

# Community College and Career Training Grant Program

## Section-by-Section Analysis

April 2010

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### Subchapter B of Trade Adjustment Assistance for Communities (Chapter 4) – Part III of Subtitle I of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

#### Sec. 278. Community College and Career Training Grant Program

(a) **Grants Authorized** – Authorizes new “Community College and Career Training Grants” program.

(1) Establishes that the Secretary of Labor is authorized to award Community College and Career Training Grants to eligible institutions for the purpose of developing, offering, or improving educational or career training programs for workers eligible for training under the TAA program.

(2) An eligible institution may not receive more than one grant and grants may not exceed \$1,000,000.<sup>1</sup>

(b) **Definitions** – Defines an “eligible institution” as an institution of higher education as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, but only with respect to a program offered by the institution that can be completed in not more than two years.

(c) **Grant Proposals** – Outlines the grant proposal process.

(1) Requires that eligible institutions submit grant proposals at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(2) Requires the Secretary of Labor to promulgate guidelines for the submission of grant applications, to publish and maintain such guidelines on the DOL website, and to offer assistance in preparing grant applications to any eligible institution that requests it.

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<sup>1</sup> Sec. 1501 of Subtitle F of Title I of The Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 (HR 4872) exempts funds authorized and appropriated under this section from such limitations and mandates each state receive not less than 0.5 percent of the amount appropriated under this section each fiscal year 2011-2014.



- (3) Requires that a grant proposal submitted under this section include a detailed description of—
- (A) the specific project for which the proposal is submitted, including the manner in which the grant will be used to develop, offer, or improve an educational or career training program for workers eligible for training under TAA;
  - (B) the extent to which the project will meet the educational or career training needs of workers eligible for training under TAA in the community served by the eligible institution;
  - (C) the extent to which the project fits within any overall strategic plan developed under a TAA for Communities Grant (Sec. 276);
  - (D) the extent to which the project relates to any project funded by an Industry or Sector Partnership Grant for Communities Impacted by Trade (Sec. 279A); and
  - (E) any previous experience of the eligible institution in providing educational or career training programs to workers eligible for training under TAA, although the absence of such experience shall not automatically disqualify an eligible institution from receiving a grant under this section.
- (4) *Community Outreach* – Requires eligible institution to demonstrate—
- (A) the eligible entity reached out to—
    - (i) employers and other public or private entities within the community, including local, county, or State government agencies serving the community; firms, including small- and medium-sized firms, within the community; local workforce investment boards; labor organizations, including State labor federations and labor-management initiatives, representing workers in the community; and education institutions, local education agencies, or other training providers serving the community to identify—
      - (a) any shortcomings in existing educational and career training opportunities available to workers in the community; and
      - (b) any future employment opportunities within the community and the education and career training skills required for workers to meet such demand.
    - (ii) other similarly situated institutions in an effort to benefit from best practices;



(iii) any eligible partnership in the community that has sought or received an Industry or Sector Partnership Grant for Communities Impacted by Trade (Sec. 279A) to avoid duplication of efforts; and

(B) include a detailed description of the extent and outcomes of such outreach, the extent to which the project will address any shortcomings or training needs identified through such outreach, and the extent to which employers, including small- and medium-sided firms within the community, have demonstrated a commitment to employing workers who would benefit from the project.

**(d) Criteria for Award of Grants –**

(1) The Secretary of Labor shall award grants based upon—

(A) a determination of the merits of the proposal to develop, offer, or improve educational or career training programs to be made available to workers eligible for training under TAA;

(B) an evaluation of the likely employment opportunities available to workers who complete an educational or career training program developed, offered, or improved under such a grant; and

(C) an evaluation of prior demand for training programs by workers eligible for training under TAA in the community served by the eligible institution, as well as the availability and capacity of existing training programs to meet future demand for training programs.

(2) *Priority for Certain Communities* – The Secretary shall give priority to a grant proposal from an eligible institution that serves a community that the Secretary of Commerce has determined is eligible for TAA for Communities (Sec. 273) within the 5-year period preceding the submission of such a proposal.

(3) *Matching Requirements* – A grant awarded under this section may not be used to satisfy a matching requirement under any other provision of law.

**(e) Annual Report** – Requires the Secretary of Labor to submit annually to the House Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee a report describing each grant awarded under this section during the previous fiscal year and assessing the impact of each grant on workers receiving training under TAA.

**Sec. 279. Authorization of Appropriations**

**Appropriations** – Authorizes and appropriates \$500,000,000 for each fiscal year 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 to carry out this subchapter. Clarifies that any limitations on such funds under this subchapter do not apply and that each State shall receive not less than 0.5 percent of such funds for each fiscal year.