TO: Workforce Development System Partners

FROM: Amy L. Smith, Director

SUBJECT: Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) Round V – Solicitation for Grant Application

Purpose:

To provide information about the DEI Round V grant opportunity. Jointly funded by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration (DOL/ETA) and the Office of Disability and Employment Policy (ODEP), this fifth round of the DEI will provide approximately $15 million in grant funds. DOL plans to award approximately eight grants in amounts ranging from $1.5 to $2.5 million.

Action Required:

At least one Workforce Development Council (WDC) must agree to participate in the proposal in order for Washington State to be eligible to apply. Several WDCs have already indicated a desire to be included in the proposal. Any WDC interested in participating in the proposal or in finding out more about this opportunity is asked to contact Terri Barbee, tbarbee@esd.wa.gov, 360-725-9514, by Monday, June 16.

Content:

a. Background

The lead applicant must be the state workforce agency that is eligible for funding under Title I of the WIA Section 171 and for funding under the Wagner-Peyser Act.

In addition to WDCs, the following are also required partners: community college(s) and/or technical institute(s); business or industry partners; public state-level agency(ies) that serves individuals with disabilities; and for youth-targeted projects, one or more local education agency(ies) (LEA) to facilitate the development of secondary, post-secondary, and career training.

Washington State was awarded a DEI grant in 2011 (Round 2) and it will conclude at the end of September 2014. The two participating WDCs in Round 2 are Seattle-King and Snohomish.
b. Intent

The purpose of Round V of the DEI is to increase participation of individuals with disabilities in existing career pathways programs in the public workforce system, improving employment outcomes.

c. Period of Performance

Anticipated start date is October 1, 2014. The duration is 42 months, with the first six months intended for start-up activities.

References:

Employment and Training Administration: Notice of Availability of Funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications for Disability Employment Initiative Grants; Funding Opportunity Number: SGA/DFA PY 13-11; Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 17.283


Website:

http://www.wa.gov/esd/1stop/policies/state_guidance.htm

Direct DEI Inquiries To:

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