Job-Driven National Emergency Grant (JD-NEG)
Request for Applications (RFA) # V-01
Questions and Answers Pertaining to the RFA
(Updated May 27, 2015. New questions and answers are highlighted in yellow.)

Q1. We are a training provider. For Customized Training, is it required to have an employer, other than us, pays part of the training cost? Or, we could match part of that cost?

A1. The Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA), which is the source of the funding for this program, defines Customized Training as training:

- That is designed to meet the special requirements of an employer or a group of employers;
- That is conducted with a commitment by the employer to employ an individual on successful completion of the training; and
- For which the employer pays: 1) no less than 10% match for businesses with 50 or fewer employees, 2) no less than 25% match for businesses with 51 – 250 employees, and 3) no less than 50% match for businesses with 251 or more employees. Match is defined as additional non-Federal and non-State resources that the employer spends on the training.

The business(es) for which the training is designed would have to commit to employ the program graduates and would have to pay the required match.

Q2. On page 9 of the RFA for the JD-NEG #V-01 grant: B. Budget Section- it outlines the cap per trainee for each type of training allowed under this RFA for OJT, Customized and Apprenticeship Training. Under that section is the following sentence: If the training proposed by the applicant exceeds the caps set above, the applicant must pay the difference. QUESTION from the Local Workforce Investment Area (Local Area): Does this mean that the LWIA can use Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds to supplement the cost of the training? The Local Area is looking at the “applicant” in this case as themselves applying for the funds. Is the “applicant” in this case, however, the business applying to use the funds? And, if so, the Local Area cannot use WIA funds to pay in addition to the NEG funds?

A2. The Local Area may not add WIA funds. To do so would cause New York State to exceed the per participant maximums that were negotiated with the U.S. Department of Labor and would also likely exceed the negotiated WIA reimbursement maximums for On-the-Job Training and Customized Training. Any overage on costs would have to be paid by the business being served.

Q3. Is there any possibility of using either NEG to cover incumbent worker training in the near term for training which will ensure retention of current workforce, and will resulted in projected growth of that workforce in the next 12 months?

A3. There is no possibility of using either the JD-NEG or the DWT NEG for incumbent worker training. The funding source for these programs is federal. The U.S. Department of Labor’s Training and Employment Notices (numbers 38-12 and 29-13) that established these grants specifically state that training for incumbent workers is not an allowable use of funds under either grant. New York State must abide by that restriction.
Q4. I represent a federally qualified health center that has established a community workforce development center, providing job placement, GED prep class, ESL and OSHA classes. Would my site, the workforce development center qualify in applying for this grant?

A4. Eligible applicants under this grant include private sector for-profit businesses, private not-for-profit businesses, local workforce investment boards, and training providers. If the applicant is a public sector entity or does not fall into one of these categories, it would not be eligible.

Q5. Must the training positions lead to Full-Time jobs, or may they lead to Part-Time employment as well?

A5. Positions that are part-time are eligible, as long as they are permanent and year-round.

Q6. Can training occur in the food sector industry?

A6. Yes. There is no restriction on the industry to which the applicant belongs.

Q7. Is there a minimum number of trainees that businesses must train and hire?

A7. No. It may be a little as 1 trainee.

Q8. Do the training & hiring businesses include private non-profit businesses in addition to private for-profit businesses?

A8. Yes.

Q9. Are applicants responding to the RFA supposed to be employer businesses that will perform the training, or are applicants supposed to be training program outreach coordinators?

A9. They may be either. Per the RFA, eligible applicants include private sector for-profit businesses, private not-for-profit businesses, local workforce investment boards, and training providers.

Q10. I am wondering if the employer training partners are able to be non-profit businesses, or if they must only be in the private field. Working with businesses that receive public funds would be particularly helpful for training of education professionals.

A10. There is no requirement that the trainers for customized training or apprenticeship training be private sector.

Q11. I am unable to find the RFA on the grants gateway funding portal. Can you please advise as to where I might find what I need to register and pre-qualify as a nonprofit.

A11. The JD-NEG RFA announcement on Grants Gateway has been restored.