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WIA-PCCA Collaboration to Address Skills Gap

- PCCA and WIA aligned to improve workforce
- Skills gap causing:
 - Labor shortages
 - Increases in labor costs
 - Retention and poaching issues
 - Quality and safety challenges
- PCCA and WIA taking steps to address this gap
- PCCA and WIA synergy
 - Overlapping and related industries
 - Similar training needs, both fit apprenticeship model

PCCA-WIA Collaboration

- Bolster PCCA-led community college curricula with WIA wireless content
 - State Technical College of Missouri
 - Wisconsin Indian Technical College
 - Terra State Community College in Fremont, Ohio
- The Utility Technician occupations can include WIA cutting-edge wireless content
- Community colleges ideal venue for comprehensive apprenticeship training
- WIA invested over \$1.5 million to date in training and apprenticeships

Department of Labor Apprenticeship Grant: Closing the Skills Gaps

U.S. DoL awarding \$100 million to fund 16-30 apprenticeship grants

- Each from \$500,000 to \$6 million
- Awarded to partnerships of industry and schools
- DoL seeks to develop new apprenticeship models; expand to new industry sector, occupation or population, on a local/regional, statewide, or national scale
- Grant program supports:
 - Industry-approved, competency-based curricula for both on-the-job and classroom training
 - Appropriate quality assurance and data systems and processes

DoL Grant Requirements

Submissions due September 24, 2019

- Required partners for the application include:
 - Lead Applicant (WIA)
 - Institution(s) of Higher Education (i.e., State Technical College of Missouri) or consortium
 - Employers (25 already existing with TIRAP – PCCA members can join)
 - U.S. DoL strongly encourages additional private industry partners (PCCA)

Grant Requirements

- U.S. DoL requires applicants to address an H-1B Industry or Occupation – yet can focus on training apprentices to reach middle to highly skilled jobs on career pathway
- Participants do not need H1-B skill levels to enter the apprenticeships. WIA plans for program to advance apprentices along career paths leading to develop strong skills for future employment in H-1B occupations. Examples:
 - Radio Frequency Engineer
 - Telecommunications Engineer
 - Network Support Technician
 - Wireless Systems Engineer

Grant Match Requirements

Program requires cost-sharing or matching funds

- Cash or in-kind contributions
- Must be equal to 45% of the total federal share of costs
- Examples of in-kind includes:
 - Salaries paid to apprentices
 - Costs of training including community college courses
 - PCCA and employer-dedicated staff time
 - Office/workplace/school space costs
 - Training equipment included that donated to schools
- If already raising funds, 55% grant supplement attractive
 - pays for curriculum development

Next Steps: Determine Partners and Build Project Narrative

- Determine Geographic Scope (local/regional, statewide, or national scale)
- Statement of Need
- Expected Outcomes & Outputs
- Project Design
- Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity
- Past Performance – Programmatic Capability
- Budget & Budget Justification

WIA Awards

*Honoring Wireless Workforce
Champions*

Mark your calendar:

October 1, 2019

Conrad Washington, DC

Soon to be announced

Thank You!

Questions or comments?

