

Coronavirus Relief Registered Apprenticeship Incentive Programs Questions from September 30, 2020 Webinar

1. Is an applicant who receives this funding eligible for 15b and 15c funding? *Yes, they would be eligible for both 15B and 15C.*
2. Are stethoscopes and scrubs considered tools? *Yes, they would be considered tools, these can be requested for new Registered Apprentices – not to replace for current Registered Apprentices.*
3. If organizations were awarded coronavirus relief employer innovation funds for equipment related to RA can they apply for this grant? *Yes, they can apply, they cannot request funding for the same items that received funding in the innovation grant.*
4. If the programs are not registered or have Registered Apprentices enrolled by February 28, 2021, will the employer have to pay back the funds received? *Yes.*
5. Can an employer applicant purchase equipment with grant funding that will be placed at the location of a partner where registered apprentices are being trained? *Yes.*
6. Is the applicant required to enroll at least 1 registered apprentice by Feb. 28, 2021? *Yes.*
7. Can one institution (healthcare) have more than one department apply? *No, a single entity should apply for all of the programming that its various departments or sectors wish to engage in as a single application on behalf of the entity itself.*
8. Does a nonprofit need to be a 501(c)3? *A non-profit entity needs to be registered as such with the Iowa Secretary of State.*
9. What defines a post-secondary institution? We have an in-house training facility and a program for entry level employees and recent high school graduates. Does it need to be an accredited institution for eligibility? *Yes, Postsecondary 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.*

10. What happens if you aren't able to get 1 enrollment in a new apprenticeship program for my employer by 2/28? *Any grant awards would need to be repaid.*

11. Is a small business defined by the location with 50 employees? OR by the business as a whole with many locations and all employees counted? *The local business can be the applicant if they have less than 50 employees and if the Registered Apprenticeship Program they create is only for that location and not on behalf of the entire company.*

12. What is defined as healthcare? Nursing and medicine, or is also cleaning included? *Healthcare specifically refers to the line of work the apprentices work in. It needs to be healthcare per se, not just part of a business or entity that also engages in healthcare.*

13. Can a municipality apprenticeship program apply for grant money, Current or new? *Municipalities are ineligible, as we cannot be certain what their funding sources are, and how they may relate to state funds.*

14. The OJT wages paid, how can we show the on the job training wages for 50 weeks, 2000 hours spent by 12/31/2020? **See below, after question 17.*

15. If the participant has to stay with the company beyond the December 31 or February date, how would the payment they are entitled to be accounted for? **See below, after question 17.*

16. The OJT training wages, how do we show this spent by 12/31/2020 when it goes 50 weeks to complete 2000 hours? **See below, after question 17.*

17. Curious if 2,000 hours are required to get participants through the Registered Apprenticeship related work, how does one get those completed by end of February? **See below, after question 17.*

Answer for questions 14 – 17

The grant does not fund the wages paid to the Registered Apprentices. A Registered Apprentice is an employee and therefore, paid as an employee would be paid. The 2,000 hours of on-the-job-training each year is part of a Registered Apprenticeship Program. For the grant, a program must enroll one new Registered Apprentice into the program by Feb. 28, 2021. The Registered Apprentice does not have to complete the program by that date.

18. Are the hours of on the job training modified for high schools? *When the hours occur is modified however the Registered Apprentice still needs to complete the hours. The U.S. DOL will work with any applicants on this.*

19. We are a small HVAC business and have one apprentice that received a 15 grant in 2019. We have a new employee who will start an apprenticeship in Jan 2021. Can he qualify for this grant in the same discipline? *The organization is the entity that submits a grant proposal. This organization can apply however they would have to meet the criteria for applying and include the needed connections to the coronavirus pandemic. If the individual is already enrolled in RAPIDS then the organization would have to enroll a new Registered Apprentice affected by the pandemic prior to Feb. 28, 2021.*

20. So health care will only be able to use the money if awarded for capital, equipment and curriculum. Not to fund human resources. *Yes, that is correct.*

21. If this is a new program at a post-secondary institution, do you have to have a minimum number of participants? *You have to enroll 1 new Registered Apprentice (whose employment has been affected by the pandemic) with an employer by Feb.28, 2021.*

22. Would staffing be able to be considered just on internal employee count which would be less than 50 employees or would we have to count all temporary employees and internal employees as a whole for employee count? *Staffing does not include temporary employees.*

23. Does the apprentice need to be a veteran, woman or minority or serve community members to include veteran, woman or minorities? *The grant is to expand opportunities for lowans whose employment has been affected by or eliminated because of the coronavirus pandemic including low skilled workers who are veterans, returning citizens, members of underrepresented communities, minorities, women, lowans with disabilities, or low-income lowans.*