

WAF 11 Live Session Q&A

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Applicant Criteria

- 1. Are organizations that have not previously been awarded WAF funding eligible to apply for Accelerator 11? The website states, “The purpose of Accelerator 11 is to scale and replicate previous successful projects supported by the CWDB and potentially connect them to existing High Road Training Partnerships.”**

A: Accelerator 11 (WAF 11) is open to all previous CWDB-funded projects (awardees) applicants. This can be funds other than Accelerator/WIOA as long as the fund was awarded by the CWDB.

Organizations that were not previously funded through a CWDB grant will not qualify for Accelerator 11 (WAF 11). However, an organization can take part in Accelerator 11 by partnering with another organization that has been funded by the CWDB in the past. Please see the [Accelerator 11 RFA](#) for additional eligibility criteria.

- 2. Can an organization that was not previously funded/awarded propose to replicate a previous successful project that it was not involved in?**

A: Refer to Question 1 under Applicant Criteria.

- 3. Please confirm that applicant eligibility is based on prior CWDB funding, and the amount requested is based on prior management of WIOA funding.**

A: Applicant eligibility is based on prior CWDB award and to qualify, an applicant must have WIOA experience.

- 4. Concerning eligibility for WAF 11, can a project partner have past WIOA experience, or does the lead agency need to have that experience?**

A: The applying organization (lead agency) must have demonstrated successful management of WIOA funds in the past. However, an organization can take part in

Accelerator 11 by partnering with another organization that has been funded by the CWDB in the past.

5. If CWDB funding is passed through a local workforce board to an organization, does that make the organization eligible?

A: The organization must be the fiscal agent/awardee of a previous CWDB State/Federal funded grant program to be eligible; and to qualify, the organization must have WIOA experience.

6. Employment Training Panel (ETP) Multiple Employer Contract (MEC) contract holders do not count, correct?

A: Correct, these do not count. Only organizations previously funded by the CWDB are eligible.

7. Does being an Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) count as an Innovation Impact Awardee?

A: No, it does not.

8. If the applicant isn't partnering with an existing High Road Training Partnership, is a Letter of Support still required?

A: No, a Letter of Support is not required; however, the applicant needs to discuss how their project's Big Idea will address at least one of the core High Road elements: Improvement of job quality, Create income security or upward mobility, or Connect or bridge workforce programs to quality jobs.

Bonus points are available if the proposed project is connected to an existing High Road Training Partnership (H RTP) project. Applicants must identify the H RTP project and discuss the plan to work together. May include a Letter of Support. For more information on bonus points, refer to the Application Narrative, Evaluation, and Recommendation for Funding section, on page 19 of the [RFA](#).

9. If the Subrecipient is fulfilling the Customer role for Workers, should the applicant describe themselves in Section II. Subrecipient & Project Team Question 2?

A: Yes, the Subrecipient (organization applying for funding) should list themselves and discuss their experiences and success in that capacity that will benefit the project. Additional information for Project Team can be found on Page 6 of the [RFA](#).

10. Is an organization required to have a Subrecipient?

A: No, applicants must categorize contracted funds as either a Contractual Service or Subrecipient. Please reference EDD Directive WSD 18-06 to help make the best determination for an organization.

11. In order to qualify, does an applicant need to be a previous or existing WAF grantee?

A: The applicant does not need to be a previous Accelerator grantee, but must be a fiscal agent (awardee) of a previous CWDB State/Federal funded grant program; and to qualify, the applicant must have WIOA experience.

12. Can the successful project model selected be for any WIOA-funded grant projects or does it have to be a previous WAF award project model only?

A: A successful project model doesn't have to be a previously funded Accelerator program. Any previous CWDB State/Federally funded grant would qualify. In addition, the applicant must also show successful management of WIOA funds.

13. Are current Accelerator Subrecipients (Accelerator 10) eligible to apply for the Accelerator 11 grant; if WAF 10 and WAF 11 grants are for different industries/sectors?

A: To be eligible to apply, an applicant must be a fiscal agent/awardee of a previous CWDB State/Federal funded grant program; and to qualify, the applicant must have WIOA experience.

Accelerator 10 projects will not count towards this as the grant is still in its early phases of implementation. Successful Accelerator 9.0 projects (and past cohorts) will be considered. This will be vetted/confirmed before awards to ensure eligibility criteria have been met.

14. Do applicants have to be a previous WFA grantee to be eligible to apply for WFA 11 under the Innovation Impact Projects?

A: Refer to Question 11 of the Applicant Criteria.

15. Can WAF 10 recipients apply for WAF 11?

A: Refer to Question 13 of the Applicant Criteria.

Fiscal and Allowable Costs

1. How are projects reimbursed?

A: Projects are not reimbursed. Grantees use the CalJOBS cash draw-down system, as needed. A CalJOBS User Registration Form (URF) will be provided by the EDD Fiscal Management Unit (FMU) when initiating the subgrant agreement. This will give the awardee/Subrecipient access to funds through the CalJOBS system, and cash and expenditure privileges are established based on the URF. Only Subrecipient staff with cash privileges will be able to create and/or edit cash requests. Projects are expected to align spending with what is proposed in their application's Expenditure Plan. All expenditure requests and fiscal reporting are done through the CalJOBS system.

2. When completing the WAF 11 application does the applicant need to identify where leveraged/match funding is coming from?

A: Yes, the applicant will be required to identify leveraged/match funds and organization(s) contributing the funds on the Budget Summary tab and Partner Roles and Responsibilities tab. Additional information for Partner Roles & Responsibilities, including leveraged/match funds being provided by partners, can be found on page 18 of the [RFA](#).

3. Can WIOA dollars be used for the match/leverage?

A: No. For Leveraged/Match Requirements please visit page 10 of the [RFA](#).

4. Can an agency be funded for both AB628 funds and Accelerator 11?

A: Yes, as long as there are not any rules against this from the other program(s).

Cal-E-Grants & Online Application Submission

1. In a previous grant application completed in the Cal-E-Grants, the Participant Plan does not total correctly.

A: The totals for the *Number of Participants at the Start of the Quarter* and the *Number of Participants at End of the Quarter* in the Participant Plan tab, are adding up the number for the quarter and not taking into consideration the exits.

When completing the Participant Plan, ensure numbers per quarter are correct in the rows, *Number of New Participants Joined this Quarter* and *Number of Participants Exited This Quarter*.

2. Why would an applicant receive an error message saying that the leverage/match funding needs to be greater than or equal to the requested amount?

A: Accelerator 11 awards require a one-to-one (1:1) leverage/match funds for the award amount, meaning that leveraged/match funds must be greater than or equal to the Requested Award Amount. Leveraged/match funds can come directly from the applying organization and/or its partners, and can come in the form of cash or in-kind funds, such as providing time and other resources quantifiable to a cash value.

3. What are the character limits for the narrative questions in the application?

A: The character limit for each narrative question is 3,000.

4. Is there a document on the application that shows all the questions including those that pop up when you click "yes" on something?

A: You can access the whole application by reviewing and accepting the Acknowledgement and then clicking on *Print View*. You can either print the application or save the application as a PDF to your computer.

Serving Participants

1. **May a funded Innovation Impact project in another geography be proposed in a new geography for this WAF 11 grant?**

A: Yes, as long as the prior project was funded by the CWDB. The purpose of Accelerator 11 is for Innovation Impact projects to replicate and/or scale previous successful CWDB-awarded projects and connect them to HRTPs.

2. **What target populations will qualify under Accelerator 11 grant program? How is “opportunity youth” defined?**

A: The target populations for Accelerator 11 are: English Language Learners, Homeless and Housing Insecure, Immigrants, Justice-involved Individuals, People with Disabilities, Veterans, Youth, and other target population(s) in geographic location(s) disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Definitions for target populations can be found in the Target Population section on page 4 of the [RFA](#).

For information on Youth eligibility requirements, see page 26 of the [RFA](#).

CalJOBS

1. **Is New Employment Opportunities (NEO) a WIOA grant? The NEO grant does not require CalJOBS.**

A: No, the NEO grant is not part of WIOA. All WIOA grants require the use of CalJOBS for entering and reporting participant data and expenditures.

Partnership & Project Team

1. **If partnering organizations are informal, may zero dollars be entered for leveraged on Partner Roles & Responsibilities? If so, can it be listed as cash or in-kind as the type?**

A: All partnering organizations along with their roles and responsibilities need to be listed regardless of whether or not they are providing cash or in-kind match.

Other

1. **How can organizations find and connect with other Innovation Impact Projects previously funded?**

A: The [CWDB website](#) lists the award announcements for all previous WAF cohorts, as well as all projects from other CWDB grants. Organizations may reach out to any of these past awardees/sub-recipients directly to discuss their projects.