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Grant-in-Aid (GIA) Program

Program Description

The BSSC's competitive grant-in-aid program's basic purpose is to improve and promote employment opportunities for the residents of Kentucky through training grants with business and industry. The GIA program provides up to 50percent reimbursement of eligible costs to companies/consortia for approved training activities. Consortia projects, which promote collaborative training initiatives for companies that have common training needs, must be industry driven and be a partnership between business/industry, education, and government working together to maximize the effectiveness of the current and future workforce. For GIA grant funding consideration a company must complete and submit an application and receive approval from the BSSC Board of Directors. Once the application is approved by the board the company can begin eligible training.

Project Funding

The maximum funding amount for individual companies during a BSSC fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) is \$25,000 for companies with 1-499 employees and \$50,000 for companies with 500 or more employees. The consortia funding maximum is \$75,000. Funding cannot exceed the number of trainees multiplied by \$2,000. The minimum application amount is \$6,000.

Eligible Firms

The following firms are eligible to apply for BSSC funds: manufacturing; non-manufacturing (if the company provides a service to or uses technology for customer or affiliate entities located predominantly outside of Kentucky); qualifying headquarter operations; public or non-profit hospitals; and training consortia with three or more BSSC eligible companies that maintain an industry driven board or committee, a mission statement, bylaws, bank account, and federal identification number. Retail establishments are not currently eligible. Any firm, company, consultant, or institution whose primary business is to provide training or training consultation for a fee is not eligible for BSSC grant funds.

Eligible Training

The following training types are allowed under BSSC guidelines: Pre-Employment Skills Training, Entry Level Skills Training, and Skills Upgrade Training. The following are examples of eligible training activities and methods: classroom and on-the-job training, innovative training techniques, individual assessment, train-the-trainer travel, tuition, and certification. For consortia, a minimum of three BSSC eligible firms must participate in any single training category (new consortia may be eligible for an exception). Stand-alone safety, mandated training, regulatory training, trainee wages, retroactive training, and pro/con union training are not eligible.

Training Costs

The BSSC provides up to 50percent reimbursement for eligible training activities. This training can be provided by an in-house trainer, a consultant, or an educational institution. BSSC will reimburse \$25 per hour (based on \$50 per hour total training cost) for all in-house training.

Eligible Employees

Participants in the GIA program must be residents of Kentucky who are full-time employees of the applicant company. Eligible employees must be paid the equivalent of at least \$10.88 per hour plus 15percent benefits.

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Application Process and Scoring

Subject to funding availability, applications are accepted throughout the year prior to scheduled board meetings. An application must receive a score of at least 60 points to receive funding consideration. Grant funds are limited, which may preclude all eligible applications from being funded. Consortia applications promoting collaborative training receive priority consideration. For additional information about the Grant-in-Aid program, including the application deadline schedule, refer to the [GIA Guidelines](#) and [Application](#) documents which are available at www.thinkkentucky.com/bssc.

For additional assistance contact:

Robert Curry
Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development
300 West Broadway, Old Capitol Annex
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: 502-782-1975
Email: RobertL.Curry@ky.gov

Josh Benton
Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development
300 West Broadway, Old Capitol Annex
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: 502-782-1968
Email: Joshua.Benton@ky.gov

4/2013