



TO: Governor's Workforce Cabinet  
FROM: Alicia Kielmovitch, Chief of Staff  
Nathan Storm, Deputy Policy Director  
RE: Local Career Coaching Grant – RFA  
DATE: August 15, 2019

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**Recommendation: Approve the following grantees to receive the Local Career Coaching Grant:**

Planning Grantees:

- Accelerate West Central Indiana Economic Development,
- Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc.,
- Community Workforce Partnership Steuben and Noble Counties,
- Eastern Indiana Works,
- John H. Boner Community Center,
- Lawrence County Economic Growth Council,
- Miami County Economic Development Authority,
- Mississinewa Community Schools,
- Regional Opportunities Initiatives,
- School City of Hammond, and
- South Bend – Elkhart area.

Implementation Grantees:

- Gary Alumni Pathways to Students,
- Indianapolis Public Schools, and
- Vincennes University – Early College Programs.

**Local Career Coaching Grant:** The goal of the Local Career Coaching grant is to provide an opportunity for schools (K-12 and postsecondary), employers, and community-based organizations to partner together to create a sustainable system for the delivery of: local, state, and national career information; the educational attainment levels needed for those careers; and provide students and adults with an opportunity to participate in experiential learning throughout their education and training to make well-informed decisions as to how to best move toward a path of economic prosperity. The ultimate goal of a sustained career coaching model is to increase the following: postsecondary attainment rates (e.g., industry-recognized credential, technical certificate, associates, bachelor's degrees, and beyond), number of high-wage/high-demand jobs filled, and the average annual wages of the communities that apply.

**Criterion 1:** As stated in IC 4-3-27-16, an eligible entity refers to a group of employers, educators, and community leaders. In order to allow for greater cross-sector collaboration within a local community, an eligible entity must have written agreements in place that clearly define roles and responsibilities for employers, K-12 and postsecondary educators, and community leaders.

**Criterion 2:** There are two options for applicants to apply for: planning grants and implementation grants. A planning grant allows communities time to come together to strategically map out the resources that are already available locally that may be leveraged to bring people together and provide sustainability to the community's career coaching strategy. These grants will last for up to one (1) year, and technical assistance will be provided by the state to help communities better understand what may already be available from the state at a local level. The maximum award for a planning grant is \$10,000.



An implementation grant was created for communities who may be planning or integrating systems already, but need a bit of additional funding to realize the strategies they have already identified to address career coaching in a holistic way across systems. For those communities, implementation of grants of up to three (3) years will be available. Technical assistance may be provided by the state to help communities better understand resources that may already be available from the state. There was no maximum award for implementation grants, however; justification and specific detail as to how the total funds would be utilized was required.

**Criterion 3:** In order to be eligible for a Local Career Coaching grant from the Governor's Workforce Cabinet a community must meet four of the following criteria: Postsecondary attainment rate below the state average of 43%; Postsecondary enrollment rate below the state's goal of 60%; Graduation rate in the bottom 75<sup>th</sup> percentile; Unemployment rate higher than the state average of 3.6%; Average hourly wage less than the state average of \$19.67; and Diploma or High School Equivalency attainment below the state average of 88%.

If an application did not include the requirements set out within the legislation, they were disqualified.

**Application Process:** The application process began with the issuance of the request for application (RFA) on June 12, 2019. The opportunity for submit questions for an FAQ, an informational webinar, and access to cabinet staff for clarification took place. Applications were due August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, with the evaluation team evaluating the content of the applications the week of August 5, 2019 – August 9, 2019. The evaluation team consisted members from the Department of Workforce Development, the Office of Career and Technical Education, the Commission for Higher Education, the State Board of Education, and the Cabinet.

**Recommended Awardees:** It is the recommendation the following applicants receive a Local Career Coaching Planning Grant:

- Accelerate West Central Indiana Economic Development - \$10,000
- Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc. - \$10,000
- Community Workforce Partnership Steuben and Noble Counties - \$10,000
- Eastern Indiana Works - \$10,000
- John H. Boner Community Center - \$10,000
- Lawrence County Economic Growth Council - \$10,000
- Miami County Economic Development Authority - \$10,000
- Mississinewa Community Schools - \$10,000
- Regional Opportunities Initiatives - \$10,000
- School City of Hammond - \$10,000

It is the recommendation to combine the three individual applications from the South Bend – Elkhart area (Ivy Tech Community College South Bend – Elkhart, South Bend – Elkhart Regional Partnership, and South Bend Community School Corporation) into one planning grant of \$10,000 to provide time for regional coordination and collaboration.

It is the recommendation the following applicants receive a Local Career Coaching Implementation Grant:

- Gary Alumni Pathways to Students - \$150,000
- Indianapolis Public Schools - \$503,854.95
- Vincennes University – Early College Programs - \$109,900

Allocations by Grant Type and Overall

- Planning Grant Total Allocation - \$110,000
- Implementation Grant Total Allocation - \$763,754.95
- Total Allocation for 2019 Local Career Coaching Grants - \$873,754.95



**Next Steps:** Upon approval by the cabinet, notifications will be sent to all applicants regarding the results of their application evaluation. The activation date for those awarded a grant will be August 15, 2019. Grantees may begin to reimburse expenses for their planning grant or implementation grant on a monthly basis. Grantees may only reimburse up to the total amount of the grant allocation for the specific grant and within the time period they were awarded. Information will be provided to all grantees regarding the reimbursement process, and cabinet staff will provide assistance as needed throughout the duration of the grant periods. For those awarded a planning grant, it is the expectation those grantees will apply for an implementation grant during the following RFA opportunity. The next round of Local Career Coaching Grant applications will take place in spring of 2020.

**List of Total Planning Grant Applicants**

- Accelerate West Central Indiana Economic Development
- Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc.
- Eastern Indiana Works
- John H. Boner Community Center
- Lawrence County Economic Growth Council
- Miami County Economic Development Authority
- Mississinewa Community Schools
- School City of Hammond
- South Bend – Elkhart Regional Partnership
- The Last Round Boxing Mentoring

**List of Total Implementation Grant Applicants**

- Community Workforce Partnership Steuben and Noble Counties
- Culver Community Schools
- Gary Alumni Pathways to Students
- Indianapolis Public Schools
- Ivy Tech Community College South Bend – Elkhart
- Open Door Health Services
- Purdue University
- Regional Opportunities Initiative
- South Bend Community School Corporation
- Vincennes University – Early College Programs