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## **NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABILITY**

### **Office of Youth Programs 2014 Summer Youth Employment Program “Work Experience for ages 16-17 years”**

The District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES) is seeking grant applications for high quality, structured, workforce development programs for youth participants between the ages of 16 and 17, as a part of Mayor Vincent C. Gray’s 2014 One City Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). All SYEP programs must be held in the District of Columbia. Applicants must deliver a variety of workforce exploration and work readiness experiences. All activities must provide purposeful and developmentally appropriate employment and career exploration opportunities. Applicants must employ a positive youth development philosophy in their approach and program design. Positive Youth Development (PYD) is a process in which young people seek ways to meet their basic physical and social needs and to build the competencies (knowledge and skills) necessary to succeed in adolescence and adulthood. Simply put, it is the process through which young people acquire the cognitive, social, and emotional skills and abilities required to successfully navigate life. DOES’ Office of Youth Programs (OYP) seeks qualified providers that will optimize positive youth development for 16-17 year old District residents during a six (6) week summer work experience.

The SYEP for 16-17 year old participants strives to help youth:

- Earn money and gain meaningful work experiences;
- Learn and develop the skills, attitudes, and commitment necessary to succeed in today’s world of work;
- Gain exposure to various career industries, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship; and
- Interact with experienced working professionals in a positive work environment.

DOES is dedicated to educating youth participants about workforce readiness, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship through experiential, hands-on programs. As a result, youth participants should be able to utilize the lessons learned, put them into action, and contribute value to their communities.

The SYEP is a locally funded initiative sponsored by DOES that provides District youth (ages 14 to 21) with enriching and constructive summer work experiences through subsidized placements in the private and public sectors. Through the SYEP, DOES strives to provide young people with life changing opportunities that will lay a solid foundation for successful adulthood.

**Eligibility:** Applicant's primary vision and program focus must be on serving youth ages 16-17 in programs located in the District of Columbia. Additionally, applicants must be in good financial standing with the DC Office of Tax and Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service, as well as follow all appropriate financial reporting standards. Applicants cannot be listed on the District's or federal government's Excluded Parties Lists.

**Length of Award:** Grant Awards will be made for a period of six (6) months. The actual duration of the 2014 SYEP is **June 30, 2014 through August 8, 2014.**

**Available Funding for Awards:** The total amount of funding that DOES anticipates to be available for this award is **\$480,000.00**, pending availability of funds. The funds for SYEP are made available through District of Columbia appropriations.

**Anticipated Number of Awards:** DOES intends to award at least one (1) grant award and may make multiple awards depending on funding availability.

**How to Obtain the RFA:** The Request for Application (RFA) will be released on **Friday, March 14, 2014.** The RFA will be available on the following websites:

- DOES website: [www.does.dc.gov](http://www.does.dc.gov)
- OCP website: <http://ocp.dc.gov/service/ocp-solicitations>
- DC Grants Clearinghouse: <http://opgs.dc.gov/page/opgs-district-grants-clearinghouse>

For more information regarding this grant opportunity, applicants may contact the DOES Grants Office at [doesgrants@dc.gov](mailto:doesgrants@dc.gov).

**The deadline for online application submission is:  
Friday, March 28, 2014, no later than 2:00pm EST.**