



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 2/21/2017 **Superintendent:** Dave Valenzuela

Administrator/Staff: Tanner Smith, Principal. Gene Merrill, College & Career Advocate Illinois Valley HS

Type of Item: *Informational* *Action*

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

IVHS College & Career Center requests permission to respond to the Ford Family Foundation Request for Proposal regarding education for job readiness. The C&C Center would like to seek funding to create and maintain a student internship/apprenticeship program utilizing local business and industry to coach high school students in real life job skills. Ford Foundation anticipates an average grant fulfillment of \$50,000, with multiple projects funded. Due to the economic outlook of the greater Illinois Valley area, and the bleak picture faced by our public schools, we feel that there will be strong interest in our proposal.

Provide history/background information on your proposal:

College & Career Centers are new to the TRSD system. In developing local participation in C&C center functions such as job shadows or student information panels, a deep excitement was discovered. The greater Illinois Valley has shown a strong desire to become involved in the success of our students. The IVHS C&C Center feels that there is great potential for partnership with individual employers in our area, as well as groups like the IV Community Development Organization. These partnerships could be leveraged into direct on the job training in a number of areas.

List the advantages of your proposal:

Illinois Valley area students are greatly disadvantaged by financial limitations of the local region, and the physical distance to the nearest urban area. By creating a system where students can develop marketable job skills locally we open pathways that translate to higher earnings. Higher earning jobs translate directly to ability to afford local housing and costs associated with commuting. Keeping higher achieving citizens locally benefits both schools and community.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

There are no potential disadvantages in attempting to create a program that would directly translate to increased graduation rates, higher income for at risk students, and direct community betterment.

List possible alternatives that could also offer a solution to your proposal. Why were they not recommended?

Due to budget constraints, there is no viable alternative to creating a full-fledged program with the scope of reach that a funded program can have. An extremely limited range of effectiveness can be created utilizing governmental entities that have volunteer programs in place, but these programs by nature would not engage the at risk population of the student body.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Education for Job Readiness

Pathway to Work Grants:

Preparing Rural Youth to Meet Community Workforce Needs

About Education for Job Readiness

A four-year college degree is not the only path to employment following high school. Many students are finding success with technical training, apprenticeships, job skills programs and community college degrees. In rural communities, these educational pathways have the potential to help employers meet their future workforce needs and provide quality jobs for rural residents.

The Ford Family Foundation is expanding its commitment to helping youth prepare for successful adulthood by investing in projects and programs that encourage the education and other skill development of rural residents as they transition from high school to the world of work.

Through its Education for Job Readiness program, the Foundation seeks to achieve this objective by investing in both proven and promising programs that connect education and work opportunities in rural communities in Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif. It encourages active partnerships between local employers and education, workforce, and nonprofit entities engaged in this work.

Education for Job Readiness also seeks to deploy strategies that support student success in Career Technical Education and other postsecondary programs and certificates, with the goals of increasing student enrollment, persistence, completion and preparedness for work.

Purpose of the Pathway to Works Grants

Through Pathway to Work Grants, The Ford Family Foundation seeks to:

- Prepare more students for local jobs and careers through education and training to meet industry needs in rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif.;
- Stimulate new thinking in rural communities about how to create and sustain pathways that connect educational and training opportunities to local employer demand;
- Support and expand the impact of existing partnerships focused on building pathways connecting education and training to workforce needs;
- Build a community of practice that supports and engages those working to advance such pathways in rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif.

Eligible Organizations

The lead organization responding to this RFP must be a public charity, governmental or tribal entity serving rural Oregon or Siskiyou County, Calif. Eligible entities may include educational institutions or districts, or governmental or nonprofit agencies. Local and regional partnerships are strongly encouraged to apply. Given the nature of the Education for Job Readiness program area, it is expected that partnerships will include measurable engagement by private sector employers, although private sector entities cannot be the lead applicant.

Entities applying for the grant must represent a rural area, defined as a population less than 35,000 not adjacent to an urban center. Organizations located in communities over 35,000 may be eligible to apply if the project primarily serves rural students and communities. It is recommended that such organizations contact the RFP Program Officer to confirm eligibility prior to completing the application.

Grant Size and Scope

Applicants for this RFP may apply for one or two years of funding. If applying for two years, all supporting documents must represent the two-year time frame. It is anticipated that multiple projects will be supported with grants averaging **\$50,000** for each year awarded. The Foundation retains flexibility on the maximum grant size to be awarded through this RFP, pending the number, quality, scope, and program maturity of applications received.

Timeline of the RFP Process and Grant Period

- **Application Opening.** The application opens at **8 a.m. on January 16, 2017.**
- **Deadline.** The application deadline for this RFP is **12 noon on February 28, 2017.**
- **Release of Funds.** Grants will be reviewed and decisions announced by April 15, 2017. Funds will be released to successful proposers by July 15, 2017.
- **Grant Period.** It is anticipated that the grant period will begin July 1, 2017, and completion of projects will be by either June 30, 2018 or June 30, 2019.

Application and Evaluation Criteria

To respond to this RFP, interested applicants should:

1. Contact the RFP Program Officer with content and eligibility inquiries during the question period between **January 23 and February 3, 2017**: Bonnie Williams, (541) 762-2524, bwilliams@tfff.org
2. Complete and file the online application by **12 noon on February 28, 2017**. The [application link](#) will be added to The Ford Family Foundation website *after January 16, 2016*.
 - a. Prepare the required supporting documents.
 - b. Prepare the application narrative, following the outline below.

Application Narrative Outline. All applications shall provide the information below. Each section will be evaluated by the RFP evaluation team based on applicant's ability to articulate the requirements of each section, **with particular priority on clear connection**

between project goals and the goals of the Pathway to Work Grants, and the quality and commitment of partnerships represented.

- **Project Description.** Explain the challenge or opportunity in your community or region related to Education for Job Readiness that is being addressed by your proposal. Describe your project's proposed approach to the challenge or opportunity and why you believe it will be an effective approach in your community. Identify the measurable and specific goals of your proposed project.

Include information on:

1. Project Design

- a. Describe how the challenge or opportunity being addressed was identified.
- b. Explain how the project is developed from, informed by, and evaluated with data. Articulate the project's goals and how the project design will meet these goals.
- c. Describe how your organization's mission and goals align with the goals of the Education for Job Readiness program of The Ford Family Foundation. Provide information on your organization's capacity to achieve the goals of the proposed project.

2. Community Partners

- a. Describe the specific roles of the community partners with whom you anticipate working on the proposed project. What was the role of the stakeholders in the project design?
 - b. Describe any strengths or past successes of your partnership, including evaluation data if available.
 - c. Include the role of local employers in your project.
- **Scope of Work.** Provide detail on your project implementation plan. List all the proposed activities, and show how activities will contribute to the goals of the project. Clearly outline the outputs (deliverables) of the project. Include a timeline showing how and when the work will be completed, and which partners are responsible. Describe your project's leadership and management plan.
 - **Outcomes and Impact.** Describe the expected outcomes of the project after the grant period, and in the longer term. Describe the anticipated impact of your project upon students, the community and the local workforce. Include information on how outcomes and impacts will be measured.
 - **Budget.** Provide explanation of how the proposed funding will be spent. If the proposed project is part of a larger initiative, describe the specific role of the Pathway to Work grant funds and their impact on the overall initiative. Include information on other funding sources and the role of in-kind contributions, if any. As noted above, proposals requesting two years of funding should provide budget information representing the two-year period.
 - **Sustainability.** Provide information on how the project goals will continue to be met after the grant period has ended.

Required Supporting Documents

- Letters of support from all partners
- Budget Template

Apply Online

All applications for Pathway to Work Grants must be submitted [online](#).

The APPLY NOW link will be live after January 16, 2017.

Application Deadline

All applications for Pathway to Work Grants must be received by The Ford Family Foundation by **12 noon on February 28, 2017**.

Evaluation Process

Proposals will be scored by an evaluation committee assembled by the Education for Job Readiness program of The Ford Family Foundation. Applicants will be notified of the status of their proposals no later than **April 15, 2017**.

Contact Information

For questions regarding program content and eligibility, please contact the Pathway to Work RFP Program Officer, during the question period: **January 23-February 3, 2017**.

Bonnie Williams: (541) 762-2524, bwilliams@tfff.org

For questions regarding the application process contact:

Connie Christensen, (541) 957-2570, cchristensen@tfff.org

About The Ford Family Foundation

The Ford Family Foundation is a private, non-profit foundation located in Roseburg, Oregon. A Scholarship Office in Eugene, Oregon, supports Foundation scholarship recipients attending college or university.

Started in 1957, the Foundation now manages large, internal programs and offers scholarships. In addition, the Foundation makes grants to public charities predominantly benefiting communities in rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif. The Foundation's mission is "Successful Citizens and Vital Rural Communities."

The Ford Family Foundation, 1600 NW Stewart Parkway, Roseburg, OR 97471
www.tfff.org