

FY2021 Workforce Equity Initiative  
October 18, 2021 Bidders Conference  
Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will the Power Point be available for future reference?
  - a. Yes, it will be posted on our website.
2. Could a bridge program be from high school seniors to the community college?
  - a. No, we are looking at your Adult Population. We are trying to get adults into post-secondary education. It could be your Adult Education population or returning adults trying to get into the workforce or job market.
3. Can participants be co-enrolled with WIOA?
  - a. Yes, we encourage you to maximize your resources and use partnerships you have established. Also make sure you have a connection with your local workforce board.
4. Can non-college organizations partner with colleges to submit an application?
  - a. That is covered under allowable activities and that is an allowable activity. However, the college must submit the application.
5. If hosting a workshop for students can you provide food (dinner, snacks, pizza, etc) to them during the workshops or is a food voucher the only allowable cost? What is considered a food voucher?

Food vouchers are definitely something that may help a student in trying to take care of those barriers that they might have. If you want to work with a local food pantry, you could do referrals to partner organization or you could give a voucher.

In terms of providing food for a workshop for students or faculty, that is something where you have to follow the CFR 200 circular to make sure it is an allowable activity. In some respects, it may be allowable and in others, it may not be.
6. Can the President/Executive Director be an electronic signature?
  - a. Yes, it can be an electronic signature.
7. Are there criteria for defining “high demand”?
  - a. You should work with your local workforce board. The information for high demand is included and should be consistent. If the identified high demand occupation is not included, you have to be able to document why it is a high demand area.
8. Can Barrier Reduction funds be used for emergency needs (housing cost, state ID or DL cost, SR-22, etc...)?
  - a. We will support you if there is some type of housing allowance that is needed. We will look at those things on a case by case basis. **It should be the exception and not the rule.** You should always connect with other local organizations in order to make referrals. Be sure to maximize resources and that’s why partnerships are so important.

9. Is there a minimum number of participants that a program must serve? Also, is there a maximum amount of money that can be spent in support of each participant?
  - a. There is not, that is something you will have to propose as a part of the application. We will be looking at the difference between what you're proposing and the cost per student. We will look at what your programmatic needs states versus you're your financial need states. It will depend upon your students and the proposed activities.
  
10. Can you share more on the chart for the measurable goals?
  - a. In the NOFO it lists a few of the areas that we want you to concentrate on but you have your own goals for this project as well. The key is to set **measurable goals**. Do a comparison between what is in the review criteria and the application narrative. Each goal is going to be different for each institution. The applicants expected outcomes should be well-defined. The NOFO lists some of the goals that must be included.
  
11. Given the 10 additional points available to current grantees, how many new awards do you anticipate awarding?
  - a. Because this is a competitive process, everybody starts at the baseline. We will evaluate each application the same. NOFO states we will fund up to 18 awards.
  
12. Do we need to submit the application electronically and mail it in?
  - a. It should only be submitted **electronically**. **Do not submit a paper copy.**