Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Investments in Workforce Development

Presented by:

Office of Workforce Development

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Agenda

- I. Introductions (record presentation)
- II. Overview/Timeline
- III. Program Objectives
- IV. Program Requirements
- V. Program Eligibility
- VI. Funding Details
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Summary

The City of New Orleans seeks to utilize a portion of its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) award to build a sustainable workforce for the next generation. Funding is available to support organizations in developing programs that empower individuals negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with the skills, certifications, and support necessary to embark on career trajectories with family-sustaining wages that bolster their long term social and economic mobility. A total of \$7,410,000 is available to be allocated to an estimated 12 to 20 awards over a two-year grant period.

Timeline

Released: January 8, 2024

Information Session: January 22, 2024

Application Deadline: February 5, 2024

Selection of Applicants Announced: March 2024

Award Start Date: Q2-Q3 2024

Award End Date: Before January 1, 2027



Program Objectives

- Provide support to programs that create opportunities and pathways for youth and young adult workforce development.
- Support and enhance New Orleans growing green infrastructure, sustainability and resilience industries.
- Help develop and build on New Orleans rich history of cultural and performing arts.
- Breakdown barriers to employment, such as transportation, financial literacy, or identification and documentation challenges.
- Aid current and future educators to access training and certification.
- Upskill, retrain and support workers for in-demand jobs.

Program Requirements

Contract with the City

Agree to the standard terms and conditions of City contracts and adhere to the City's hiring requirements.

Submit City of New Orleans Tax Clearance Form

Submit a Certificate of Insurance.

Program Evaluation Activities

The City of New Orleans requires that organizations submit most recent and current audited financial statements with its NOFA response(s). Annual audits will be required from the applicants awarded funding.

Awarded applicants will be expected to submit regular reports regarding project outcomes and expenditures.

Federal Compliance

This project is to be funded with a federal grant and the successful candidate must adhere to all relevant federal regulations.



Application Selection Process

Minimum Threshold Requirements

- Proposed projects with an implementation timeline longer than 24 months will not be considered for funding.
- Proposed projects requesting an award amount less than or higher than the proposed amount will not be considered.
- Applicants must be affiliated with a non-profit or for-profit organization. Projects from individuals will not be considered.
- Proposals must be complete upon submittal. No addenda will be accepted after the deadline has passed.

Evaluation & Selection Committees

- City employees with expertise in these areas will make up the Evaluation and Selection Committees.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee and scored based on the factors set in the table below.
- The Selection Committee will determine the awardees and the amount of each award.

Section	Max Points
General Qualifications + Experience	30
Scope of Work	30
Budget	15
Funding-Specific Information	25
Total Points (Maximum)	100



Program Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

- For-profit business entities
- Non-profits with 501c3 status
- Chamber of commerce
- Churches/ Religious Organizations
- Other Community-based organizations/Associations

Ineligible Applicants

- Organizations with debt delinquency and/or that haven't met audit requirements.
- Contractor principal possessing certain felonies
- Non-compliance issues
- Individuals

Grant Award Timeline

Feb 2024

Applications are due no later than 5pm on February 5, 2024.



Q2 2024

Applicants selected for consideration may be required to submit additional project information for further review.

Projects will be awarded until such time as the available funds are exhausted.

The City of New Orleans will notify in writing applicants selected for funding within 30 days of the NOFA application deadline (February 5, 2024)

March 2024

Agreements Executed and Work Begins

Q2-Q3 2024

FAQs

- Can the proposed project serve residents in areas surrounding New Orleans, LA?
 - Yes, but the majority of participants should reside in Orleans Parish. Please detail how your project will serve residents of Orleans Parish.
- What can ARPA funds be used for?
 - For complete guidance on allowed spending, please see the U.S. Treasury Final Rule available at: https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds

- Can we apply for funding if we're already receiving ARPA/city funding?
 - Yes.
- If OWD does not approve of the proposed project budget, will the application be rejected?
 - OWD reserves the right to reject or amend proposed budgets. In the event of an amendment, the prospective awardee will receive notes alongside a request to submit an updated budget before accepting.

Q & A

(Please type your questions in the chat box)

Thank you

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