

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (DOES)

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

FISCAL YEAR 2025

Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) – Career Exploration Grant

Application Release Date: March 28, 2025

Application Submission Deadline: April 18, 2025

The District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES) will issue a Request for Applications (RFA) for the Office of Youth Programs Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) Career Exploration Grant. The RFA will be online on the Serve DC Grants Clearinghouse and on the DOES website at the following page: <https://does.dc.gov/page/grant-opportunities>.

The Office of Youth Programs (OYP) develops and administers workforce development programs for District youth. OYP provides occupational skills training, work experience, academic enrichment and life skills training to facilitate the development of work habits and skills that are essential for success in the workplace.

DOES, Office of Youth Programs (OYP) is seeking qualified applications from providers to deliver high quality, structured training in Workforce Development for District youth between the ages of 14-15 years old for Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP). This 6-week training will assist participants in preparing for purposeful and developmentally appropriate employment and career exploration opportunities. Each provider will serve 50 youth. The maximum amount of grant award funds that can be applied for is \$50,000 per grantee.

The Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) is a locally funded initiative administered by the Department of Employment Services (DOES) that provides District youth with enriching and constructive summer work experiences through subsidized placements in the non-profit, private and government sectors.

Eligibility: DOES will make these grants available through a competitive process. Eligible applicants include public and private non-profit and for-profit organizations eligible to do business with the District government, including but not limited to community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, public, charter or alternative secondary schools and post-secondary institutions. Applicants shall have demonstrated effectiveness providing the requested services and meeting the needs of the target population.

Available Funding for the Award: Up to \$200,00.00 is available in total for awards through this RFA. DOES intends to issue up to four (4) grant awards in the amount of \$50,000 per award to serve 50 youth per grantee. The MBSYEP Grant is funded 100% through local funds from the District of Columbia.

DOES will use the applicant's grant proposal to identify the number of participants the applicant plans to serve and determine an award amount. However, DOES maintains the right to adjust the grant award and amount based on funding availability. Determinations regarding the number of competitive grants to be awarded will be based on the quality and number of applications received and available funding. Successful applicants may be awarded amounts less than requested.

A review panel or panels will be convened to review, score, and rank each application for a competitive grant. The review panel(s) 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(s) shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). The Director of DOES or her designee will make all final award decisions.

Length of Award: The award period for this grant starts on the date of the grant award notification and ends on September 30, 2025, with four option years subject to funding availability.

Pre-Application Conference: All interested applicants are encouraged to attend the virtual pre-application conference on April 9, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. Please email OGAgrants@dc.gov if you will be attending the pre-application meeting to receive the meeting invite link.

Contact: For additional information regarding this grant competition, please contact:

Demetries M. Saunders
Department of Employment Services
Office of Grant Administration and Resource Allocation (OGARA)
Email: OGAGrants@dc.gov

Deadline for Applications: The deadline for application submissions is April 18, 2025, at 3:00 PM. Late or incomplete applications will not be forwarded to the review panel.