

Abstract

Lead Applicant/Organization Name: Vail Valley Works Inc	
Lead applicant entity type: Nonprofit with 501(c)(3) IRS status, non-IHE	
Lead applicant City and State: Edwards, Colorado	
Select Grant Category:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensuring Equitable Apprenticeship Pathways and Partnerships Through Pre-Apprenticeship Leading to RAP Enrollment: up to \$4 million 	
Project Title: The Eagle County Collaborative for Career Pathway's RAP and Pre-Apprenticeship Expansion Program: helping more Eagle County youth enter meaningful career pathways.	
Funding Amount Requested: \$1,662,778.80	
Applicants Geographic Scope of Proposed Project: The Eagle River Valley in Eagle County, Colorado, a rural, mountainous region served by LEA Eagle County School District RE 50.	
Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs during the life of the grant: 200	
Population(s) to be served:	
The Eagle County Collaborative for Career Pathway's RAP and Pre-Apprenticeship Expansion Program will serve an entirely rural population in the Eagle River Valley of Eagle County, Colorado. The program will serve youth and young adults ages 18-24, targeting Latino and low-income student populations as well as youth, such as those at the LEA's alternative high school, with barriers to employment such as parenting youth, youth with mild to moderate special needs or significant academic gaps, English Language Learners, etc.	
Required Partners	
Vail Valley Works	Independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and affiliate of Vail Valley Partnership. Intermediary Sponsor.
Vail Valley Partnership	Independent 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization, local chamber of commerce representing over 800 organizations and 80% of the local workforce. Intermediary Sponsor/Industry/Trade Association Sponsor.
Eagle County School District RE 50	LEA serving the Eagle River Valley of Eagle County, Colorado and operator of a blended, center-based Early Childhood Program. Employer Sponsor.
YouthPower365	Equity-focused, youth-serving, community-based organization and independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Apprenticeship Colorado	State Apprenticeship Agency.
Optional Partners	

Vilar Performing Arts Center	Independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit performing arts center. Optional Employer Sponsor.
<p>Project Purpose: To increase the number of equitable Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) and pre-apprenticeship programs; promote RAPs as a workforce development solution; increase the number of youth and young adults, especially underserved populations, entering meaningful career pathways in our community; and reduce the gaps in the skilled local workforce pipeline.</p>	
<p>Subrecipient Activities:</p> <p>The Eagle County Collaborative for Career Pathways (ECCP) will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hire a new CareerX Specialist for Red Canyon Alternative High School. 2. Engage ECCP partners, industry stakeholders, local employers, and other partners to guide RAP creation and enrollment aligned with community needs. 3. Connect with similar programs across Colorado and Apprenticeship Colorado for guidance and mentorship. 4. Identify student interest for high-demand occupations in our community. 5. Provide support services to students in RAPs and pre-apprenticeship programs. 6. Identify systems of support that increase student readiness and access to complete pre-apprenticeship programs and enter RAPs. 7. Identify missing systems of support and barriers of access and inclusion for students. 8. Outline a comprehensive system of supports for students and their families. 9. Improve and expand career-readiness supports and supportive services. 10. Add partners to the ECCP to advise, guide, and support activities. 11. Educate and train YouthPower365's AmeriCorps members serving in Eagle County schools in career coaching and ECCP activities to support and recruit at-risk students to RAPs and pre-apprenticeship programs. 12. Align existing CareerWise apprenticeships with competency-based occupational frameworks and register them as RAPs, encouraging registration with business incentives. 13. Align Eagle County School District's CareerX programming with RAP standards to develop them into quality pre-apprenticeship programs. 14. Identify, establish, and fund relevant industry certifications for RAPs as well as those of interest to students in pre-apprenticeship programs. 15. Develop new, innovative pre-apprenticeship programs and RAPs for occupations in early care and theater technicians. 16. Conduct ongoing outreach of underserved students to recruit them for RAPs and pre-apprenticeship programs. 17. Track program enrollment and completion among participants. 	
<p>List of Credentials to be awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Childhood Education Assistant Teacher HIPAA Compliance Adult and Pediatric CPR/First Aid 	

Entrepreneurship and Small Business
Suicide Prevention
Project Management
ServSafe Food Handling

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

The ECCP will explore, build, and recruit youth and young adults RAPs and pre-apprenticeship programs, a process that will involve partnership building including collaboration with Apprenticeship Colorado; outreach to local employers, youth, and young adults as well as their families, especially underserved youth; the identification of systems of support and missing supports for program participants; the improvement and extension of career-readiness supports and support services to support program completion; the establishment and funding of opportunities for program participants to earn industry certifications; and the creation of new, innovative programs.

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