January 22, 2016

TO: Chief Executive Officers
    Economic Development Program Advisory Committee
    Chief Instructional Officers
    Chief Business Officers
    Administrators of Occupational Education
    Academic Senate Presidents
    Public Information Officers

FROM: Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice Chancellor
      Workforce and Economic Development Division

SUBJECT: New Grant Opportunities

The Workforce and Economic Development Division is pleased to announce the following grant opportunity:

Industry-Driven Regional Collaboratives (IDRC): Industry-Recognized Credentials and 21st Century Skills (15-198) Grant

Release Date: Friday, January 22, 2016
Letter of Interest Deadline*: Friday, February 5, 2016
Bidders Workshop: Monday, February 1, 2016
Application Due Date: Friday, March 4, 2016 by 5:00 pm
Funding Stream(s): Senate Bill 1402 (Lieu) California Community Colleges
      Economic and Workforce Development Program
Total Funds Available: $1.8 million estimated
Match: Dollar-for-Dollar (1:1)

The RFA Instructions, Terms, and Conditions describe opportunities and application requirements for competitive grant opportunities. All colleges and districts are eligible to apply.

Click here to access all the application materials

1. It is the intent of the Legislature that industry-driven regional collaboratives perform services as participants of regional networks. Recipients of IDRC’s shall provide a stable and flexible response mechanism for the identification of training priorities. They also will focus on the best use of resources on intensive projects for competitive, new and emerging industry sector technologies.
2. In addition to standard individual IDRC applications, this IDRC RFA seeks multi-college proposals for meeting the following acute labor needs:

   a) A bundled sequence of industry-recognized credentials enabling students and workers to enter into and compete for jobs in the broad occupational ladders of priority and emergent industry sectors.

   b) An approach to embedding employer-advised 21st century skills into existing Career and Technical Education (CTE) curricula and programs, including work-based learning coursework, in order to answer the pervasive call by employers to improve these competencies amongst graduates. The proposal should have a mechanism for employers to evaluate and recognize badges that demonstrate 21st century skills competencies.

3. Funding shall not be limited per project, but funding shall be based on the merit and reasonable costs for the anticipated outcomes and performance of the project.

4. Terms of the 2016-17 IDRC grant will be for 18 months.

5. *Submission of an initial Letter of Interest will be required only for multi-college networks or any college interested in joining a multi-college network with the intent of addressing the following acute labor market needs:

   - Industry-Recognized Credentials
   - 21st Century Skills

   If there is already a multi-college network interested in this IDRC, only one Letter of Interest submitted by lead applicant is required and should outline all the involved colleges.

   Letters of Interest must be completed and submitted electronically by Friday, February 5, 2016.

   All Letters of Interest will be made public in order for interested colleges to contact each other and join or broaden their network. A college will not be allowed to participate in more than one application in the Industry-Recognized Credentials area and in the 21st Century Skills area.

   NOTE: A Letter of Interest will not be required for those applicants that intend to submit standard individual IDRC projects that meet the needs and fill gaps in services that respond to regional needs of business, industry, employee, and workforce needs.
6. **IDRC RFA Bidders Workshop Webinar**: The Webinar will be conducted Monday, February 1, 2016, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

   **CCC CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT INVITATION - Meeting Details**
   Title: IDRC Bidders Workshop Webinar
   Meeting Type: Meet & Confer
   Meeting Link: [http://www.cccconfer.org/GoToMeeting?SeriesID=466de964-5dfe-4aed-bc13-afc398bd5082](http://www.cccconfer.org/GoToMeeting?SeriesID=466de964-5dfe-4aed-bc13-afc398bd5082)
   *Toll free number available: 1-888-886-3951
   **Participant Passcode**: 651025

   Start Time 02/01/2016 10:00 AM
   End Time 02/01/2016 11:00 AM

7. **Application Submission Instructions**: Applications must be submitted electronically in a single PDF (no separate e-mails with pieces of applications will be accepted). Please e-mail this PDF application to IDRC@cccco.edu with the subject line reading:

   **2015-2016 IDRC/Name of the College/District**

   All applications must be received electronically, no later than 5:00 pm, **Friday, March 4, 2016**.

   Applications e-mailed to any address other than listed above will not be accepted.

8. **Any questions should be addressed to**:

   Abigail Singleton via e-mail at asingleton@cccco.edu

Attachment: **Letter of Interest** (Acute Labor Needs)

cc: WEDD Staff