

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND EARN AND LEARN GRANT

Purpose. The purpose of the Coronavirus Relief Fund Earn and Learn Grant is to support the creation and expansion of short-term “earn and learn” training programs resulting in industry-recognized credentials by providing grants for the purchase of equipment, tools, simulators, related training instruction materials, updated curriculum, tuition, books, wrap-around services to support participants during the grant period (internet access, childcare, transportation, stipends etc.), or other necessary items to provide for on-line learning as well as hands-on learning when necessary and safe. Awards are to be specifically directed toward those programs and initiatives that will benefit and expand opportunities for individuals impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Definitions.

“Earn and Learn program” means a training program that is an employer-driven model, combining on-the-job learning with related classroom instruction that results in an industry-recognized credential and allows the participant to earn a paycheck beginning and throughout the training period

“High-demand job” means a job identified by the workforce development board or a community college pursuant to Iowa Code §84A.1B, subsection 13A, or a job linked to locally identified high demand jobs as demonstrated by statewide or regional data.

“Outcome” means a type of performance measure that indicates progress toward achieving the intended result of a program and usually represents a change in the situation of beneficiaries of a service, such as completing a training program or securing employment upon completion of training provided.

“Participant” means a reportable individual who has received grant-assisted services.

"Post-secondary education institution" means an institution under the control of the state board of regents, a community college established under Iowa Code chapter 260C, or an accredited private institution as defined in Iowa Code section 261.9, subsection 1.

“Small Business” means a business with less than 50 employees.

"Union" means an organization formed to negotiate with employers, on behalf of workers collectively, about job-related issues such as salary, benefits, hours, and working conditions.

Administration of Awards.

- a. The Coronavirus Relief Fund Earn and Learn Grant awards shall be managed and administered by Iowa Workforce Development.
- b. Non-profits, adult-training providers including but not limited to post-secondary education institutions and unions, and small businesses with less than 50 employees in good standing with the State of Iowa shall be eligible to apply. Applicants must reside or have their primary place of business in Iowa, or hire and employ Iowans within the state for employment as defined in Iowa Code Chapter 96.

- (1) Proposals shall be submitted directly to the Department of Workforce Development using IowaGrants.gov for consideration beginning October 19, 2020.
 - (2) Proposals shall be submitted no later than October 26, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.
 - (3) Proposals shall contain a written, detailed plan describing the pilot project or existing program, to include a narrative outlining the initiative to be pursued including whether the proposed program is a new or existing earn and learn program, the manner in which it would be implemented, the costs involved, the projected number of participants to be served, credential offered, and the outcomes expected to be achieved.
 - (4) All funds under such award shall be expended by December 31, 2020.
- c. The Iowa Department of Workforce Development shall promulgate a policy for the evaluation of proposals and award of grants pursuant to this funding opportunity.
- d. Grantees must provide a detailed report of the use of the funds by March 15, 2021. The detailed report shall be submitted to the Director of the Department of Workforce Development and include, at a minimum:
- (1) Date funds received;
 - (2) Amount of funds received;
 - (3) The numbers of individuals, agencies and businesses and others who received the funds including amounts received;
 - (4) A description of entities or individuals the monies were paid to, along with description of services or items received for each payment along with accompanying receipts as proof of payment;
 - (5) A description of the activities paid for by the funds, the dates of distribution, along with amounts disbursed for each activity, and the number of participants served;
 - (6) The persistence and/or completion rate for individuals supported by the award, including specific credentials earned;
 - (7) Employment and wage outcomes after completion; and
 - (8) Lessons learned and future recommendations.