



Governor's Workforce Board

RHODE ISLAND

train for success · connect for growth

Statewide Career Readiness Intermediary Grant Solicitation

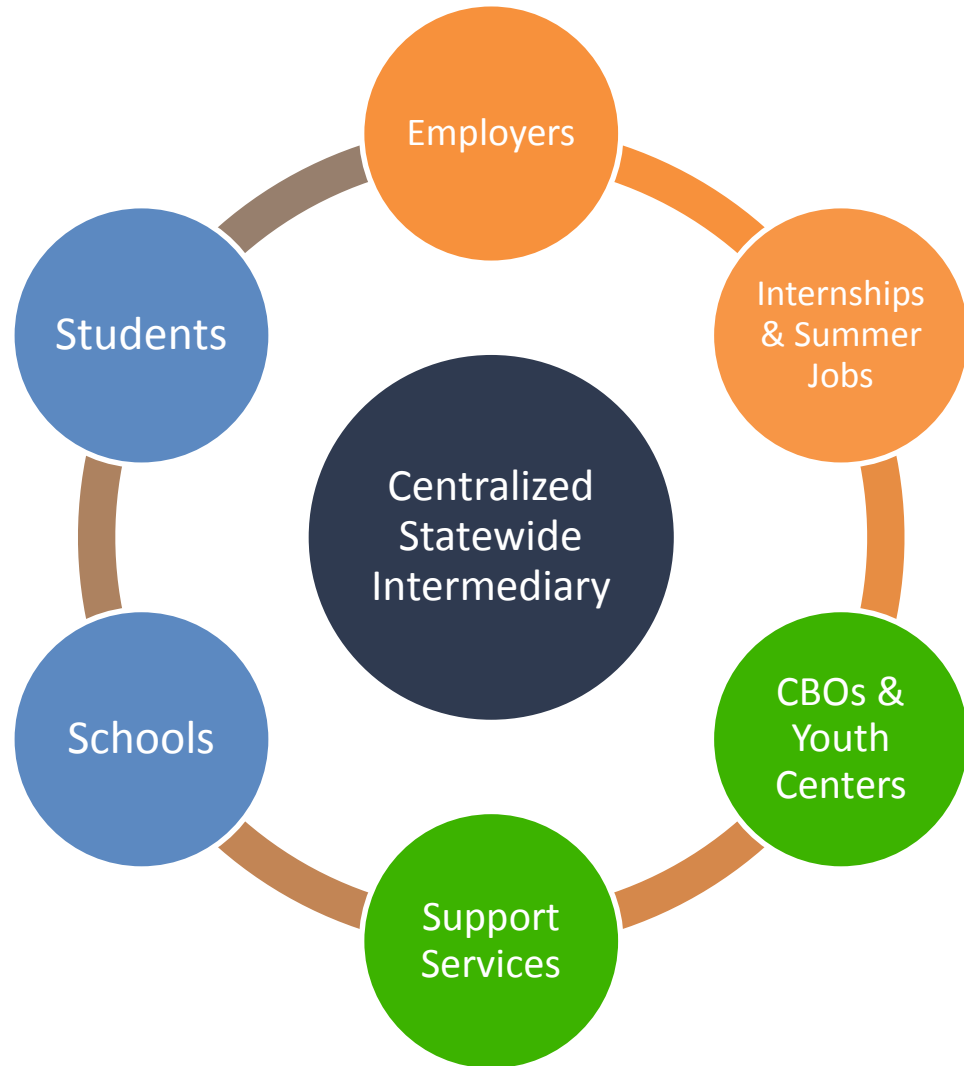
Pre-Proposal Conference

Friday January 19, 2018

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

- Background and Purpose of Statewide Career Readiness Intermediary
- Review of Grant Solicitation
- Q&A

What is a Statewide Career Readiness Intermediary?



High-quality, demand-driven career-readiness experiences for K-12 youth:

- **Career Exploration**
- **Work-Based Learning**
- **Summer Internship program**

What is a Statewide Career Readiness Intermediary?

A Statewide Career Readiness Intermediary IS:

- An additional tool for employers to engage with K-12 youth
- An additional tool for K-12 schools and youth-serving organizations to connect with employers
- A resource for employers, schools, and youth-serving organizations to connect with additional partners, learn about best practices, get help with logistics around work-based learning, and get more involved in career readiness activities for K-12 youth

A Statewide Career Readiness Intermediary IS NOT:

- A replacement for existing relationships between employer and schools or youth-serving organizations
- A duplication of efforts for existing industry intermediaries like Real Jobs RI partnerships

Why the need for an Intermediary?

In Summer 2017, GWB hired an outside consultant to issue recommendations for scaling out high-quality work-based learning. In focus groups with employers, the consultant found...

Committed
Business Partners

Unclear Value
Proposition to
Employers

Duplicative
Employer Effort

Barriers to
Employers

Student Readiness
& Selection
Concerns

Inefficient
Processes

Employer
Capacity
Limitations

...and recommended establishing a **statewide intermediary** to solicit, coordinate, and scale work-based learning.

Why the need for an Intermediary?

Alignment with  **PREPARE**
Rhode Island :

A Statewide intermediary will also help Rhode Island reach the PrepareRI goals of:

- Career exploration opportunities in all elementary and middle schools
- Work-based learning opportunities in all high schools

Grant Solicitation: the Basics

- **Who can apply:** Applicants can be one entity/organization or a partnership of organizations
 - Nonprofit organization;
 - Two- and/or four-year institution of higher education;
 - Local Workforce Board;
 - Industry association or council;
 - Labor union;
 - For-profit organization;
 - Local government; or,
 - Local or regional economic development entity.
- **Timeline:** Two-year grant period, March 2018-March 2020; option to renew for additional three years based on performance and funding.
- **Available funds:** Up to \$600,000 available for year one, which includes Summer Internship Pilot student wages and other incentive payments. Year two funds may be increased depending on availability and compelling proposition commensurate with outcomes. *It is expected that for year two, the statewide intermediary will secure additional leveraged resources.*
- **Scope of Work:**
 - 1) **Be a centralized point of contact and coordinator for year-round career readiness engagement** between employers, schools, and youth-serving organizations for career exploration and work-based learning activities
 - 2) **Manage and implement a Summer Internship Program** for rising high school seniors

Ideal Lead Applicant or Partnership

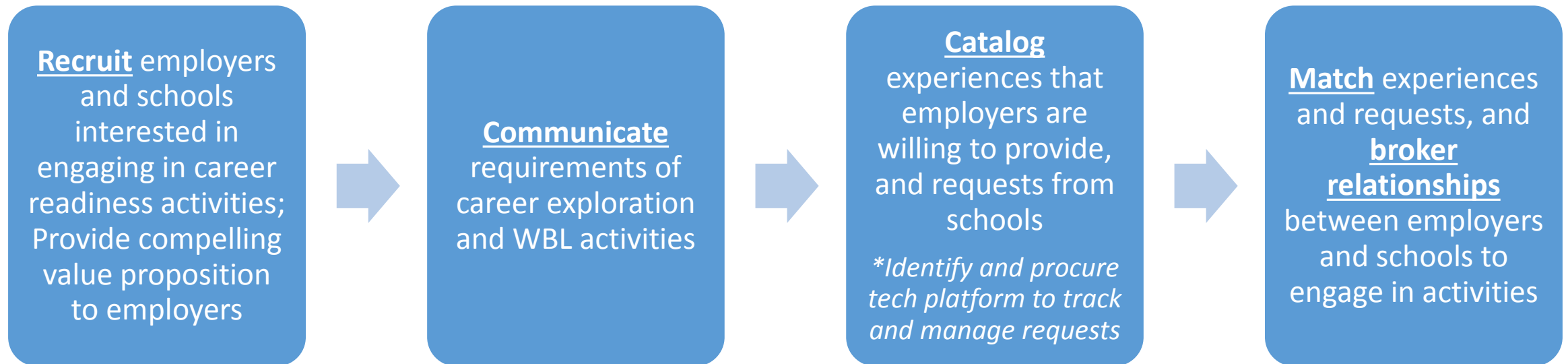


Lead Applicant and/or Partners should demonstrate:

- Successful relationships with employers
- Successful relationships with K-12 schools (particularly high schools) and other youth-serving organizations
- Previous experience acting as an intermediary to connect employers with current or future workforce
- Demonstrated knowledge and previous experience assessing and vetting applicants for employer-requested skills
- Demonstrated knowledge of best practices around career readiness for youth
- Demonstrated knowledge of current Rhode Island industry standards and career pathways

Scope of Work: Centralized point of contact

- Centralized contact for employers, K-12 schools, and youth-serving organizations for year-round career readiness engagement
 - Career exploration activities
 - Work-based learning experiences



Scope of Work: Summer Internship Program

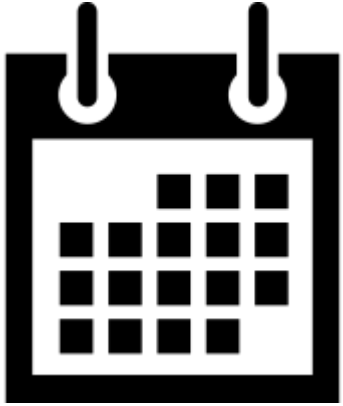
Intermediary	Employers	Schools	GWB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Recruit employers ✓ Work with employers to develop job descriptions and identify essential skills ✓ Manage student application (starting for 2019) ✓ Work with schools to prepare students (starting for 2019) ✓ Screen applicants, facilitate interviews and placements ✓ Implement intern “boot camp” orientation ✓ Support supervisors and interns ✓ Supervisor and intern evaluations ✓ Payroll and liability logistics ✓ Troubleshoot if issues arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Commit to hosting interns ✓ Recruit supervisors and mentors ✓ Help interview and select interns ✓ Help supervise and coach interns ✓ Help evaluate intern performance and progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Work with intermediary to prepare students (starting for 2019) ✓ Identify and recruit work-ready students ✓ Coach students through application process ✓ Inform assessments and evaluations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Align pilot to PrepareRI priorities ✓ Recruit employers for soft commitments ✓ Fund program, including student wages (for Pilot year) <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 5px;">RIDE</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support targeted list of schools with additional technical assistance ✓ Ensure schools have point person to identify, recruit, and prepare students

Desired Outcomes



- At least 100 high school students complete high-quality internships in Summer 2018
- At least 200 high school students complete high-quality internships in Summer 2019
- Schools and employers are connected to engage in year-round career exploration and work-based learning activities
- School and employer connections grow in year two

Key Dates



January 8, 2018	Grant Solicitation Released
January 19, 2018	Pre-Proposal Conference
January 24, 2018	Question & Answer Deadline
February 8, 2018	Grant Applications Due
March 2, 2018	Grants Awardee Announced

GRANT PROPOSAL - Checklist

- ✓ **Cover page** [template provided]
- ✓ **Proposal narrative**
- ✓ **Budget and budget narrative** [template provided]
- ✓ **Letters of intent from partners** (optional)
- ✓ **Taxation Letter of Good Standing**
- ✓ **Signed fiscal agent assurances form**
- ✓ **Copy of lead agency's W9 form**
- ✓ **Copy of the lead agency's most recent audit and/or audited financial statement.**

Submitting Applications



- Grant applications must be submitted by email to pauline.abetti@dlt.ri.gov
- Attachments may be sent in multiple emails to avoid bouncebacks for large files
 - Please use the subject line to indicate number of emails (Ex. “XYZ Organization SCRI Proposal 1/5,” “XYZ Organization SCRI Proposal 2/5,” etc.)
- Attachments may be in Word, PDF, or Excel documents (for budget)
- GWB is NOT responsible for technical difficulties on your end, so please allow for plenty of time to resend if the emails do not go through
- You will receive a confirmation email of receipt, and you may also call Pauline at 462-8859 to confirm receipt

Evaluators will score proposals through criteria in the following categories:

- Lead Applicant and/or Partnership
- Action Plan: Scope of work, timeline, and outcomes
- Organizational, Administrative and Fiscal Capacity
- Budget and Budget Narrative

Questions?

- Please email your questions to pauline.abetti@dlt.ri.gov
- Deadline for questions is Wednesday, January 24th at **4:00 p.m.**
- Response provided to all in a timely fashion
- **Please check the FAQs at GWB.RI.GOV before emailing your question. We will regularly post updates to the FAQs.**