ICCB
FY22 WORKFORCE EQUITY INITIATIVE BIDDER'S CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 18, 2021

JENNIFER K. FOSTER
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PURPOSE

- Public Act 101-0637
- IL Legislative Black Caucus and the ICCB are partnering
- $18.7 million dollars to respond to the increasing need to ensure workforce equity for African Americans in Illinois.
- **Eligible applicants:**
  - **48 Illinois community colleges are eligible to apply for the Workforce Equity Initiative that focuses on improving workforce equity for African Americans in at-risk communities.**
- African American participants must represent a minimum of 60 percent of the population proposed to be served through this grant.
- The purpose of this grant is to create, support, or expand short-term (year or less) workforce (credit and/or noncredit) training opportunities in high-need communities focused on specific sectors with identified workforce gaps.

ICCB
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

FUNDING INFORMATION

Individual community colleges or consortia of community colleges are eligible to apply. In the case of multi-college districts, colleges may apply individually or as a district. Only one application per institution or consortia will be considered.

Grant Period

- The grant period is from December 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022.

Funding Availability

- The total $18,700,000 will provide resources for an estimated 18 community colleges. The maximum grant award available is $1.2 million. Colleges may apply for less, as appropriate. Consortia of colleges may apply for up to $1.2 million per participating institution.

TARGET POPULATION

A. meets at least one of the following criteria:

- the area has a poverty rate of at least 20 percent

- 75 percent or more of the children in the area participate in the federal free lunch program according to reported statistics from the State Board of Education; or

- at least 20 percent of the households in the area receive assistance Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; or

- the area has an average unemployment rate, as determined by the Illinois Department of Employment Security, that is more than 120 percent of the national unemployment average,

B. has high rates of arrest, conviction, incarceration, ex-offenders, gun violence, and low rates of home ownership.

GRANT DELIVERABLES

- Carry out deliverables of the proposed scope of work.
- Submit required programmatic and fiscal reports on a quarterly basis per the schedule below to iccb.submitrfp@illinois.gov:
- Participate in all required Meetings.

FY2022 Reporting Schedule for the WEI Grant		
Quarter	**Period**	**Date Due**
1	December 1 – December 31, 2021	January 30, 2022
2	January 1- March 30, 2022	April 30, 2022
3	April 1 – June 30, 2022	July 30, 2022
4	July 1 – September 30, 2022	October 30, 2022
5	October 1 – December 31, 2022	January 30, 2023

ICCB
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

WEI GOALS

- To accelerate the time for the targeted population to enter and succeed in postsecondary education/training programs that lead to employment in high skilled, high wage, and in-demand occupations.

- To gain employment after completion of the credential aligned with regional workforce gaps that provides a full-time job paying at least 30 percent above the regional living wage or is on a pathway to a family sustaining wage
(See: www.livingwage.mit.edu.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- All programs developed should be a part of a career pathway that allows participants to obtain an industry recognized credential and/or a community college certificate (credit or noncredit) in the shortest possible time while maintaining quality instruction and enhancing the participant's eligibility for employment in the identified sectors.

- All programs must include an essential skill which includes, at a minimum, the elements included as a part of the Illinois Essential Employability Framework. This framework is designed to provide students with the important skills necessary to obtain and keep employment.

- All programs must include connection to employers and employer outcomes.

- Strongly encourage applicants to reach out to their member of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus.

TYPES OF INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

- accelerated programs of one year or less
- stackable credentials
- industry recognized credentials
- pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship
- bridge programs
- competency-based education programs
- incumbent worker training or customized training
- integrated education and training programs
- life skills (soft/essential skills) training programs
- modularized training programs
- work-based learning strategies
- other career pathway programs that lead to in-demand employment

ICCB
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

USE OF FUNDING TO SUPPORT

- business and industry engagement and onboarding activities
- curriculum development and/or alignment with regional curricular gaps
- employment follow up and data tracking
- equipment upgrades or purchases
- faculty stipends consistent with local board of trustees' policies
- marketing and outreach for programs
- One Stop connections and referrals
- participant stipends
- staff hiring for activities such as trainer, program director, job developer, recruiter, navigators, etc.

ICCB
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

USE OF FUNDING

- student stipends and tuition assistance
- student support services including, but not limited to, transportation, childcare, food vouchers, tutoring, etc.
- professional development, equity and cultural awareness training, skill enhancement, and/or industry credentialing of faculty
- transition services including, but not limited to, individuals with disabilities
- tuition payments for instruction
- other activities of statewide significance that expands career pathways and is aligned with labor market information as identified by local or regional needs.
- limited building modifications and renovations with prior approval.

ICCB
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Cover Page

- Abstract

- Narrative

- Uniform Budget

- Application Submission

UNIFORM APPLICATION AND COVER PAGE

- Uniform Application
- Cover Page
  - The cover page must include the institution's name, address, telephone number, website, as well as the contact information including email address, telephone number and extension, and fax number of the President/CEO, Chief Financial Officer, and Project Coordinator/Administrator.
- The cover page must also provide a statement that stipulates:

"This application is being submitted on behalf of the <institution's name>; and, if awarded, the applicant agrees to abide by the provisions and guidelines set forth in the application and by the ICCB. Furthermore, the individuals listed in the application are authorized to act on behalf of the institution."

- **This statement must be signed and dated by the President/Chief Executive Officer (CEO).**

APPLICATION ABSTRACT

- Abstract

- Provide a one-page (or less) abstract is a summary of the proposed activities and describes the following:

  - communities proposed to be served

  - target population to include primarily African American (60 percent of participants) (e.g., ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, educational/workforce levels)

  - projected number of individuals to be served

  - principle objectives and measurable goals

  - proposed employment sectors

  - proposed project activities and services

APPLICATION NARRATIVE

- All required to information
- No more than 10 pages, double spaced, 12 -point types
  - Tables do not have to be double spaced
  - The abstract must be double spaced
  - Additional attachments will be counted toward the 10 page limitation
- Statement of Need
- Details the High Demand Sectors
- Projected unduplicated Numbers to be served
- Description of Project and Activities
- Timeline of Activities
- Partnerships
- Employer Engagement Activities
- Supportive Services
- Employability Essential Skills Framework
- Project Impact
- Capacity to implement the grant
- Racial Equity – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

UNIFORM BUDGET

- Applicants should submit a uniform budget based upon the total estimated costs for the project.

- The applicant organization should refer to 2 CFR 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" cited within the template's instructions.

- Be detailed and specific in completing the budget.

- Budget items must follow the guidelines set forth in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act.

ICCB
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND QUESTIONS

- Each grant application package must be submitted electronically no later than Monday, November 15, 2021 11:59 p.m. CST to iccb.submitrfp@illinois.gov.

- Grant application and materials may be found on the ICCB website at: http://www2.iccb.org/iccb/grant-opportunities/

- Submit all questions electronically to iccb.submitrfp@illinois.gov.   Include in the subject line: [Institution's Name] Workforce Equity Initiative.

- All questions will be posted in a FAQ on the ICCB website.

- No paper copies will be accepted.

REVIEW CRITERIA

- NOFO is worth 100 points
  - Current grantees making satisfactory will receive an additional 10 points

- Application Points:
  - Project Need (20)
  - Project Development and Activities (45)
  - Project Impact (20)
  - Project Capacity (10)
  - Completion and Submission (5)
  - Current Grantees (10)