

# Self-Sufficiency Fund

## Merging Business Needs with Customized Training Opportunities for Job Seekers

Workforce Businesses Services  
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<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdfintro.html>



TEXAS  
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS  
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# Self Sufficiency Fund

Provides training for targeted employment opportunities for:

- Adult Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients
- Individuals at risk of becoming dependent on public assistance (i.e. Individual earns less than \$37K per year and is the parent of a dependent child)

# Customized Training

- Designed to meet the needs and special requirements of a business or trade union
- Customization extends beyond standard courses
- Overall unique design may include
  - Customizing the curriculum
  - Scheduling classes around the employees' schedules
  - Developing company specific instructional examples
  - Addressing needs in real time with real situations



# Eligible Grant Recipients

- A business, business consortium, or trade union partners with the following eligible grant recipients:
  - Public community or technical college
  - State extension service
  - Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
  - Private Non-profit or community based organization that has been certified as a 501(c)(3)

# Eligible Training Providers

- Public community and technical colleges
- The Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
- State extension service
- A community-based organization (CBO)
- Other eligible organizations, including business partners, with whom the grant recipient has subcontracted to provide training

# Partnerships

- Businesses and trade unions
- Public community or technical colleges, Texas Engineering Extension Service, community-based organizations
- Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB)



# Roles for Business Partners

- Partner with an eligible grant recipient
- Be actively involved in the planning and design of the customized training project
- Employ participants who successfully complete the training program and retain them for at least 90 days after training completion
- Sign an agreement with the grant recipient outlining each entity's roles and responsibilities

# Roles for Business Partners

- Disclose any other local, state or federal grant funds sought or awarded for the proposed training project
- Provide:
  - Equal opportunity employment documentation
  - Information on employment benefits
  - The wage information for trainees
  - Social security numbers for trainees

# Roles for Colleges and CBOs

- Connect with LWDB, economic development and local businesses to learn business training needs and maintain ongoing relationships with partners
- Develop a quality proposal with business partners, actively involving them in the planning and design of the customized training project
- Develop a sound implementation plan
- Get project underway early to maximize chance for success
- Understand reporting requirements and submit trainee and financial reports promptly

## Roles for Local Workforce Development Boards

- Identify local business training needs
- Convene project partners
- Identify and refer eligible trainees
- Complete proposal review & comment form identifying:
  - Project strengths and weaknesses
  - How the project supports the strategic goals and objectives of the Board
  - Points of alignment with local targeted industries and demand occupations

# Grant Awards

- Year-round application / quarterly awards
- May be up to \$500,000 for a single business
- Can cover tuition, curriculum development, instructor fees, training materials, and support services, such as:
  - transportation
  - childcare
  - work-related expenses for training participants
- Typically, 12 month contract

# Quality Proposals

## Criteria for Funding Recommendations:

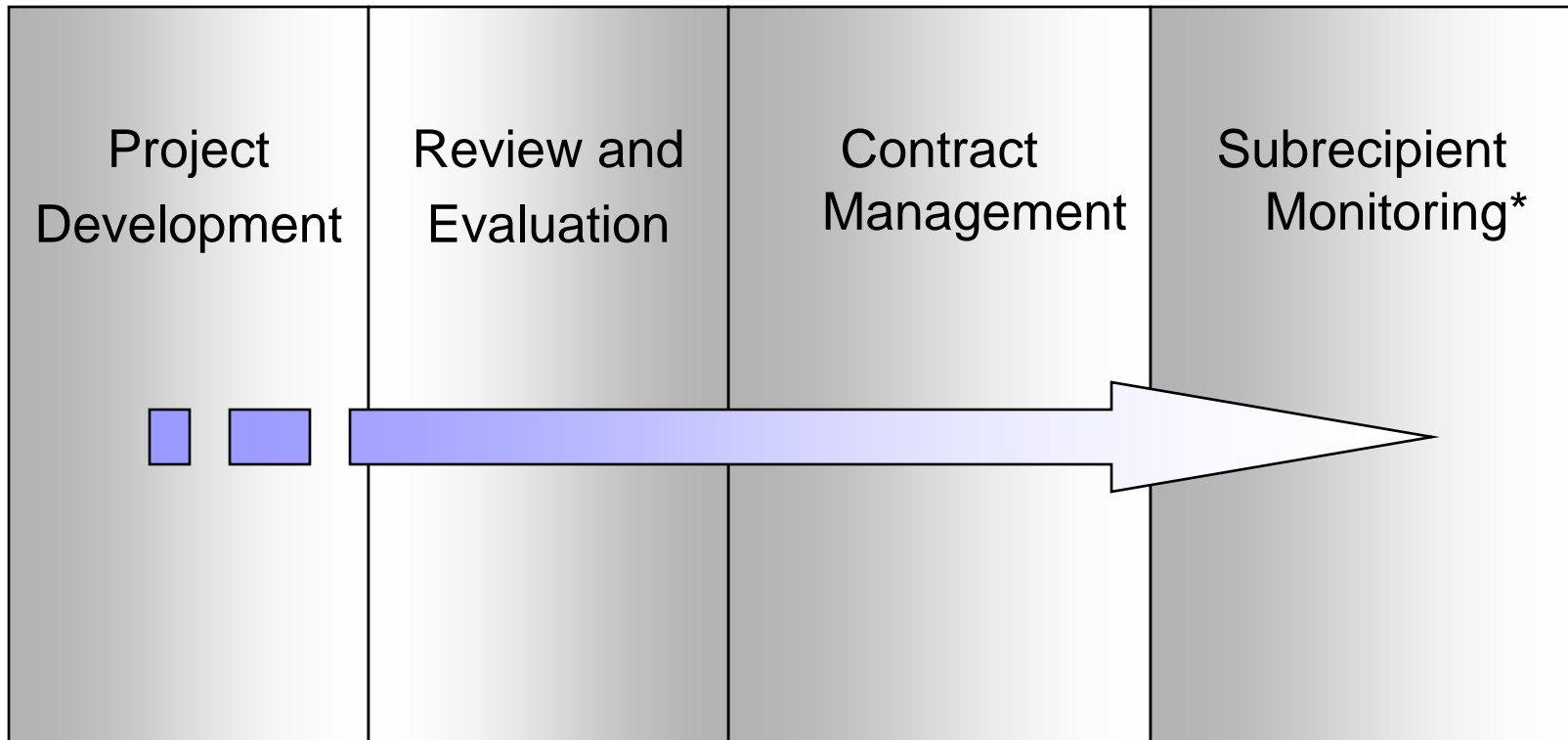
- A commitment to help increase the skills levels and wages of trainees
- Established referral procedure with the Board to identify TANF/Choices participants who may be trainee candidates
- The provision of employment benefits, including medical insurance, for trainees
- The level of contributions from other resources that are committed to the project, including those from the private partners

# Quality Proposals

## Criteria for Funding Recommendations:

- The applicant's current and past performance on Self-Sufficiency Fund grants
- Equitable geographic distribution of funds
- Cost per trainee in comparison to the state average
- Positive economic impact

# Program Management



\*Subrecipient Monitoring usually occurs during the active life of a contract.

# Outreach & Customer Support

- Connects businesses with community college and workforce board partners
- Advises colleges during project development
- Provides on-going technical assistance
- Reviews draft proposals

# Proposal Review

- Conducts review & evaluation
- Coordinates requests for information process
- Handles communication during review period
- Makes recommendations for funding

# Contract Management

- Completes contract development & review
- Conducts contract orientation
- Provides on-going technical assistance
- Processes amendments & reporting
- Assists with close-out process

Is your point of contact throughout contract

# Subrecipient Monitoring

Process includes:

- Risk Assessment
- Engagement Letter & Document Request
- On-Site Reviews
- Entrance Conference
- Exit Conference
- Findings & Issues

# Proposal Deadlines

For FY 2010 (September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010), proposals may be submitted at any time during the year.

Project developers are highly encouraged to take advantage of technical assistance provided by the Workforce Business Services Outreach & Customer Support Team.

# Additional Information

Visit: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/ssfintro.html>

- Proposal Submission Forms
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Information for Business Partners
- Links to Additional Resources

# Contact

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