



# BREAKING BARRIERS

*to Employment Initiative*

## AB628 Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative Q&A - Week of July 11

**Q1. Are we required to use CalJOBS for participant and fiscal reporting?**

**A1.** No, all reporting and invoicing will be completed through the Cal E-Grants portal, powered by Salesforce.

**Q2. Do participants need to be eligible to work in the US?**

**A2.** No, they do not need to have work authorization to be eligible.

**Q3. Do participants need to be registered for selective service?**

**A3.** No, this is not a requirement.

**Q4. Are there standards for performance? For example, minimum number of participants served, employment rate, credential rate, etc?**

**A4.** Performance will be measured based on the grantee's progress toward goals and outcomes stated in their proposal. Grantees will additionally be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFA. While there are no minimum requirements, the outcomes stated in the proposal should be aligned with the funding amount requested and the goals of the initiative.

**Q5. If our subrecipient has staff that meets the percentage requirements for bonus points, does that count?**

**A5.** The bonus points available for percentage requirements are based upon the lead applicant organization's makeup.

**Q6. Could you please let me know whether participants who are funded by this funding stream need to be entered in Cal jobs?**

**A6.** No, we will only be utilizing the Cal E-Grants portal for reporting purposes.

**Q7. Could you tell me what the maximum award amount is for this funding opportunity?**

**A7.** Applicants defined as **small CBOs** may request **up to \$300,000** in grant funds to complete proposed grant activities. Applicants with annual **budgets exceeding \$1.5M** may request **up to \$750,000** in grant funds to complete grant activities.

**Q8. I received notice of the AB 628 Initiative, and would like to clarify eligibility criteria. It looks like community colleges are not eligible to be applicants?**

**A8.** Community Colleges are not eligible to serve as the lead applicant but are encouraged to be a partner to a Workforce Development Board or Community-based Organization that is applying as the lead agency.

**Q9. Could you clarify whether an eligible CBO can submit multiple applications as the lead applicant? Or can an eligible CBO be the lead applicant on only one application, but also partner with other CBOs and workforce development boards on separate applications?**

**A9.** Organizations may submit one application as a lead and may also serve as a partner on applications submitted by different organizations.

**Q10. How should CBO's describe how the relationship with WDB's will be effective? Will this have any points tied to it?**

**A10.** This can be accomplished in the Narrative section of the application. Applicants will be scored based on their ability to demonstrate collaborative working partnerships.

**Q11. How can organizations serving undocumented individuals describe their services, since regular labor market outcomes are not an option? Can services like workplace training, know-your-rights training and things like that can be included, and make them competitive?**

**A11.** Yes, these services are eligible activities under this funding. The evaluation criteria outlined in the RFA are inclusive of both labor market outcomes as well as educational

outcomes. Applicants should develop outcome goals based on their target population(s) and in alignment with the criteria stated in the RFA.

**Q12. Can programs that are already underway be funded to expand?**

**A12.** Yes, as long as the program approach and services delivered are aligned with the goals and requirements of the initiative as stated in the RFA.

**Q13. If larger organizations include smaller CBO's in their proposal would that help them get points (since some of the incentive points are specifically for smaller CBO's)?**

**A13.** The bonus points available for small CBOs are reserved for small CBOs that serve as the lead applicant. However, larger organizations are encouraged to partner with small CBOs and should include these partnerships in their applications. Applicants will be scored on their ability to demonstrate collaborative partnerships that provide services directly to the target population(s) identified.