

Career Readiness Mini-Grants FAQs

Funding

- Q: How can the career readiness mini-grants funds be applied?
- A: Allowable expenses include: transportation, teacher salaries (including substitute teachers), food, materials, prepackaged kits and programs, professional development, subscription fees, technology, fees for working with a business-education intermediary organization, and more. Almost any expense that can be directly tied to the project is allowable. The only restriction is that the funds may not be used to purchase promotional materials that advertise a business.
- Q: What is the maximum size grant available?
- A: The maximum size grant available is \$5,000. During the 2017-2018 school year, partnership grants were available, but only single school or district grants are available this year.
- Q: How will the funds be divided across the state?
- A: There are 9 regions of IUs, and each region will receive the same total amount to distribute. A minimum of \$20,000 per IU region is available using public funding sources, and Team PA is raising private funds to make as many grants available as possible.
- Q: If two entities within a district apply, are both eligible for \$5,000 awards?
- A: IU regions will evaluate applications and select awardees, and they have discretion to make more than one award available to a single district.
- Q: When deadline to expend the funds?
- A: The funds must be expended by June 30, 2019.

Partnership

- Q: Can you partner with the local chamber instead of a LWDB? Is a community college an acceptable partner?
- A: Local chambers of business and industry, postsecondary institutions – including community colleges, businesses, labor organizations, community organizations such as the United Way, CTCs, and more are all acceptable partners in the career readiness mini-grant project. However, each project **must also** include a role for the LWDB, even if it is not the primary external partner.

Eligibility

- Q: Can your project have multiple parts or ways that the grant money will be used?
- A: Yes, career readiness mini-grant projects can involve multiple components, and funds can be applied in many different ways. Just be sure to make it clear in the application implementation plan and budget allocation.
- Q: Does the local Career & Technical Center qualify for a mini-grant award?
- A: No, the CTC can play an important role as a partner in a mini-grant project but does not qualify as an award recipient.
- Q: Can a district apply a mini-grant across multiple buildings but not necessarily across the entire

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school district?

A: Yes.

Additional Questions

Q: If questions arise, should we contact our IU?

A: Yes, all questions should be directed to your IU contact. If your IU contact point is unclear, contact the IU executive director's office and s/he will be able to direct you to the appropriate individual.