



# American Rescue Plan Good Jobs Challenge

Regional Application



Sacramento  
Employment and  
Training  
Agency



SACRAMENTOWORKS



valley vision

# Working On Behalf of the Region

As the region's civic leadership and workforce intermediary organization, Valley Vision works with regional leaders to pursue funding opportunities to support and grow our local economy corresponding talent needs. To this end Valley Vision has supported or is supporting efforts on the following:

- Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF)
- Build Back Better (BBB)
- Good Jobs Challenge (GJC)

Today's webinar is focused on the Good Jobs Challenge funding opportunity

# Good Jobs Challenge - Background

**From:** Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce

***To form sectoral partnerships to collaboratively grow regional economies and their associated workforces by building training programs that meet the existing and emerging skills needs of employers and that help workers enter quality jobs and advance along their chosen career path. EDA encourages efforts to reach historically underserved populations and areas, communities of color, women, and other groups facing labor market barriers including persons with disabilities, disconnected youth, individuals in recovery, justice impacted and reentry participants, veterans, military spouses, SNAP, TANF and WIC recipients.***

# Good Jobs Challenge - Background

**CWDB Deadline:** January 27th, 2022

Must meet state's High Road Training Partnership Goals

**Overall Deadline:** February 10th, 2022 11:59 PM EST

**Estimated Number of Awards:** 50

**Award Ceiling:** \$25 million

**Award Floor:** \$1 million

EDA will provide one overarching award and then approving the release of award funds over the period of performance based on successful completion of specific applicant-proposed benchmarks agreed upon as movement occurs between each proposed phase.

# Key Components and Definitions

- **Lead System Entity** - lead entity of a regional workforce training system
- **Backbone Organization** - intermediary across all partners in the sectoral partnership. *The Lead System Entity and/or Backbone Organization must have convening power in the region and the capacity to coordinate all necessary regional system or partnership stakeholders.*
- **Quality Job** - a job that exceeds the local prevailing wage for an industry in the region, includes basic benefits (e.g., paid leave, health insurance, retirement/savings plan), and/or is unionized, and helps the employee develop the skills and experiences necessary to advance along a career path.
- **Prevailing Wage** - the average wage paid to similarly employed workers in a specific occupation in the area of intended employment. - DOL
- **Conditional Hire** - employer hires worker on the condition of successful completion of the training program and demonstration of skill acquisition.
- **Employer Commitments** - employers commit to hiring a specific number of workers who successfully complete the training program provided through the regional workforce training partnership.

# Overall Project Goal

**A coordinated digital skill building scaffolded pipeline from priority neighborhoods and populations to high quality jobs in the ICT sector and positions crossing key sectors of our regional economy aligned with our regional CEDS, The Greater Sacramento Region Prosperity Strategy.** This project will address current skills gaps through the development of clear career pathways for high-demand quality jobs in the Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) sector spanning the intersectionality of our region's key target industry clusters: Food & Agriculture, Life Sciences and Future Mobility.

# Overall Project Goal

**The strength of this proposal will be the linking together of a vibrant network of community-based organizations, skill building activities and training entities securely attached to employer needs while ensuring access to the community members most in need.** Achieving the goals of this project will improve environmental and economic goals for the region by expanding the talent pool of ICT workers who can address the increased digitization of our key industry sectors. The key occupations proposed for this project to focus on are Computer User Support Specialists, Data and Computer Systems Analysts, Network and Computer Science Administrators, Information Security Analysts/Cybersecurity and Web Developers/Digital Interface Designers, top occupations expected for continued growth.

# Phased Approach

## **Phase 1: System Development**

- Convene employers, industry and stakeholders to design a sustainable structure for the ICT training ecosystem leading to quality jobs
- Work with employers and stakeholders to identify in-demand occupations and skills and secure employer commitments to hire workers who successfully complete training components of the project
- Cut across traditional silos to link together integrated supports to ensure access, perseverance and success for traditionally underserved community members



# Phased Approach

## **Phase 2: Program Design**

- Define specific roles and responsibilities for stakeholders
- Develop the process to translate employers' needs for skills into training models, develop or scale regional training
- Create a sustainable process to make the information on in-demand occupations within the sector, local training programs and skill building activities aligned to these occupations, and the funding to support these opportunities easily accessible to community members

# Phased Approach

## **Phase 3: Program Implementation**

- Scale and/or implement new training models and/or foundational skill building components along pathways
- Monitor progress of funded providers, provide technical assistance and support
- Measure training completion, employment outcomes, average wage, career progression, job retention and employer satisfaction

# Allowable Activities

- Foundational skills training programs
- Registered apprenticeship models
- Work and learn models
- Certification or credentialing programs
- Wraparound services for workers to participate in skills training programs (ie., transportation, childcare, career coaching/navigation services)
- Professional development and capacity building to trainers and educators
- Equipment costs, expenses related to securing adequate space (e.g., rent, leases), and other non-construction capital expenses to provide training/program services

**Building-based construction projects (i.e., any activity that disturbs the ground or modifies a structure) are NOT eligible under this NOFO**

# Assistance Needed

- Complete the survey in a timely manner, whether provide leveraged funds or asking for funds
- Provide customized letters from employers as either conditional hires or employer commitments to hire from the regional workforce training partnership supported by the Good Jobs Challenge
- Share the recording and survey with other organizations who may be interested

# Next Steps

- Recording Shared
- Partner Survey Forthcoming
- Secondary Webinar/Update
- Status on the Grant Application
- Information on Award Status

Thank you for attending. For additional information contact Renee John [renee.john@valleyvision.org](mailto:renee.john@valleyvision.org) or Angelina Olweny [angelina.olweny@valleyvision.org](mailto:angelina.olweny@valleyvision.org).