IET Development and Expansion (FY2021-2022 and FY2022-2023)

Request for Proposals

CSDA #292.124

Purpose

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Board awards funds to support the development and expansion of Integrated Education and Training (IET). IET provides adult education and literacy activities concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancement.

Funds Available and Additional Limitations

- Up to \$2,250,000 will be available for these purposes each fiscal year.
- Each WTCS college district can submit one application or multiple applications for a total maximum grant award of up to \$200,000 each fiscal year.
- Grant awards are made on a competitive basis.
- FY2021-2022 grant applications are due November 12, 2021
- FY2021-2022 grant period will be from January 1, 2022 June 30, 2022
- FY2021-2022 grants will only be required to submit two triannual reports
- FY2022-2023 grant applications are due March 18, 2022
- FY2022-2023 grant period will be from July 1, 2022 June 30, 2023
- FY2022-2023 grants will be required to submit three triannual reports
- Administrative costs will be allowed up to five percent of the total approved project costs.
- All travel must comply with district travel policy and is limited to 5 percent of the total project cost. Out-of-state travel may be funded if it is clearly related to the grant objectives. No funds will be awarded for international travel.
- Supply items may be funded up to 20 percent of the total approved project costs.

Measurable Objectives

The objectives in this grant are to expand IET participation, which includes:

- Concurrently and contextually enroll students in adult education, workforce preparation, and workforce training in a WTCS approved postsecondary credential that leads to employment. Applicants must provide occupational projections data or documented employer support to demonstrate that the proposed IET will support employment and economic mobility.
- Embed career guidance and student support services to get students on a career pathway and retain students on a career pathway.
- Accelerate student progress while making adult education instruction more relevant to student career goals.
- Increase the number of students that earn their GED/HSED and increase the number of students enrolled in a WTCS approved postsecondary credential with labor market value.

The following are three core components of a successful IET which must be included in the proposal for grant funded IET. Together, these three components must exhibit integration of competencies within the IET.

- Adult Education and Literacy services (34 CFR §463.30)
- Workforce Preparation services designed to help an individual acquire a combination of adult education academic skills, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and self-management skills including competencies in: (a) utilizing resources; (b) using information; (c) working with others; (d) understanding systems; (e) skills necessary for successful transition into and completion of postsecondary education or training, or employment; and (f) other employability skills (34 CFR §463.34)
- Workforce Training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster (WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(D))

Allowable Activities

- Cost of instruction for occupational courses, student support services, and student course materials associated with the IET. Funding priority will be given to applicants who develop IET in high demand and high wage short-term WTCS credentials within a career pathway.
- Coordinating teams to support the design and development of IET. Team coordination for IET design and development is limited to 20 percent of the total project cost for FY2021-2022 grant applications and 15% of the total project cost for FY2022-2023 grant applications.
- Staff professional development for successful IET expansion e.g. travel costs for best practice sharing in IET.

Final Triannual Reporting requirements

- Upload IET curriculum within the WTCS WIDS Repository for sharing (see IET Curriculum Development below).
- Report the number of students participating in IET under this grant.
- Report the percent of students participating in IET under this grant who complete a GED/HSED within the year.
- Report the percent of students participating in IET under this grant who successfully complete the IET.
- Report the percent of students participating in IET under this grant who subsequently enroll in a postsecondary course within the program year after exit and within the IET opportunities career pathway.

IET Curriculum Development

In accordance with grant requirements, IET curriculum must be developed in WIDS and housed in the WTCS WIDS Repository at <u>https://wtcsystem.wids.org</u> allowing for dissemination across the WTCS or grant conditions will not have been met. At a minimum, associated IET course outcome summaries will be created and shared in the WTCS WIDS Repository.

Additional Application Components

Each of the following criteria must be addressed when applying for funding under this grant category:

• Identify the occupation and WTCS approved postsecondary credential aligned with the proposed IET that leads to employment. Provide additional rational for why the identified

occupation for the proposed IET was selected e.g., to expand collaborative efforts with specific employers in the district to address a workforce need, build upon existing postsecondary career pathways within our organization, etc.

- Explain previous successes in developing or expanding IET in high demand occupational areas. Provide descriptions of the previous IET, identify the career pathway the IET aligned with, explain the process for developing the IET (e.g., employer engagement, collaboration with other WIOA partners, alignment with postsecondary credentials, etc.), and present the outcomes of students participating in the IET (e.g., the number served, the number who completed the IET, the percent that successfully transitioned to postsecondary education within the IET's career pathway, etc.).
- Explain how the proposed IET will address the three core components of a successful IET as identified within this category.
- Explain the funding need and how the proposed IET will expand access to career pathways for diverse student populations within your organization's service region.
- Identify how many students are projected to be served in the proposed IET and how students will be recruited to participate.
- Identify the student support services that will be available to students participating in the proposed IET.
- As necessary, develop a timeline for the planning, design, and implementation of the proposed IET. Include dates, activities (e.g., attend professional development, coordinate teams to support the design and implementation, develop curriculum, develop a plan for integrated student services, staff training, project evaluation, etc.), and responsible parties for activity completion.
- Explain if and how other funds/resources will be coordinated to help support this project e.g. Title I/III/IV, FSET, Perkins, etc.

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