



SKILLS FOR YOUTH GRANT

The IDOE is pleased to announce the Department will submit an application for the \$100,000 *New Skills for Youth Grant Initiative* offered by The Council of Chief State School Officers and JP Morgan Chase.

GRANT GOALS:

1. To dramatically increase the number of students in the U.S. who successfully complete career pathways that begin in secondary school and culminate in postsecondary degrees and/or industry credentials with labor market value; and
2. To catalyze transformational approaches to the design and delivery of programs and policies to increase students' career-readiness in a cohort of leading states and disseminate lessons learned to the rest of the country.

KEY GRANT OBJECTIVES:

Key Objective 1: DEMAND DRIVEN AND EMPLOYER LED PROCESSES

Establish employer-driven processes informed by real-time and other labor market data to determine high-skill, high demand industry sectors with which career pathways and programs of study will be aligned.

Key Objective 2: RIGOR AND QUALITY IN CAREER PATHWAYS ALL

Use policy and funding levers to improve the quality and rigor of career pathways - including scaling down or phasing out those that don't lead to credentials with labor market value - and make those pathways widely available to and accessed by all students in all secondary settings, especially in underserved populations.

Key Objective 3: CAREER-FOCUSED ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS

Incorporate robust career-focused indicators in state accountability systems that measure and value successful completion of meaningful pathways, work-based learning, enrollment in postsecondary education or apprenticeships, and credentials of value.

Key Objective 4: SCALED PATHWAYS THAT CULMINATE IN CREDENTIALS

Working with local districts, scale career pathways that span secondary and postsecondary systems, offer focused career guidance and advisement, blend rigorous core academic and career-technical instruction, include high-quality work-based learning experiences, and culminate in postsecondary or industry credentials of value.

Key Objective 5: ALIGN STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING STREAMS

Reorganize and intentionally align state and federal funding streams from education, workforce development, and economic development sources to effectively deliver career-focused programs to all students.

Key Objective 6: ENSURE CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL ALIGNMENT

Foster greater collaboration between K-12 and postsecondary institutions to adopt policies and processes in schools, technology centers, academies, and institutions of higher education to ensure cross-institutional alignment of programs and pathways that smooth transitions for students and minimize institutional barriers.

Structure of Grant Process

Phase 1- Application Due March 2, 2016 (Runs April – September)

Available: 25 \$100,000 Grants to SEAs

Phase 2: Open to those who received phase 1 grants (3 year grant)

Up to \$650,000 per year per state per year

Grant Participation:

Lead Applicant: SEA including SEA Chief, Deputy (team lead) & CTE Director

Required Partners:

- Post-Secondary Leaders
- Members of Business and Industry
- Leaders from State Agencies

Recommended Members:

- Commerce Leaders
- State Economic Agency Leaders
- K-12 Leaders
- Union Leaders
- Student & Youth Employment Agencies

Timeline:

Key thought-leaders and required and recommended partners are invited to participate in a preliminary meeting scheduled for **Friday, February 12th** at the IDOE. Application due on or before March 2, 2016.