

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR RFA 18-195
CALIFORNIA APPRENTICESHIP INITIATIVE (CAI)
Agriculture or Rural Areas New and Innovative Grant Program

- 1) **Question:** We would like to know if the request for letters of support from employers providing support for long-term solvency can show their commitment to providing apprentice wages in the long-term, or does it need to also reflect other types of financial commitments from the employers to help support the program? As you know, unlike other trades, agriculture is not a high-profit industry, and therefore it would be difficult to guarantee that all of our employers would be able to contribute financially to support the program on a consistent basis. They already contribute their time in helping develop the program and some even commit to paying tuition for RSI. Would this be enough to ask from employers

Answer: It is sufficient to show your employers willingness to pay the wages in that section however applicants who can demonstrate other financial commitments like training trust funding that leads to long term sustainability will be more competitive in the scoring of the grant application.

- 2) **Question:** Response to Need section, 9) Wages - for Apprentices, Journeyman and Wage progression, e) Provide documentation that attests to effective date of wage (For example: a collective bargaining agreement or letter to employers).

To fulfill the request regarding documentation that attests to effective date of wages, would the MOU that employers are writing and sending listing apprentice wages as match count for this as well? Our employers hire apprentices into the program at different points in the year, so it would be difficult to give a specific date of hire at this moment. Can you please clarify the question and let us know whether the MOU would satisfy this request, and would it be okay to say hiring would occur in spring or something to that effect?

Answer: Yes, the MOU is sufficient and you may indicate hiring will occur in the spring or at a later date.

- 3) **Question:** Travel is listed as an allowable expenditure. Can the grant award be applied toward travel costs of apprentices?

Answer: Yes, the grant award can be applied toward travel costs of apprentices.

- 4) **Question:** I am writing to determine if a college can submit more than one application for the *CAI Innovation Ag and Rural* (CCCCO) program, which is due 01-25-19. Nothing

in the RFA appears to preclude this as a possibility, but we would rather confirm before submission.

Answer: Yes, a respective Community College District is permitted to submit more than one grant application under RFA 18-195.

- 5) **Question:** Can you please send me a list of the meeting/labs/conference that one should attend as part of the 18-195 grant and their locations and frequency; this is to calculate the travel cost to include in the grant budget.

Answer:

- California Apprenticeship Council – One northern California one in Southern California - every 3 months.
- CCCAOE Conferences – one in northern California one in Southern California - 2 annually (not mandatory).
- California Conference on Apprenticeship – occurs every other year.
- Apprenticeship Labs – Often coincide with CAC meetings - 2 annually.

- 6) **Question:** We are writing to find out if apprenticeship within the Cannabis industry is allowable for this grant funding.

Answer: Yes, an applicant may submit an application for apprentice-able occupations within the Cannabis Industry.

- 7) **Question:** Can you please confirm that deadline for the ***CAI Agriculture or Rural Areas New and Innovative Grant***?

Answer: The deadline to submit the application under RFA 18-195 is on or before January 25, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

- 8) **Question:** Must a program be a brand new apprenticeship category (i.e. intended to fund the development of new *standards* only), or can a program develop training for a new *occupation* based on existing apprenticeship standards?

Answer: Although we cannot provide definitive response without seeing the details, but the adaptation of existing standards for a new occupations would not be automatically will be considered and is not automatically disqualifying.

- 9) **Question:** Can a program use existing apprenticeship standards, curriculum, and occupations if it is being delivered in a new region (i.e. one where this type of apprenticeship has not previously been delivered)?

Answer: If the program meets the standard of being in the agriculture industry and/or targeting a rural community, and meets all other eligibility requirements, it will be an eligible application.

10) Question: Can a program use DOL approved apprenticeship training standards in a CAI application through DAS?

Answer: All CAI grantees must adhere to DAS requirements, regardless, if they meet DOL standards. Any questions regarding DAS standards should addressed to DAS.