

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee:**Department of Labor (DOL)*****Employment and Training Administration*****Program Description:**

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) administers federal government job training and worker dislocation programs, federal grants to states for public employment service programs, and unemployment insurance benefits. These services are primarily provided through state and local workforce development systems.

General Guidance for Requests:

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act demonstration program is the only Labor Department program that supports community project funding. Community project funding is designated under Training and Employment Services.

These projects must meet all statutorily mandated requirements, except that they are exempt from the requirement to compete.

In addition, all projects must:

- 1) Include direct services to individuals to enhance employment opportunities;
- 2) Demonstrate evidence of a linkage with the State or local workforce investment system; and
- 3) Include an evaluation component.

Equipment purchases may be included within community project funding only as an incidental part of the entire project. A similar standard applies to curriculum development, which should be incidental to the project's emphasis on direct services to individuals.

Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities.

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee:**Department of Health and Human Resources (HHS)*****Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)*****Program Description:**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary federal agency for improving health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically vulnerable.

HRSA programs help those in need of high quality primary health care, people with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, and mothers. HRSA also supports the training of health professionals, the distribution of providers to areas where they are needed most and improvements in health care delivery.

HRSA oversees organ, bone marrow and cord blood donation. It compensates individuals harmed by vaccination, and maintains databases that protect against health care malpractice, waste, fraud and abuse.

Since 1943 the agencies that were HRSA precursors have worked to improve the health of needy people. HRSA was created in 1982, when the Health Resources Administration and the Health Services Administration were merged.

General Guidance:

Requests that do not fit into one of these categories are unlikely to be eligible for community project funding under HRSA:

1. Health Facilities Construction and Equipment:

Grants to help with the cost of construction, renovation, or capital equipment for facilities for provision of health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals; health centers and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing or other health professions; and medical research laboratories.

In addition to construction and renovation, grants can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment or x-ray machines. Equipment-only grants—that is, grants not involving construction—are permissible (and commonly done). Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution's pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.

HRSA Health Facilities grants cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. They cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. Grants can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project, but cannot be used for general feasibility studies.

2. Health Professions Education and Workforce Development:

Grants for projects to improve education and training of health care professionals, or to analyze health workforce trends and needs.

3. *Rural Health Outreach:*

Grants for projects to improve health care in rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services, health promotion and education, chronic disease management, and improvements to emergency medical services. Grant funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA's definition of rural. [Click here](#) for lists of eligible areas and further information regarding that definition.

4. *Rural Health Research:*

Grants to support research on rural health problems and ways of improving health care in rural areas.

5. *Telehealth and Health Information Technology:*

Funding for telemedicine, distance learning, or use of information technology to improve health care.

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee:**Department of Health and Human Resources (HHS)*****Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)*****Program Description:**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

General Guidance:

Community project funding within SAMHSA should be submitted through the Health Surveillance and Program Support account. Community project funding must fall under one of the following categories:

1. Mental Health:

Grants to support programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.

2. Substance Abuse Treatment:

Grants to support programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.

3. Substance Abuse Prevention:

Grants to support programs to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.

Community project funding cannot be used for construction (other than a limited amount of renovation necessary to carry out a funded project).

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee:**Department of Education*****Elementary and Secondary Education*****Program Description:**

The mission of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) is to empower States, districts, and other organizations to meet the diverse needs of every student by providing leadership, technical assistance, and financial support.

General Guidance:***Innovation and Improvement:***

Community project funding for elementary and secondary education should be submitted through the Innovation and Improvement account. Elementary and secondary education community project funding includes instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education community project funding should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.

Community project funding to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under elementary and secondary education. Community project funding may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

Eligible grantees are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, community project funding intended for individual schools is provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.

Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible.

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee:**Department of Education*****Postsecondary Education*****Program Description:**

The Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) works to strengthen the capacity of colleges and universities to promote reform, innovation and improvement in postsecondary education, promote and expand access to postsecondary education and increase college completion rates for America's students, and broaden global competencies that drive the economic success and competitiveness of our Nation.

General Guidance:***Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE):***

Community project funding can be designated under this heading for a wide variety of higher education projects. Generally, community project funding should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education. Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of academic buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades.

Examples of the types of projects that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology and telecommunications, acquire science laboratory equipment, provide student support, implement university partnerships with school districts, and establish research and training centers.

Grantees are usually colleges and universities, but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.

Limitations on Education-Related Community Project Funding:

Again, except where specifically authorized, community project funding cannot be used for construction (or the acquisition of property) or renovation of buildings. In addition, grantees may not restrict participants based on race, ethnicity or gender. Finally, recipients of community project funding may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.