

## SFY24-25 Direct Legislative Appropriations Webinar

### Chat/Comments from DA Overview Webinar 6/30/2023

- 1. What is the 2023 contract start date? does it start after grant is signed by all parties or is there a fix date for the contract to start?**
  - a. Contracts will start 60 days retro from the date the funds are encumbered but will not begin any earlier than 07/01/2023.
- 2. What is considered a live-able wage?**
  - a. A livable wage livable wage is the cost of living, per hour, defined within your region. Information can be found. [Cost of Living in Minnesota / Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development \(mn.gov\)](#).
- 3. Do you screen our employees, if so, how**
  - a. DEED does not screen grantee staff, but there are questions in the risk assessment and monitoring guides about whether the organization completes background studies or whether staff are bonded.
- 4. When is your goal to have the contracts out?**
  - a. The Adult Career Pathways team will send out contracting packets by the end of the day (6/30/2023) and will be executed upon the receipt of completed documents and funds encumbered.
- 5. I am surprised to see the same requirements (program design, expected outcomes, etc.) for DEED's competitive grants being applied to the very diverse cohort of projects receiving appropriations. Can you speak to decision-making rationale regarding this, or if there will be any greater flexibility built in for projects receiving appropriations?**
  - a. Requirements are not necessarily the same as competitive grant. We want to clearly understand what your program components or outcome are. [MN 116L.98](#) requires Grantees tracking work being completed (i.e., how many participants receive a credential or how many participants obtain employment) unless specifically stated otherwise within the enacting legislation for the appropriation. Along with your Coordinator, your organization will develop the contracting documents that meet both the legislative statute and the specific direct appropriation language.
- 6. There are only 8 working days between now and July 14. What flexibility is there with this deadline?**
  - a. Please discuss an alternative timeline with your coordinator.
- 7. Is there a public list of all organizations receiving direct appropriations?**
  - a. The Adult Career Pathways team does not typically publish a list of all directly appropriated Grantees. Information may be found within the [2023 MN session laws](#).
- 8. Are all funds a reimbursement? We need to do the work and pay for services in July and invoice DEED in August?**
  - a. Yes, all Direct Appropriations contracts will be on a reimbursement model, unless specifically stated otherwise within the enacting legislation for the appropriation. All Reimbursement Payment Requests are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month following the month the costs were incurred. However, you do not need to wait until the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month and can submit the request any time after the first of the month.

- 9. Will DEED's "Partnership Chart" requirements apply to these grants as well? And can you confirm whether academic assessments (TABE, CASAS, etc.) will need to be conducted with all participants receiving services via these funds?**
- DEED's partnership chart requirements will apply to these grants as well. There's enhanced guidance in our [Adult Career Pathway's Operations Guide](#).
  - Yes, an academic grade level assessment is required for all participants prior to enrolling into a non-credentialed or credentialed training activity, as the COVID waiver will end 7/1/2023.
- 10. We see that the uniform reporting does require we report on all who enter training and the number who complete a credential. I do not see a requirement stated that all projects must provide training and that training must result in a credential. Are all projects required to provide training, and , if so, is that training required to result in a "credential ;" knowing that most professions actually do not have a singular "credential (as defined in 116L.98 as "necessary to obtain employment"). If yes, can DEED provide a definition for those career areas for what does and does not qualify as a "credential" in this context?**
- The requirement(s) of your program are dependent on your specific legislative language. The Direct Appropriations are a bit different than the competitive grants. The competitive grants have outlined measurable outcomes, but with Direct Appropriations we must follow your legislative language. Not all Direct Appropriations contracts have a credential component. However, it is the goal that participants receive assistance to increase their skills to obtain employments and achieve self-sufficiency.
- 11. As it relates to the partnership chart, there's often been an understanding that to send someone to a simple training a training that's often times funded by deed. There's a need to embark upon contract amendments. It's really not clear kind of what the need is for that. I can understand if there's a sub grantee relationship that an organization is adding into the mix as a sub recipient. Why you might need to do a contract amendment to add that sub recipient into your program budget. But, absent that, I guess there's just sort of a lot of confusion as to the impetus, or the needs for this kind of constantly changing partnership chart and need for contract amendments around it.**
- The Adult Career Pathways team recently upgraded the [operations guide](#) to give clearer instructions on what needs to go into the, the partnership chart. Any partner receiving compensation with these grant funds must be included on the partnership chart.
- 12. Is there a minimum grade level required**
- No, there's not a minimum grade level necessarily required. it's about your program and what someone needs to be successful., that is something that you define for your program. However, an academic grade level assessment is required for all participants prior to enrolling into a credentialed or non-credentialed training activity.