



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT:

OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

The Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development (GCWED) and the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development (OOWD) are pleased to announce the availability of funding for the development, expansion, and implementation of sector strategies as outline in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

OOWD believes that representatives from business and industry are the most qualified individuals in the state to identify the barriers industry faces in the world of Workforce Development. By convening the appropriate business members and support partners, Impact Partnership Grants (IPG), provide an opportunity for stakeholders to effectively ask and answer the questions surrounding those barriers. Once identified, the support partners offer suggestions and solutions then work with the business members to implement those solutions ultimately impacting the competitiveness of each business within a specific industry.

Successful IPGs:

- Build lasting, collaborative relationships between business, education, workforce development, economic development and government & community organizations.
- Increase capacity among local and regional organizations to collaborate around share industry needs.
- Align, local, regional, and state priorities and initiatives to meet the needs of business.
- Leverage resources and funding to support partnerships and industry strategies for long-term sustainability.
- Promote and fill high-demand occupations in Oklahoma.

To support business and industry partners, OOWD will award IPGs to businesses or intermediaries for the establishment, expansion, and implementation of employer-led sector partnerships. The maximum award amount for an IPG is \$175,000.00; grantees may be awarded less than the maximum award based on the scope of their application.

OOWD is accepting applications through **May 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. CDT**. Detailed information on grant requirements and applying for funds are available on pages 2-4. Questions may be submitted via email at workforce@okcommerce.gov.

Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development
Oklahoma Department of Commerce
900 N. Portland Avenue, BT300
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

2022 IPG Information:

Maximum Award Amount: \$175,000.00

Period of Performance: July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023

Application Deadline: May 1, 2022

Application Location: impactpartnershipsok.com

Who can apply for an IPG?

Eligible applicants include:

- An individual business representing multiple businesses within the same industry or sector
- Intermediary organizations, as defined below
- Local Workforce Development Boards
- Other employers representing multiple employers within the same industry or sector

What is an intermediary organization?

Intermediary organizations include: industry associations, economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, industry working groups or task forces, collections of governments, or other similar organizations/entities formally representing the interests of employers or closely related stakeholders in the industry sector or cluster.

What is the purpose of the funding?

In general, IPG funding should be used to:

- Convene employers, educators, economic development, workforce development, government and community organizations, and other stakeholders to identify workforce gaps, barriers to employment and/or hiring, and other talent pipeline or industry needs.
- Conduct assessment(s) of employers' workforce needs and requirements to develop a strategic plan for implementing strategies that meet demonstrated industry demand for skilled workers.
- Conduct industry research to determine strategies to be implemented as a part of the IPG.
- Carry out strategies identified through the work completed as a part of the IPG.

Allowable IPG Activities Include:

- Planning activities including research identifying skill gaps in the sector, the factors contributing to the gaps, and the creation of a plan to close the gaps.
- Implementation activities including skills training, establishing a K-12 to postsecondary pipeline, establishing career pathways for adults, identifying skill standards and industry-based certifications, developing curriculum, and other activities that assist in preparing or supplying employers within a sector the workforce they need.
- Planning and Implementation activities may include the following expenditures:
 - The cost of meeting and/or training space,
 - The cost of supplies used directly for the IPG,
 - Travel expenses directly associated with the IPG,
 - The cost of facilitation for partner convenings,
 - Time and effort directly associated with the IPG, and
 - The cost of consultant services

Unallowable IPG Activities Include:

- General Operating expenses for the entity awarded the IPG,
- Time and effort for employees who are not directly supporting the work of the IPG

What are the IPG grant requirements?

Grant recipients must complete the following as part of the award:

- After receipt of an award, recipients must submit a final project plan.
- Submit a six (6) month narrative report describing the progress made toward the identified goals, including any successes and challenges.
- Submit a twelve (12) month narrative report describing the progress made toward the identified goals, including any successes and challenges.
- Submit a final narrative report describing outcomes, what was learned, and any future plans for the partnership(s).
- Submit monthly expenditure reports in the state's grants management system (additional information will be provided to grant recipients).
- Routinely communicate and coordinate with OOWD, as necessary.
- Collect and report any required outcomes data required for evaluation purposes.

What information is needed to apply?

Applicants must submit a project plan that includes the following information:

1. Contact information for the entity including:
 - a. Name, address and phone number of the Applicant entity
 - b. Name, title, email address, and phone number of the designated contact for the Applicant entity
2. Amount of funding requested (not to exceed \$175,000)
3. List of the business members and support partners who are part of the partnership
4. An Agreement between the business members, support partners and the Local Workforce Development Board or Boards in the region.
5. Project Summary
6. Project Objectives
7. Project Timeline
8. Project Budget, including a brief narrative
9. W-9 for the applicant entity

How does an applicant apply?

Applicants must complete the form found at impactpartnershipsok.com/grantapplications and email it via the link on our website.

How does an applicant get more information or ask questions?

Applicants may review the Q&A section of our website at impactpartnershipsok.com/faq. Questions may also be submitted via email to workforce@okcommerce.gov.

Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity Assurances

All parties must comply with Section 188 of WIOA, which prohibits discrimination against all individuals in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, or political affiliation or belief, or against beneficiaries on the basis of either citizenship status or participation in any WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities; The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs; and all other relevant regulations implementing the laws listed above.

The parties must also assure compliance with 29 CFR Part 38 and all other regulations implementing the laws listed above. This assurance applies to the parties' operation of the WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity, and to all agreements to carry out the WIOA Title I-financially assisted programs or activities. The parties understand that the United State has the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance.