

Attachment F: Abstract (Competitive)

State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula Funding Opportunity	
Organization Name	Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Lead Applicant Type	State Government
City/State	Juneau, AK
Funding Option	Competitive Funding
Project Title	Building Sustainable Talent Pipelines through Grow Your Own Apprenticeship Initiatives in Alaska
Funding Amount Requested	\$ 5,285,675
Total Apprentices Enrolled in Grant Life	300+ apprentices
Population(s) to be Served	Aspiring professionals in healthcare, K-12 education, and trades. Apprentices are likely to come from underrepresented populations in the career (lower-income backgrounds, individuals from rural-remote communities, Native Alaskans, and youth). Apprentices are also likely to come from positions with Special Education experience and may become certified teachers in Special Education.
Required Partner	N/A
List the name(s) of Optional Partners	Alaska Vocational Technical Center, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Alaska Department of Corrections, Bristol Bay Regional CTE Consortium, Pioneer Home, APSA, Mental Health Authority, Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA), Anchorage Community Mental Health DBA Alaska Seeds of Change, Pacific Northwest Ironworkers, Providence Alaska Foundation
Targeted Industry and/or Occupation	K-12 Teacher Certified Nursing Assistant, Certified Clinical Medical Assistant, Certified Medical Administrative Assistant, Medical Billing and Coding Specialist, Certified Electronic Health Records Specialists, Direct Support Professionals, Community Health Workers; Construction: Carpenter, Sheet Metal Worker & HVAC Systems Technician, Plumber / Pipefitter, Construction Truck Driver, Heavy Equipment Operator, Ironworker / Structural Welder, Electrical Wireman; IT: Tech Support Specialists, Networking Support Specialists, Cyber Security Support Specialists; Mental Health: Peer support and educators; Education: Associate teachers; Culinary Arts: Caterer, chef; Maritime; Tourism

Summary of Program Activities

Alaska faces a multitude of economic challenges due to its geography, demographics, and climate. Critical sectors like education, healthcare, construction, and infrastructure development are experiencing significant workforce shortages. Traditional four-year degrees aren't always the most efficient solution, and apprenticeship programs offer a compelling alternative. Apprenticeships can address teacher shortages, create a pipeline of healthcare workers in remote areas, and build a new generation of skilled tradespeople. They are especially beneficial in off-the-road system communities by providing wraparound support and fostering culturally relevant professions.

Alaska's proposed use of SAEF competitive funds would remove financial barriers and allow individuals who otherwise may not be able to pursue careers in these high-need industries the opportunity to "earn and learn." Project workstreams include: (1) building new apprenticeship programs focused on high-need and emerging sectors, (2) helping employers overcome apprenticeship challenges, (3) reaching out to rural areas off the road system to develop economic capacity, (4) developing state capacity to manage and expand apprenticeship, (5) promoting accessible pathways to the career for a diverse workforce, and (5) supporting workforce system integration and apprenticeship system expansion to support the development, modernization, and innovation of Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

The majority of competitive grant funds will go directly towards subawards to partner organizations and EPPs, whose activity leads directly to apprentice enrollment and program creation/expansion. The remaining funds will be used for administrative costs and technical support and the development of resources from national apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship experts. As DEED and DOLWD look to scale apprenticeship programs for the first time, SAEF2 competitive funds are critical to investing in the long term resilience and vitality of the Alaskan workforce.

Subrecipient Roles

Alaska DEED: DEED is the primary administrative agency over the proposed activity of the competitive SAEF grant and is the primary subrecipient, working with AWIB to manage disbursements to other subgrantees and subcontractors, as well as to manage administrative/personnel expenses associated with executing program goals.

Alaska EPPs: Approved EPPs (universities) in the state of Alaska who will be registered in RAPIDS as Related Instruction Providers will be eligible to compete across multiple competitive rounds in subgrant funding for programmatic costs. Funds will be provided on a reimbursement-basis, based on actual program costs incurred by the Related Instruction Provider, per enrolled apprentice. Funds will be distributed between these providers based on the number of seats they can offer.

Various Employers and Sponsors: The various optional partners listed above will receive subgrant funds to directly support apprentices and expand programming.

List of Credential(s) to be Awarded	Registered Apprenticeship Certificate of Completion Bachelor's or master's degree (depending on the apprentice's track)
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