



REGIONAL WORKFORCE IMPACT PROGRAM

March 29, 2022

BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

- Created with \$15M in ARPA funds
- Empower locally led solutions
- Prioritize sustainability
- Foster collaboration



REGIONAL BREAKDOWNS & ALLOCATIONS

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8
\$1,060,000	\$1,830,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,710,000	\$4,040,000	\$1,020,000	\$3,020,000	\$1,000,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divide • McKenzie • Williams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottineau • Burke • McHenry • Mountrail • Pierce • Renville • Ward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benson • Eddy • Cavalier • Ramsey • Rolette • Towner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grand Forks • Nelson • Pembina • Walsh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cass • Ransom • Richland • Sargent • Steele • Trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnes • Dickey • Foster • Griggs • LaMoure • Logan • McIntosh • Stutsman • Wells 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burleigh • Emmons • Grant • Kidder • McLean • Mercer • Morton • Oliver • Sheridan • Sioux 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adams • Billings • Bowman • Dunn • Golden Valley • Hettinger • Slope • Stark

MATCH

- Applicants must provide a 25% match of overall project budget
 - 4:1



PROJECT CATEGORIES

- Up-skilling and/or re-skilling initiatives for [in-demand jobs*](#)
- Infrastructure investments that directly contribute to expanding access to job training, employment opportunities and workforce support
- Investments in childcare or related supportive services to assist employees in accessing new training opportunities and/or expanding and supporting participation in the labor force



PROJECT CATEGORIES

- Providing career counseling or coaching services that aid in employees in pursuing new training and employment opportunities
- Capital investments, capital purchases for new or renovated space to support the applicant's proposed program



PROJECT CATEGORIES

- Talent attraction for the following industries: manufacturing, healthcare, energy, tourism, and hospitality.
 - Applicants must identify the direct connection to aiding in pandemic recovery and proposing a solution to a problem caused or exacerbated by the pandemic.
- Housing projects to address homelessness or the housing needs of low-income individuals and families. Housing projects must demonstrate the most productive and most effective use of the funds and impact the most people possible.



ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible Applicants
 - Economic Development Organizations
 - Cities (must be incorporated)
 - Chambers of Commerce
 - Job Development Authorities
 - Regional Councils
 - Other organizations addressing local or regional economic development needs
- General Eligibility Notes
 - Projects must take place in North Dakota
 - Program participants must reside in North Dakota

INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Individuals
- Institutions of postsecondary education
- School districts and private schools
- Businesses
- Political organizations including:
 - political parties
 - campaign committees for candidates for federal, state, or local office; political action committees

APPLICATION

- Project Description
 - Project Needs Statement (20 Points)
 - Project Description and Implementation (20 points)
 - Partnership and Collaborations (20 points)
 - Applicant Capability and Staffing (10 points)
 - Outlook and Project Sustainability (10 points)
- Budget Proposal and Narrative (20 points)



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Project Need
 - Identify the workforce challenge(s) facing your region and connection to pandemic
 - Identify who is impacted by the challenge(s)
 - Identify metrics to determine success of proposed project(s)
 - Provide data to support project need
- Innovative Approach
 - How does this project provide an innovative solution to minimize your region's workforce challenges?

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Project Description
 - Explain how project implements a long-term solution to permanently mitigate/remove workforce participation issue
 - *Training programs have specific application criteria (see p. 6-7)
- Implementation
 - Describe activities and outcomes of project, include timeline
 - New projects and existing projects starting on or after May 17, 2021
 - Grant must be spent by June 15, 2023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Partnerships & Collaboration
 - Describe partners involved including role in project
 - Identify fiscal agent
- Applicant Capability & Staffing
 - Describe lead organization's experience in managing grants
 - Identify who will be responsible for grant management activities
 - Explain experience working with regional WF and Econ Dev stakeholders
- Outlook & Project Sustainability
 - Be specific— how will project be sustained (note financial and human resources needed)
 - Note if this is intended to be a one-time expense

BUDGET

- Budget Narrative
 - Identify total project cost, grant funds requested, match obtained and/or pending
 - Description of match & connection of match provider(s) to the project
- Budget Breakout
 - Line- item budget including grant expenses at match



BUDGET PROPOSAL

- Eligible Grant Expenses *(see guidance for complete list)*
 - Technology, including hardware, software, digital subscriptions during the timeframe of the grant
 - Childcare assistance provided directly to a facility on an individual's behalf, except for WIOA participants
 - Career counseling and coaching services
 - Capital investments *(must demonstrate alignment with pandemic impact)*
 - Project-related marketing
 - Infrastructure supplies and materials *(must demonstrate alignment with pandemic impact)*

BUDGET PROPOSAL

- Ineligible Grant Expenses *(see guidance for complete list)*
 - Current and future operation expenses (including but not limited to salary/fringe, organizational operations, and indirect costs)
 - *Note: This grant cannot supplant an existing budget.*
 - Spec housing projects
 - Direct administration rate for grant
 - Fees incurred preparing and submitting an application
 - Taxes, except sales taxes on eligible expenses
 - Programs that propose work stipends or wage subsidies
 - Rental assistance
 - Other uses ineligible under the ARPA [Rules and Regulations](#)
 - Direct payment to individuals

MATCH REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must provide a 1:4 match, totaling 25% of overall cost
- Match collected and/or applied prior to May 17, 2021 will not be eligible
- Match source
 - Private sector
 - State & federal funds may qualify if fund source allows
 - Equipment/supply donation or discount
 - In-kind

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Deadline: July 30, 2022
- 1 application per region
 - Each application can include multiple projects; must provide a complete proposal for each
- Submit via application portal at <https://ndgov.link/RWIP>
- Read ARPA Guidelines
- In addition to new projects, existing projects that began after May 17, 2021 may qualify for this grant; however, grant funds cannot supplant an existing budget. Grant funds must be spent by June 15, 2023.

AWARD

- 25% of the total award will be disbursed upon execution of the contract
- 25% upon reporting and documentation by the awardee showing 75% expenditures of the initial payment.
- Remainder of funds will be provided upon report and documentation after the first milestone described in the application has been met.



NEXT STEPS

- For Commerce
 - Develop FAQ; will post on Commerce website
 - Hire grant administrator
- For Regional Partners
 - Read the grant guidance & ARPA guidelines
 - Identify and meet with regional partners
 - Identify lead POC



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Fargo, North Dakota. The foreground shows a river with a sandy bank, surrounded by lush green trees and grass. A multi-lane highway runs along the river. In the background, a dense urban area with various buildings, including a prominent tall orange building, is visible under a cloudy sky.

QUESTIONS

Submit in chat or email Kerri Kraft • kkraft@nd.gov

NORTH
Dakota
Be Legendary.

Workforce Development
COMMERCE

NORTH
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