## **Abstract – State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula Funding Opportunity-Competitive**

Lead Applicant (Competitive): Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Lead Applicant Entity Type: State Apprenticeship Authority

Lead Applicant City and State: St. Paul, Minnesota (with statewide geographic impact)

Funding Option: Competitive Funding

Project Title: Minnesota State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula – Competitive

Funding Amount Requested: \$4,700,000

Total Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs and supported by grant funding during the life of the grant: 848

Populations Served: Women, Indigenous people, people of color, justice-impacted individuals, youth, and people with disabilities

List the name of the Required Partner (if the SAA is not the lead applicant): NA

## Optional Partners:

State Leader	Governor Walz
Workforce Intermediary	Governor's Workforce Development Board
Public Sector Partners	Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Professional Educator Standards and Licensing Board, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, Minnesota Department of Corrections
Local Education Agencies	Multiple school districts with approved career and technical education programs.
Community-based organizations	Lake Street Works, 218 Trades, Building Strong Communities, Helmets to Hardhats, LYFT Career Pathways. EMERGE Community Development, Goodwill Easter Seals of Minnesota, Karen Organization of Minnesota
Industry/Industry Group	Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards
Labor Organizations	Education Minnesota, Minnesota Building and Construction Trade Council, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (multiple local electrical unions),

Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest
(International Union of Painters and Allied Trades),
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1, Minnesota
Training Partnership (AFL-CIO)

Targeted Industries and Occupations: Education, Healthcare, Technology, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Public Administration, and Construction

## Summary of program activities:

Minnesota anticipates a significant increase in the need for a skilled and trained workforce in the coming years. To expand the number of available qualified workers, Minnesota seeks to strengthen and diversify the registered apprenticeship system in industries traditionally underutilized by the registered apprenticeship system, including healthcare, technology, manufacturing, hospitality, and the public sector. Additionally, Minnesota aims to expand registered apprenticeship programming in the construction industry to meet the expected increase in job vacancies due in part to recent infrastructure investments and the transition to a clean economy.

Over the period of performance, Apprenticeship Minnesota will support four overarching goals: 1. Develop RAPs in high growth industries; 2. Expand existing RAPs through the addition of more apprentices, new occupations, new employers, or new service areas; 3. Increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) within RAPs; and 4. Improve the State's overall alignment to the national apprenticeship system and the State's education and workforce systems.

Through the development of industry intermediaries, regional apprenticeship hubs, and other new RAPs, Apprenticeship Minnesota aims to create additional career pathways in diverse industries that were previously only accessible through college and university programs. To ensure existing high-quality programs have capacity for more apprentices, particularly from underrepresented populations and underserved communities, Apprenticeship Minnesota proposes using competitive funding to support program expansion activities, including the addition of new clean economy occupations, new employer partners, and new service areas. Additionally, Apprenticeship Minnesota proposes using competitive funding to host numerous DEIA trainings for RAP sponsors and employers to increase equity in RAPs and to partner with vocational rehabilitation services (VRS) and multiple community-based organizations to create new pre-apprenticeship programs that specifically serve women, people of color, and people with disabilities. Finally, Apprenticeship Minnesota aims to strengthen alignment with the national apprenticeship system by ensuring all pre-apprenticeship programs meet the five elements of a high-quality program. Alignment to the workforce system will be fostered by partnering with four local workforce boards in Greater Minnesota to serve as registered apprenticeship sponsors and alignment to the education system will be improved by partnering with the Minnesota Department of Education to align youth apprenticeship programs to RAPS.

Subrecipient Roles: Subrecipients will assist in RAP development in new industries, program expansion for existing RAPs, increasing DEIA, and implementing pre-apprenticeship programs.

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List of credentials to be awarded: Journeyworker certificates for all occupations will be awarded upon program completion.

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