

# ARRA Competitive Grants for Green Jobs Training Training and Employment Notice Summary

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act included \$750 million for a competitive grant program under the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to support worker training in high growth and emerging industries. The law required that \$500 million be used to support projects to train workers for jobs in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors. DOL intends to fulfill the green jobs goal through a series of grants, with Solicitations for Grant Applications (SGAs) for each program to be announced in June 2009. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) issued a [Training and Employment Notice \(TEN\)](#) on May 15<sup>th</sup> outlining the Department's initial plans for awarding these funds "so that interested organizations can begin to plan for the application process and can strengthen or build partnerships to be successful applicants." (pg. 1)

The TEN provides details on each of the potential<sup>1</sup> SGAs:

## **Potential Funding Opportunities**

*State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants:* Funds will be made available on a competitive basis to State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), or consortia of SWAs, to collect, analyze, and disseminate labor market information, and to develop a labor exchange infrastructure to help workers find careers in the energy efficiency and clean energy sectors. ETA has indicated a strong preference for joint applications from SWA consortia. Successful applicants will coordinate their efforts with work being done in this area by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. Activities funded under these grants should ensure that workers receiving training will be able to find employment in the targeted sectors upon completion of training.

*Energy Training Partnership Grants:* ETA will provide two sets of grants, which will be used to provide training to help workers gain employment in energy efficiency and clean energy sectors as described in the Green Jobs Act, with a focus on incumbent and dislocated workers. One set of grants under this program will be made available to eligible national labor-management organizations with local networks, while the second set of grants under this proposal would be made to state or local nonprofit partnerships comprised of labor-management organizations, labor, business, workforce investment boards, and other stakeholders. Some portion of the funds provided under this program will be reserved to help workers and communities impacted by the restructuring of the automotive industry.

*Pathways Out of Poverty Grants:* This program would provide two sets of grants to provide recruitment, training, and supportive services to help low-income and under-skilled workers, unemployed youth and adults, and other underserved populations to find employment in energy efficiency and clean energy sectors. One set of grants under this program will be made available

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<sup>1</sup> The TEN stresses that the grants described are potential funding opportunities, and that "final funding opportunities may vary" (pg. 2) from those described in the notice.



to eligible national community-based and faith-based organizations with local networks, while the second set of grants would be made to local partnerships of community-based organizations, education and training institutions, business, and labor organizations.

*State Sector Training Grants:* Establishes a competitive grant program for state workforce investment boards (SWIBs) or regional consortia of SWIBs to support job training and related activities aligned with sector strategies in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors. Applicants must demonstrate strong partnerships to develop the energy efficiency and clean energy workforce; relationships with other state agencies receiving Recovery Act funding to support strategic planning and implementation efforts; and an ability to provide an integrated system of education, training, and supportive services and to target the needs of a specific industry sector. Some portion of the funds provided under this program will be reserved to help workers and communities impacted by the restructuring of the automotive industry.

*Green Capacity Building Grants:* This is a competitive grant program for current DOL grantees to update existing training and job placement programs that will facilitate the success of other projects under the Green Jobs Initiative. Activities supported will include hiring and staff professional development, curriculum development and adaptation, and the purchase of equipment.

ETA anticipates the SGAs will be published in June 2009, with application closing dates starting late summer.

