AB 1111 STAKEHOLDER CONVENINGS – JANUARY 17- FEBRUARY 22, 2019 Q&A

QUICK INDEX

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/PARTNERSHIPS

1. **A consortium made up of adult education systems working with various community-based organizations (CBOs), would the consortium be considered a CBO?**

   Yes, if the lead entity of the consortium is a CBO.

2. **Can two local boards and a CBO apply together?**

   Yes, multiple local boards and a CBOs may jointly apply; however, the application must identity one lead local board and one lead CBO. Between the two leads, the fiscal agent must also be identified.

3. **How is the State incentivizing the local boards to work with CBOs?**

   A successful joint application will include at least one local board and one CBO.

4. **Should two local boards and a group of CBOs apply for one grant or multiple grants?**

   The CWDB encourages applicants to make that determination with all proposed entities involved.

5. **Would the state consider day labor centers as an eligible applicant? These organizations are providing services to the clients with limited funds and support services.**

   Day labor centers would have to partner with a local board and a CBO to jointly submit an application, unless the day labor center is a CBO.

6. **Can a government agency partnering with the local board and CBO apply?**

   Yes, but the government agency can only be a partner. Only local boards and CBOs are eligible

applicants.

7. **Can two local boards be "driving" under this grant?**

   A local board and a CBO must jointly apply. If multiple local boards and CBOs are partnered, the application must identify one lead local board and one lead CBO.

8. **We have locations in Santa Cruz and Monterey County. Should we do two separate partnerships or one?**

   Each applicant must analyze populations that need services, the labor market, geographic area to be served, and commute patterns to decide if one or more grants is appropriate.

9. **What is the role of a county welfare department in a grant partnership? Will they be a "silent partner"?**

   A county welfare department may be a partner with a lead local board and a lead CBO. Applicants need to determine and articulate what role the county welfare department will play within the project.

10. **Can an entity submit multiple applications?**

    Yes, an entity may submit multiple applications; however, CWDB will look at evenly awarding projects throughout California.

11. **Is there a level of experience required for a CBO to serve a specific targeted population? If so, how much experience is needed? Five years?**

    The application should document the experience of the CBO including but not limited to: populations served, number of years, numbers served, successes, geographical reach, and any prior connection to the greater workforce system.

12. **Will a letter be required for a partnership?**

    Yes, documentation must be included to demonstrate that the lead local board and lead CBO have agreed to the partnership and one of the two is designated as the fiscal agent in the grant proposal.

13. **Can a non-local board or non-CBO apply?**

    Local boards and CBOs are the only eligible applicants, however, a non-local board or non-CBO may be a partner.

14. **How does a K-12 provider fit under the grant?**

   A K-12 provider may be a partner with a local board and a CBO.

15. **Will an applicant's score be weighted?**

   No, an applicant's score will not be weighted. A scoring rubric with categories and assigned points to each category will be provided in the RFA.

FUNDING/LEVERGE

16. **Can county funds be used as leverage?**

   Yes, as long as it is not prohibited by the leveraged funding stream.

17. **Can entities apply for an award amount outside of the range of $150,000 to $500,000?**

   Yes, applicants may request an award amount outside the range. However, the applicant must demonstrate justification: the project is regionally coordinated to serve targeted population(s) with multiples local boards, multiple CBOs, and multiple partners, etc.

18. **We really need career pathways for refugees and immigrants who often get stuck in low-wage jobs. Have you thought about setting aside funding specifically for refugees/immigrants?**

   We won't have a set-aside for any of the target groups, but we are very interested in serving refugees and immigrants in areas where there is a demonstrated need.

19. **Is there a limitation on using federal funds as the cash/in-kind match for AB 1111?**

   There is no limitation on our end to using federal funds to match these state funds as long as it is not prohibited by the leveraged funding stream. Please check the allowable uses and restrictions on any state or federal funds to be used as leverage.

20. **Will match fund/in-kind be required for a partner?**

   1:1 match is required for the application. How match is made, is up to the partnership.

21. **Will grant funds be evenly distributed throughout the state?**

   Geographic distribution is one of the considerations in the review and recommendation process for making awards.

PARTICIPANTS/WHO CAN BE SERVED

22. **Is there is an income guideline for people to be served under the grant?**

    No.

23. **Are there restrictions to serving those individuals (under the grant) with work permit and seeking asylum in the US? The process to be grained asylum may take a couple of years.**

    Activities under this grant must be completed within the grant term of 18 months.

24. **Can undocumented individuals be served under the grant? If so, Request for Application needs to be explicit when defining "undocumented individuals."**

    Yes. However, one outcome to be measured is the ability to transition participants to the federal workforce system, which requires right-to-work documents.

25. **The age range for disconnected youth, is it youth ages 18-24?**

    Yes.

26. **Will all the targeted populations be weighted the same?**

    Yes, all the targeted populations will be weighted the same.

SERVICES PROVIDED

27. **Can a project co-enroll with WIOA?**

    Yes, a project can co-enroll with WIOA.

28. **Is Earn and Learn required under grant?**

    No, Earn and Learn training is not required under grant, but it is one of the eligible activities.

29. **To get positive outcomes, projects need more time to get the reporting done. Can project co-enroll with other grant programs?**

    Yes.

30. **There are a lot of employment opportunities in East Bay, especially in the healthcare field. To get people into a high performing, high paying, and high mobility position, it takes a couple years. Can a project get individuals into the system to provide training without direct job placement as a project outcome?**

    Direct job placement is not a required outcome for this grant, but those participants who are co-enrolled in WIOA will be measured on placement. Proposed training and/or supportive services should lead to co-enrollment and demand industry jobs in the region.

31. **Immigrant job seekers with high skills from their home countries are unable to get employment. Is there a limit on dollar amount per individual to be served under the grant? How long should (duration of) training be?**

    There is no limit dollar amount per individual. Funds for training and supportive services awarded under this grant may not be used past the grant term, however they may continue with other funds.

32. **ESL Literacy is an eligible activity, is language acquisition eligible? There are job seekers who were not taught to speak English.**

    Yes, if coupled with other eligible activities.

33. **There are restrictions on support services from other funding sources, would this de-incentivize entities from applying for this grant?**

    AB 1111 is not intended to duplicate or replicate existing programs or to create new workforce and education programs, but rather to provide supplemental funding and services to ensure the success of individuals either preparing to enter or already enrolled in workforce and education programs.

34. **If a program proposes training to assist a target population in attaining the skills they need to open their own business, (small businesses aligned with priority industries) would that be counted as getting a job?**

    Yes, starting a business in one of the priority sectors in the region would be considered employment, however it must be career growing/family sustaining business.

35. **Do you have any suggestions for how to grow the skills sets of undocumented workers beyond assisting them in opening a small businesses (don't need documents to get a business license)?**

    No, we would be interested in seeing a proposal.

36. **Will there be a set grant dollar amount associated with a job placement?**

    There is no set grant dollar amount associated with a job placement.

37. **Is there a required job placement rate under the grant?**

    It is up to the applicants to determine how their projects will be structured. For example, is your project is to provide supportive services to job seekers to obtain employment? If so, then a possible performance outcome may be a percentage of job seekers obtaining employment at the end of the grant term.

COLLECTING & REPORTING DATA

38. **Some targeted populations are not listed in CalJOBS. How would grantees track targeted populations not listed in CalJOBS?**

California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) is working with the Employment Development Department (EDD) to make the changes in CalJOBS to capture all the required data for the targeted populations to be served under this grant.

39. **Why don't you have measures/outcomes around collaboration?**

Collaboration among the partners will be evaluated as part of the application evaluation. Collaboration is an essential part of making the service delivery system work. The CWDB really wants to see CBOs and Local Workforce Boards to address the challenges of working together in their applications, whether they are administrative, direct service, financial, or regulatory.

40. **What are reporting requirements?**

a.   # served under each eligibility category
b.   # successfully completed (certificates/credentials), or progress towards completion
c.   Services provided & relevant measures
d.   # participating in bridge activities that lead to enrollment in workforce and education system
d.   # successful in broader workforce and education system, and labor market

41. **Are there required performance goals under the grant?**

There are not set performance goals to be met under this grant. The applicant will determine their own service delivery goals as part of the application process. It should be a goal to move participants into the federal WIOA system (co-enrollment), which has placement measures.

42. **Is there a set percentage rate for each performance goal (i.e., percentage of individual entering employment, percentage of individual completing vocational training, etc.)?**

There are no set percentage rates for performance goals; however, a list of reporting requirement data will be outlined in the RFA.

GRANT MANAGEMENT

43. How does the state allow flexibility without changing the scope of work?

Throughout the grant period, technical assistance will be provided to address project concerns from grantees; as well convenings for grantees to share ideas. These are not innovation grants like the Workforce Accelerator Fund. While the state will always work with grantees with some flexibility within the law, see answer to #18 for appropriate use of these funds.

44. **Will successful projects be published and shared?**

Yes, in addition to the legislatively required interim and final reports, the CWDB will capture successful practices and lessons learned throughout the grant term to share with the AB 1111 Community of Practice and the broader workforce system.

THE LEGISLATION

45. **The statue states "not intended to duplicate or replicate existing program…," can you explain?**

    Unlike other CWDB initiatives, AB 1111 is not meant to pilot a new idea or replicate/scale existing programs.

    The intent of this grant is to align services provided by CBOs and Local Boards. CBOs are historically on the ground, in the community, serving the populations with significant barriers to employment – but are not necessarily connected with the workforce system at large. Local Boards are at the center of the workforce system but don't have the same capacity to target and serve the populations in need.

    The purpose of the grant is to provide any services needed for individuals with barriers to employment to be successful to enter in, participate, or complete workforce or educational training, who may not be qualified under other funding streams or who may need additional services that are not covered other funding streams.

46. **As the statue states "to supplement existing program," does CWDB want to see the supplemental of a stable existing program with concrete data or a program just starting up?**

    The grant funds may be used to supplement any existing workforce or educational programs.