Goal:

To uplift 500+ Columbus residents by funding workforce development programs that provide training, wraparound support, and job placement services for unemployed and underemployed individuals.

$1.8 M available for funding

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Two Applicant Categories

1. Central Ohio Workforce Development Network Members may apply for up to $350,000

2. Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) with budgets under $5M may apply for up to $200,000

Administrative Allowance:

Up to 15% of the award can cover admin costs, data reporting, and evaluation.

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Eligibility Requirements

- Currently operate a successful workforce program in Columbus for at least 18 months

- Serve City of Columbus residents

- Demonstrate capacity to expand services and outcomes with grant funding

NOTE: Organization must provide Career Services and Support. Training providers are not eligible to apply on their own but may be a partner of a CBO.

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Programs Must Demonstrate One or More of the Following:

- 75% success rate in placing participants in full-time employment.

- Employment at wages meeting or exceeding the Columbus housing wage ($25.04/hr).

- 20% wage increase for participants post-program.

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Match & Sustainability

No Match Requirement, but applicants must:

- Show proof of current funding for their program.

- Provide a sustainability plan for the program beyond the grant period

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Threshold Requirements

Application must include:

- Proof of 501(c)(3) status in good standing with the IRS.

- Registration with Ohio Secretary of State

- Most recent organizational audit.

- Completed application by deadline (January 17, 2025)

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Key Application Dates

- **Informational Webinar**: December 19, 2024 (2 PM)

- **FAQ Deadline**: December 20, 2024

- **Application Deadline**: January 17, 2025 (5 PM)

- **Award Announcement**: February 21, 2025

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Reporting Requirements

Awardees Must Report:

- **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**:
  - Participants enrolled, certifications earned, job placements.
  - Barriers reduced (housing, childcare, transportation).

- **Outcome Measures**:
  - 20% income increase, sustained employment, and reduced reliance on social services.

NOTE: Ohio State University Center for Education, Training and Employment (CETE) will be evaluating programs and will be asking for data.

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Pay for Performance Contracts

Contract Breakdown:

- Initial 70% funding drawn with quarterly reporting.

- Remaining 30% contingent on meeting negotiated performance goals.

- Contracts may be terminated if less than 75% of goals are met.

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Submission Requirements

- Complete Application

- Include Attachments: IRS 501c(3) Letter, Audit/Financial Info, Employer letters

  - **Proof of 501(c)(3) status**
    ☐ **Ohio Secretary of State Registration**
    ☐ **Latest completed financial audit**
    ☐ **Budget narrative and breakdown**
    ☐ **Program logic model**

- Submit your completed application and all required attachments electronically to **Career500@aspyrworkforce.org** by **5:00 pm on January 17, 2025.**

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Evaluation for Career 500

Abena Anyidoho, PhD & Dave Julian, PhD

Excellence in Engagement and Evaluation

Center on Education and Training for Employment (CETE)

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Who we are – Excellence in Engagement and Evaluation

- A program area in the Center on Education and Training for Employment at The Ohio State University.

- Design, implement and evaluate projects in education, health and workforce development, among others.

- Based on evidence-based quality standards.

- Efficient and cost-effective manner.

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Our Role on the Project

- **Assess** the effectiveness, impact, and efficiency of Career 500.

- **Determine** if goals are being met and offer insights for improvements.

- **Understand best practices** that work in placing individuals especially minoritized groups.

- **Collect** and **analyze** both qualitative and quantitative data.

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How we plan to achieve this

- **Partnership** with selected agencies and their clients.

- **Collect data** through surveys, interviews, and reports.

- Offer **continuous feedback** throughout the project to ensure progress.

- **Share results** and **offer recommendations** with partners.

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Activities and Timelines

Evaluation Training at the beginning of the Project (Required)

- Virtual session
- Data collection methodology and tools

Check-ins (Optional)

- Support with data collection
- Answer questions

Submission of Data

- End of every two months
- Final data submission – 6 months after end of project

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Your Role?

- **Engage** - Be responsive to requests for data and feedback.

- **Collaborate** - Work with us to identify successes and areas of improvement and share your experiences.

- **Be Transparent** - Provide reliable and accurate information to help us evaluate the project's success.

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FAQ document will be posted on aspyrworkforce.org and no further questions or communication with Aspyr Board or Staff, Columbus City Council or Staff, or Staff of CETE regarding the NOFA shall occur after December 20th.

CONTACT US

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