Real Skills for Youth Grant Solicitation
Pre-Proposal Conference
Friday, December 14, 2018
Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training
• Background and Purpose of Real Skills for Youth program
• Review of Grant Solicitation
• Q&A
The Real Skills for Youth program prepares youth for success in college and career through:

- Meaningful career exposure
- Opportunities to build essential skills
- Supported work-based learning activities

Aligns with the statewide vision of PrepareRI to ensure all Rhode Island students are college and career ready.
Real Skills for Youth Key Objectives

Through activities participants will:

- Understand Career Options
- Develop Essential Skills
- Understand Work Norms and Culture
- Build Professional Networks
1. **Equity**
   - Ensuring *underserved populations* have expanded access to quality programming and opportunities

2. **Cultural Competency**
   - *Respectful* and responsive to beliefs and practices of diverse populations

3. **High Expectations**
   - Starting with high expectations for all youth, and *supporting* youth to meet those expectations
Grant Solicitation: the Basics

- **Partnerships must include:**
  - One or more **Youth-serving Representative(s)**
    - Accredited public or public charter school; youth center; youth-serving community-based or non-profit agency; training and education provider; higher education institution; or other youth-serving organization.
    AND
  - One or more **Industry Representative/Employer(s)**
    - Trade association or sector intermediary; Real Jobs RI sector partnership; or employer(s).

- **Timeline:** Up to one year grant period (May 2019-May 2020) depending on activities

- **Available funds:** Up to $2,300,000 available. Number of grants and amounts will be determined by the competitive process.

- **Major Elements of Programming:**
  - Career exploration
  - College and career readiness training
  - Work-based learning
Career Exploration includes opportunities to understand career options and career pathways, including the linkages between educational and skills attainment, relevant experience, and career advancement.

- Examples include:
  - Personalized career interest/strength assessment surveys
  - Job shadows and site visits to workplaces
  - Interactive career fairs
  - Guided research
  - Industry-driven curriculum
  - Individual Learning Plan (ILP) reflections
College and Career Readiness training includes opportunities to develop essential skills; learn and understand work norms and culture; and prepare youth for work-based learning experiences (must be included if participants will be engaged in WBL).

- Must include but not limited to:
  - General career exploration, including job search tools and techniques
  - Resume development and interview skills
  - Learning and applying essential skills needed in the workplace (defined in the solicitation)
  - Financial literacy topics, such as managing money, budgeting, credit and debt, using bank accounts, and financial goal-setting
  - Health, safety, and rights on the job
  - Paperwork requirements to receive wages (as applicable)
**Work-Based Learning (WBL):** opportunities to apply academic, technical, and essential skills in a real life or simulated work environment.

- Activities that qualify as WBL:
  - Internships
  - Apprenticeships
  - Service-learning
  - School-based enterprises
  - Industry projects

- WBL activities and standards are defined in greater detail in the GWB Work-Based Learning Guidance
Additional Work-Based Learning Considerations

• A majority of funds will be dedicated to wages, stipends, or other payments for work-based learning activities in Summer 2019

• Paid summer activities must encompass at least 80 paid hours over a minimum of 5 weeks
  • Participants may be paid by minimum wage (internships) or via stipend (service learning, industry projects, school-based enterprises)
  • One program partner must properly maintain participant records, including timesheets and payroll

• All work-based learning experiences must be safe and properly supervised, comply with applicable safety and health standards, observe workers compensation regulations, and the child labor laws of Rhode Island and the Federal Government

• Internships at a worksite must include a signed employer agreement outlining employer responsibilities
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 4, 2018</td>
<td>Grant Solicitation Released</td>
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<td>December 14, 2018</td>
<td>Pre-Proposal Conference</td>
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<td>January 16, 2019</td>
<td>Question &amp; Answer Deadline</td>
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<td>February 1, 2019</td>
<td>Grant Applications Due</td>
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<td>April 2019</td>
<td>Grants Awardees Announced</td>
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GRANT PROPOSAL - Checklist

✓ Cover page [template provided]

✓ Proposal narrative

✓ Budget and budget narrative [template provided]

✓ Grant Performance Target Form(s) [template provided]

✓ Letters of intent from partners

✓ 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.
Proposal narrative

✓ Executive Summary (2 pages max)
  ✓ Timeframe and brief summary of activities
  ✓ Expected outcomes
  ✓ How activities will prepare youth for success in college and career

✓ Partnership
  ✓ Lead Applicant
  ✓ Other partners and rationale
  ✓ Previous collaboration
  ✓ Staffing plan

✓ Youth Served
  ✓ Target population and justification
  ✓ Expected number of youth served
  ✓ Recruitment, enrollment, retention plan
  ✓ Differentiated activities

✓ Action Plan: Programming
  ✓ Describe programming/activities (who, what, when, where, why)
  ✓ Describe how programming addresses elements of career exploration, college and career readiness, and/or work-based learning
  ✓ Identify industry connections

✓ Action Plan: Outcomes
  ✓ Quantitative outcomes
  ✓ Qualitative outcomes as they relate to program objectives
  ✓ Data collection plan

✓ Action Plan: Timeline
  ✓ Detailed timeline of activities, including planning stage

✓ Organizational, Administrative and Fiscal Capacity
  ✓ Capacity of Lead Applicant to manage funds and submit reports
  ✓ Employer of record / payroll capacity (if applicable)
  ✓ Other funding sources
Evaluators will score proposals through criteria in the following categories:

- Real Skills Partnership
- Youth Served
- Real Skills Action Plan
- Organizational, Administrative and Fiscal Capacity
- Budget and Budget Narrative
Questions?

• Please email your questions to caitlin.downing@dlt.ri.gov

• Please check the FAQs at GWB.RI.GOV before emailing your question. We will regularly post updates to the FAQs.