPA) Programs Bid #DEPA

WHAT IS THE DIRECT ENTRY PRE-APPRENTICESHIP (DEPA) GRANT?

The New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) is making \$2 million available to support DEPA programs that provide participants with training and exposure to various trades and offer opportunities for entry into NYS Registered Apprenticeship (RA) training programs; particularly those serving underrepresented populations. The Request for Application (RFA) is supported by State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula (SAEF) funding from the United States Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. 100% of this RFA will be financed with federal funds, and no non-federal funds are being used.

WHAT IS A PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM?

Pre-apprenticeship is an apprenticeship preparation program that provides participants with training and exposure to various trades and offers opportunities for entry into RA training programs.

WHAT IS A DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAM?

Direct Entry may be used by sponsors of RA programs as another way to bring apprentices into their programs. It is a tool to help sponsors reach underrepresented populations and to better meet their Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) goals. Direct Entry provides the individuals who successfully complete a Direct Entry pre-apprenticeship program, and who meets the minimum requirements for a NYS RA program, with the direct opportunity to interview with the sponsor of a RA program.

For more information on how pre-apprenticeship programs can apply for Direct Entry status, visit the NYSDOL website (dol.ny.gov/direct-entry) or contact NYSDOL's Apprenticeship Training Office at DirectEntryPreApprenticeship@labor.ny.gov.

USE OF FUNDS

Applicants may apply for a maximum of \$195,000 where up to \$6,500 per participant is allowed to cover the costs associated with participation throughout the duration of the DEPA program. The proposed number of participants identified in the RFA application must be served during the contract period and must include new Direct Entry program participants only. Please note: Reimbursement for each participant will be made in two (2) separate payments based on achievement of two (2) milestones.

- **Milestone #1:** \$4,000 (flat fee) per participant on their enrollment in the Direct Entry pre-apprenticeship program.
- **Milestone #2:** \$2,500 (flat fee) per participant when they complete their program.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR FUNDING?

An eligible applicant must be a Direct Entry pre-apprenticeship program that is recognized by NYSDOL. Direct Entry programs must have an agreement with at least one (1) sponsor of a NYS RA program as indicated on NYSDOL's website (dol.ny.gov/direct-entry). Information on NYS Direct Entry pre-apprenticeship programs, including how to apply, may be found at dol.ny.gov/direct-entry.

Applicants that are not currently a Direct Entry pre-apprenticeship program recognized by NYSDOL may apply for DEPA funding if they attest that they have submitted a complete application for Direct Entry Status to the NYSDOL Apprenticeship Training Office at the time of the application submission but no later than June 28, 2024. Applications that do not receive NYSDOL Direct Entry Status approval on or before July 31, 2024, will be determined ineligible.

HOW DO I APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRANT?

The RFA is available on the NYSDOL Website (dol.ny.gov/funding-opportunities-0) or through Grants Gateway (grantsmanagement.ny.gov). Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis until June 28, 2024.

WHERE DO I SUBMIT QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFA?

Applicants may submit questions via electronic mail to WDTD.Onestop@labor.ny.gov. Questions regarding the RFA will be accepted on an ongoing basis until June 7, 2024. Telephone inquiries will not be accepted. All inquiries should include the following reference in the subject line: "DEPA Question". Answers to all questions will be posted on the NYSDOL website (dol.ny.gov/funding-opportunities-0) on an ongoing basis, until June 14, 2024.

CONTACT

Information on NYS Direct Entry pre-apprenticeship programs, including how to apply, may be found at dol.ny.gov/direct-entry.

For questions related to Direct Entry, please contact NYSDOL's Apprenticeship Training Office at DirectEntryPreApprenticeship@labor.ny.gov.

Applicants in need of technical assistance regarding this RFA may reach out to the NYSDOL Grants and Solicitations Team at WDTD.Onestop@labor.ny.gov. Technical assistance requests related to the application will be accepted through the submission deadline date of June 28, 2024.