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| **CAREER DWG** |
| **LWIA #:**       **Grantee Name:**         |
| **Date Submitted:**       |
| **Completed By:**       |
| **Funding Request:      ; includes       DWG Technology Component budget** |
| **Total Number of Participants:       *(All participants must meet dislocated worker eligibility requirements)*** |
|  **--Number of Participants in Occupational Training/ITAs:** |
|  **--Number of Participants in Work-Based Training:** |
| **Grant Period: December 1, 2021-August 19, 2023** |

1. Executive Summary: Provide a one-paragraph Executive Summary of the proposed project for use in press releases, etc.

1. Project Funding Need: Describe the need for the level of project funding requested for employment and training services--specifically for the target population, AND for technology, as appropriate, including a discussion about the status of other WIOA grant expenditure rates.

1. Vision for Achieving Project Goals: Describe your vision for how the proposed project design and service delivery will achieve the CAREER DWG project goals as stated at the end of this document AND the participant enrollment goal stated above.

1. Target Population of Dislocated Workers: Discuss the dislocated worker target populations listed at the end of this document that you will be focusing on serving, based on your local community need and your local/regional plan.

1. Barriers to Employment: Discuss the ongoing service delivery and employment/workforce challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and the barriers associated with serving the dislocated worker target population.

1. Robust Participant Outreach and Recruitment to Target Population; Partner Agencies: List specific strategies that will be used to ensure that the target population is aware of project services and how to access them, and list the partner agencies that you will be working with that serve those specific target populations and how you would coordinate services.
	1. Strategies for robust outreach/recruitment:

* 1. Partner agencies; service coordination – Discuss partnerships and coordination with agencies/groups that serve the target population, specifically addressing IDES; DHS--TANF, SNAP, WIC, Vocational Rehabilitation; Community College Adult Education; other core partner agencies:

1. Employer Engagement: Discuss partnerships you will establish with employers, industry organizations/associations, etc. for purposes of job placement, work-based training opportunities, and identifying employer skills needs in light of the changing economy and changing workforce needs.

1. Participant Assessment: Discuss the participant assessment process and tools that will be used to accurately gauge participant capacity/aptitude for education/training and work placement opportunities and other reemployment services, identify participant skills/interests, and customize participant service strategy to ensure positive outcomes for each participant.

1. Employment and Training Services: In light of the target population to be served, describe the types of comprehensive reemployment services to be provided to participants that result in achieving the goal of permanent employment in family-sustaining wages. Include any plans to co-enroll participants in other WIOA grants. Discuss plans to provide follow-up services following participant placement into permanent employment. All services must be provided consistent with local policies.
	1. Career Services; Follow-up Services: Describe the career services and follow-up services that will be provided.

* 1. Training and Work-Based Training: Discuss training services and identify what types of work-based training will be offered (e.g., OJT, customized training, transitional jobs, work experience/internships, apprenticeships; note that Incumbent Worker Training is NOT allowed in DWG grants).

* 1. Supportive Services and Needs-Related Payments: List the supportive services that will be provided to project participants (e.g., transportation, child care, emergency services, etc.) to enable them to participate in employment and training activities.

Discuss plans to offer Needs-Related Payments to eligible training participants, as appropriate.

Supportive Services and Needs-Related Payments must be provided consistent with local policies. Discuss any plans under consideration to revise current policies to address anticipated participant need in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the dislocated worker target population to be served.

1. DWG Technology Component: Optional Component. Describe in detail how you plan to use grant funds to implement the optional technology component, consistent with the description provided at the end of this document. Describe the benefit to the project, job seekers, employers, and the community. List the technology elements and the associated cost of each element, totaling the technology component cost as stated at the top of this application and in the Uniform Budget.

1. Project Oversight, Management and Monitoring: Describe the oversight and management of the DWG project to ensure project goals will be met, consistent with DOL and DCEO project guidance, policies and regulations, including:
	1. Reviewing actual-to-planned performance on an ongoing basis in terms of expenditures and number of participants in various services, making adjustments as necessary;
	2. Development and implementation of corrective action plans, as appropriate, to get the project back on track in terms of meeting project goals;
	3. Oversight and training of project staff, contractors and/or service providers;
	4. Grant monitoring with follow-up and correction of concerns/issues; and
	5. Role of Local Board in project oversight and employer engagement

1. Project Implementation Plan and Timeline: Provide detail showing activities that will be undertaken to start up, implement, and manage/oversee the project through September 2022. This includes, but is not limited to, participant and employer outreach/recruitment; partner agency connections, roles/responsibilities; staff training; subcontract development, implementation and training as appropriate; fiscal/accounting grant set up; establish report mechanisms and monitoring plans; management oversight and troubleshooting; deliver comprehensive employment and training services; submit Monthly and Quarterly Project Status reports; research, plan and implement the technology component, as appropriate. Plan for a December 1, 2021 project start date.

*(insert additional rows as needed)*

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| **Date/Time Period** | **Activity/Tasks** |
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**CAREER DWG PROJECT INFORMATION:** (as of Septmeber 23, 2021)

**CAREER DWG Project Purpose and Goals**

* Enhance the ability of the public workforce system to 1.) connect job seekers to employment; and 2.) provide effective, accessible, and equitable solutions focused on providing high-quality employment opportunities as the economy recovers from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
* Help move Illinois’ workforce toward high-quality, family sustaining wage employment opportunities and address the economic and workforce challenges caused or exacerbated by COVID.
* Help reemploy dislocated workers, in particular those from historically marginalized communities/groups and those who have been unemployed for an extended period of time or have exhausted UI or other Pandemic UI programs.
* Goals will be achieved through two main project components
	+ Comprehensive employment and training services
	+ Technology to expand accessibility
* Project emphasis on accessibility and equity of services and information

# Target Population

All participants must be eligible dislocated workers.

* Target population description:
	+ Individuals from historically-marginalized communities/groups;
	+ individuals who have been unemployed for an extended period of time or have exhausted UI or other Pandemic UI programs.
	+ The target population categories are influenced by the priorities of the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board’s Equity Task Force and may evolve during the grant performance period.
* Dislocated Worker Target population includes:
	+ Veterans, individuals with disabilities, justice-impacted individuals, immigrants, migrant and seasonal farmworkers, homeless, low-income individuals, Foster Care, GED candidates, public assistance recipients, individuals who are basic skills deficient, rural residents, UI Profilees, age 55 and over, child-care-challenged workers, high-unemployment-area residents, individuals who have been unemployed for an extended period (15 weeks or more), and those who have exhausted their UI or other Pandemic UI

**Technology Component (optional)** – to support/enhance comprehensive employment and training services; connect the unemployed to reemployment, making services more accessible.

* Technology requests may not duplicate the functions of IWDS or Illinois workNet.
* DCEO will review each technology request on a case-by-case basis to assess alignment and compatibility.
* Statewide Technology budget is $500,000.
* Items must have a per unit cost of under $5,000
* Technology is to primarily benefit dislocated workers, but other job seekers can also benefit.
* Purpose of Technology:
	+ Expand the capacity of the workforce system
	+ Serve a larger number of dislocated workers and other job seekers
	+ Ensure accessibility beyond physical AJCs
	+ Ensure service delivery will not be interrupted due to emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic
	+ Enhance and expand virtual delivery of services.  Examples include:
		- Updated video conferencing equipment, including cameras, monitors, computers
		- Expand virtual ability out to all connection sites
		- Revamp resource room to make it more accessible
		- Address ADA-related needs for accessibility (non-capital improvements)