

**DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
OFFICE OF YOUTH PROGRAMS**

Notice of Funding Availability

Release Date - Request for Applications: August 22, 2017

Notice of Funding: August 22, 2017

Pre-Application Meeting Webinar: August 23, 2017 2:00 p.m.

Letter of Intent to Apply Due: September 1, 2017 12:00 p.m.

GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE: September 8, 2017 12:00 p.m.

In-School Youth Innovation Grants - Round 1

The District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES) is pleased to announce a funding opportunity soliciting grant applications to support the delivery of innovative workforce solutions and education that will drastically improve the opportunities for in-school youth ages 14-21. Organizations will be asked to support workforce related programming with case management services and follow-up services for four months in one or more of five Career Pathways. The pathways include Information Technology, Science, Engineering, Math & Technology, Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Human Services, Entrepreneurship, Business Management, Arts, and AV Technology & Communications.

The innovative workforce development programming is aimed at:

- the attainment of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent,
- entry into postsecondary education,
- career readiness for teens and young adult participants,
- paid and unpaid internships or job shadowing in an emerging career pathway, and
- other innovative solutions that have been shown to drastically improve opportunities and academic outcomes for In-School Youth (ISY) and young adults.

Youth with Disabilities

The DOES Office of Youth Programs supports all eligible youth, including those that are identified as having disabilities. Increasing services to this population is critical for serving all eligible youth in the District. We encourage providers to partner with organizations that serve youth with disabilities. Youth with disabilities must be afforded more opportunities to practice and improve their workplace skills, explore their career interests and receive services to assist with eliminating barriers. Any provider who submits a proposal with specific programming for this demographic may receive special consideration and preference points during the review process.

Please refer to the WIOA guidelines and Fact Sheet for Youth Programs when determining eligibility criteria to be met.

https://www.doleta.gov/wioa/Docs/WIOA_YouthProgram_FactSheet.pdf

Eligible Applicants

Applicants must be an entity who is eligible to do business with the District Government or an eligible training provider with documented experience providing training for DC's youth. A pre-application meeting/webinar will be held on Wednesday August 23, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. This meeting will afford interested parties an opportunity to learn more about the grant opportunity and ask questions. To apply for this grant opportunity, applicants should go to the grants portal at the below web address and complete a Letter of Intent (LOI) by 12:00 p.m. Friday September 1, 2017. Once your organization's LOI is submitted and approved you will receive an approval email and then be able to respond to the official RFA located within the grants portal. Please be advised if organizations do not submit an LOI through the grant portal your organization will not be able to submit a proposal for the grant.

Up to five awards at \$100,000 each, totaling \$500,000 in grant funds will be made available.

Organizations that are eligible to apply for this grant include public and private non-profit and for-profit organizations with demonstrated effectiveness providing the requested services and meeting the needs of the target population, including but not limited to:

- Non-profit, community, or faith-based organizations;
- Public, Local Education Agencies, charter, or alternative secondary schools;
- Community colleges or other postsecondary institutions;
- Trade associations or chambers of commerce;
- Private, for-profit service providers; or
- Labor unions, labor-management partnerships, or registered apprenticeship programs.

The grant portal can be found at:

<https://www.gdg.do/prod1/portal/portal.jsp?c=66176630&p=66183389&g=66183409>

Determinations regarding the number of innovative grant awards will be based on the quality and number of applications received and available funding.

A review panel will convene to evaluate, score, and rate each application for a competitive grant. The review panel will be composed of external neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge or related experiences.

Each application will be scored against a rubric and applications will have multiple reviewers to ensure accurate scoring.

Upon completion of its review, the panel shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). The Agency Director or his designee will make all final award decisions.

For more information or questions, please contact:

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