



November 20, 2018

Teacher Training and Development Grants

Award Amount \$5,000 to \$250,000

Applications are due by 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 5, 2018
Submit Grants at WisconsinFastForward@dwd.wisconsin.gov

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The Wisconsin Fast Forward program encourages increased collaboration between Wisconsin's workforce, employers, local or regional economic development organizations, workforce development boards, post-secondary institutions, and private training providers to develop and execute business-led training programs. These training programs are designed to provide sustainable, short- and medium-term training and placement of workers in positions that offer trainees long-term professional growth and economic opportunity. To maintain a strong environment for private-sector job creation, Wisconsin must train workers to fill the employment demands of growing and expanding employers. It is anticipated that the relationships developed through Wisconsin Fast Forward funded training programs will continue to flourish after the Wisconsin Fast Forward grant has ended.

Expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward Program: The standard Wisconsin Fast Forward (WFF) program is a state funded grant program to provide employer-focused worker training grants. The Office of Skills Development (OSD) at the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) administers the grant program. Additionally, OSD works to encourage the development of innovative solutions at the local and regional level that bring together employers, educators, workforce development entities and economic development organizations to meet area workforce demands. The 2017-19 biennial budget allows for expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward initiatives to meet identified needs.

This grant is for school boards, or a governing body of a public, private or charter school that can demonstrate a critical need to train and license teachers to meet the standards of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) under s. 118.196.

Legislative Authority: Find a summary of expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward initiatives on pages 716-723 in the 2017-19 Wisconsin Biennial Budget at: https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/budget/2017_19_biennial_budget/045_comparative_summary_of_budget_recommendations_governor_and_joint_committee_on_finance_by_agency/workforce_development.pdf.

The 2017-2019 biennial budget authorizes this specific program: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/106/II/272>

Grant Program Announcement Summary: This Grant Program Announcement (GPA) is **only** available to a school board of a school district, a governing body of a public or private school, or a charter school management organization in Wisconsin.

Application Forms, Instructions, Checklists, and Process: Applications must be submitted online. You can access the online application, along with the application instructions, informational webinars, related guidelines and checklists at: http://www.wisconsinfastforward.com/wff_standard.htm.

Project Period: December 31, 2018 to December 31, 2020

Grant Amount: From **\$5,000 to \$250,000** is available per grantee. Proposals that authorize matching funds will receive additional points in the evaluation process. Grant expenditures must be incurred during the Project Period. All eligible grant expenses will be reimbursed as per individual contract specifications when expenses are:

- Documented by grantee per their contract
- Approved by OSD

Cost Sharing: There is no requirement for matching or leveraged funding. Grants that leverage additional resources to increase the applicant's capacity to train and license teachers will be awarded bonus points in the Grant Evaluation Rubric. Documentation of the leveraged funds is required in the application. If a school board, governing body of a private school, or a charter school management organization has a policy of contributing to an employee's continuing education, provide that policy as an attachment with a commitment to utilize this contribution with this funding (if awarded).

Grant Evaluation Rubric and Scoring: Wisconsin Fast Forward is a competitive grant program. All applications will be reviewed by internal and external reviewers and rated on a 100-point scale, based upon the following point values:

- Project Need (up to 20 points)
- Economic Impact (up to 15 points)
- Training Program Design, Cost and Implementation (up to 20 points)
- Training Objectives and Outcomes (up to 20 points)
- Capacity Building (up to 10 points)
- Economic Opportunity Enhancements (up to 15 points)

The Grant evaluation Rubric and Scoresheet is available online at:

http://www.wisconsinfastforward.com/wff_standard.htm.

Important Dates: Grants are due by Wednesday, December 5, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. Grants will be submitted via email to WisconsinFastForward@dwd.wisconsin.gov

GPA Released	November 20, 2018
Proposals accepted by email only	Email complete applications and attachments to wisconsinfastforward@dwd.wisconsin.gov by 3 PM on December 5, 2018
Projected Grant Awards Announcement	December 18, 2018
Anticipated Contract Start Date	December 31, 2018
Funding Disbursement	On a rolling basis, upon verification of approved submitted purchases, purchase orders, invoices, and related project costs.
Contract End Date	December 31, 2020

Eligibility: For an application to be considered for funding, the following conditions must be met:

- Applicant must be a school board of a school district, a governing body of a public or private school, or a charter management organization.
- Applicant must partner with an educator preparation program approved by the DPI.
- DPI must confirm the proposed teacher development program satisfies requirements under s. 118.196.

Eligible Expenses: Expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward Funds shall be used for direct project expenses. These include:

- The design and implementation of program(s) to prepare employees to complete the requirements for a permit or initial teaching license for general education, bi-lingual, special education, and/or STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) classes.
- Activities essential to teacher development and/or licensure satisfying DPI requirements under s. 118.196 (student teaching, examinations, and/or required coursework)
- Tuition in courses required for licensure or part of an established teacher development program
- Administrative costs up to 5% of the total grant award

Ineligible Expenses: Wisconsin Fast Forward funds may not be used for the purchase of real estate or other capital assets/equipment, facility construction or remodeling, trainee wages, fringe benefits, or trainee transportation costs.

Supplement not Supplant: All funding identified as "leveraged" or "in-kind" must be new funds and cannot replace existing federal, state or local government funding. Substituting existing funds with state grant funds will result in additional fiscal monitoring and may result in an audit. Violations of permissible expenses may result in suspension of current or future funds under this program, repayment of monies awarded under this grant and possible civil and/or criminal penalties.

Letters of Commitment:

- **Partner letters of Commitment or Support:** Should include attestation regarding partnership expectations, the number staff training commitments and any other elements that inform the program. Any source of leveraged funds must also clearly indicate the source of the funding and describe how it supplements the project.

Contract: The Expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward Teacher Development Grants that are funded under this GPA will be required to execute a binding contract with DWD before any expenses are incurred for which reimbursement is expected.

Grant Reporting Requirement: Grantees will be required to submit quarterly project updates with reimbursement requests, individual trainee data, trainee progress reports, pre- and post-training reports and a final project report.

Additionally, applicants and their partners may be subject to program and fiscal audits by the Department of Workforce Development as defined in the contract. The funded project should produce quantifiable outcomes and impacts for the School District, training participants, Technical College and the State of Wisconsin. The applicant should address projected outcomes for the proposed training program, such as: the number of trained and certified dual enrollment teachers increasing their skill attainment and/or receiving industry-recognized credentials.

The Grantee is responsible for tracking and monitoring individual teachers receiving training under the grant through the completion of pre- and post-training reports and a final report on the impact of the training. The anticipated result of this grant program is an increase of DPI certified instructors in the school districts awarded this funding opportunity.