



PATHWAY HOME 3 (PH3) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. What is the purpose of the Pathway Home 3 (“PH3”) grant projects?

The purpose of this program is to provide eligible incarcerated individuals in men’s and women’s state correctional facilities or local or county jails with workforce services prior to release and to continue services after release by transitioning the participants into reentry programs in the communities to which they will return. These grants are job-driven and build connections to local employers that will enable returning citizens to secure employment, while advancing equity for individuals facing significant barriers to labor market reentry, including incarcerated women and communities of color.

2. How many grants will be awarded?

We will fund approximately 15 grants. You may apply for up to \$4 million.

3. How long will an organization have to operate and complete the grant?

The period of performance is 42 months with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2022. This performance period includes all necessary start-up and implementation activities.

These grants will have a 3 to 6-month planning period, a 24 to 27-month period of employment and training services, and 12 months of follow-up services.

4. Who can apply for grant funds under this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)?

Non-profit organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) status, including women’s, minority, community, and faith-based organizations; public institutions of higher education, including Hispanic-serving, Historically Black, Tribally-controlled, and Alaska and Hawaii Native-serving higher education institutions; nonprofit post-secondary education institutions with or without 501(c)(3) status; state or local governments; any Indian or Native American entity eligible for grants under Section 166 of WIOA; labor or labor management organizations; and non-profit industry organizations may apply for the PH-3 grant program.

Please note, based on Employer Identification Numbers, applicants that received funding from the FY 2019 Pathway Home 1 competition [FOA-ETA-20-02] or FY 2020 Pathway Home 2 competition [FOA-ETA-21-02] are not eligible to participate in this competition, and their applications will be considered non-responsive.

5. How does an organization submit a funding proposal?

This FOA, found at www.Grants.gov and <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants/apply/find-opportunities> contains all of the information and links to forms needed to apply for grant funding.

6. How many applications can an organization submit?

Applicants may submit only one application.

7. When submitting my organization application, are there specific file requirements?

Yes, all files should be saved with descriptive file names of 50 characters or fewer and use only standard characters in file names: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, and underscore (_). For example: My_Attached_File.pdf. File names may not include special characters (e.g. &, -, *, %, /, #), periods (.), blank spaces, or accent marks, and must be unique (e.g., no other attachment may have the same file name).



PATHWAY HOME 3 (PH3)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



8. When is the closing date for this funding announcement?

April 19, 2022, at 11:59pm Eastern Time.

9. Are applicants required to match funding or provide cost sharing of any kind?

This program does not require cost sharing or matching funds. Including such funds is not one of the application screening criteria, and applications that include any form of cost sharing or match will not receive additional consideration during the review process.

10. Are applicants required to have partner organizations?

The applicant agency or organization must partner with the state correctional facility or local or county jail for the project in order to have access to participants during their incarceration. These partnerships must be documented through Letters of Commitment or Memoranda of Understanding between the applicant and each identified mandatory partner as described in Section IV.B.3(d)(i) of this funding opportunity announcement. In addition to the mandatory correctional partner(s), successful applicants will partner with local organizations that will provide services to support program operations (e.g. housing, substance abuse treatment, mental health, social services, childcare, transportation, and legal assistance).

11. Can a grantee partner with a half-way house if it is designated as a federal correctional facility?

No. A federal correctional facility is an unallowable partner.

12. Are applicants required to employ individuals with personal experience with incarceration and/or community violence?

No. However, applicants are encouraged to utilize staff that have personal experience with incarceration and/or community violence. Staff with lived experience of incarceration and/or community violence are able to build relationships with participants based upon shared experiences in a non-judgmental manner. These staff can model trust, commitment, stability, and a life after successful reentry. For these reasons, staff with lived experience of incarceration and/or community violence are encouraged.

13. Are there any services applicants must provide pre- or post-release?

Organizations must offer pre-release services including job preparation, developing individual development plans (IDPs) that identify barriers to employment, career exploration and planning, experience and skill matching, counseling, assistance obtaining state identification required for employment, and assistance with linking incarcerated individuals to the social services required to help them transition back to their communities. Though not mandatory, pre-release occupational training is highly encouraged. (There will be no deduction in points if pre-release occupational training is not provided.)

In addition to the above mandated pre-release services, applicants are required to offer post-release activities including skill-building services, including either registered apprenticeships or other occupational training for in-demand industries, as determined by local area need, that lead to industry-recognized credentials. Further, participants must be able to maintain the same caseworker pre- and post-release.

14. Who is eligible to receive training services under this grant?

In order to receive services under this grant, participants must:



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- Be at least 18 years old;
- Have been convicted under federal, state, or local law and are incarcerated;
- Reside at the time of enrollment in the project, in a state correctional facility or local or county jail for adults (please note that these grants cannot support projects in a federal facility or juvenile facility);
- Have a release date scheduled between 20 to 270 days of the individual's enrollment in the program;
- Be scheduled to return upon release to reside in the target area identified in the applicant's application; and
- Be legally eligible to work in the United States.

Please note, applicants must also include documentation that the facilities where participants will reside at the time of enrollment are defined by state or local law as state correctional facilities or local or county jails for adults.

15. Can applicants serve individuals convicted of violent or sexual offenses?

Grantees have the discretion to enroll individuals convicted of violent offenses or sexual offenses, and those assessed as high-risk of violent offenses or sexual offenses. Grantees that choose to serve these populations must conduct a rigorous risk assessment of criminogenic need (i.e., causing or likely to cause criminal behavior). In all cases, the grantee must have a clear and consistent written enrollment policy that addresses program enrollment. Grantees will be required to submit their written enrollment policies if awarded a grant. More information on risk assessments can be found at: <https://reentry.ojp.gov/best-practices/risk-and-needs-assessment>.

16. Who determines if an individual is eligible to receive services?

Grantees are responsible for determining an individual's eligibility using the criteria listed in Section III.C.3 of the FOA.

17. Is there a required minimum number of participants grantees must serve?

Yes. The required minimum number of enrollees during the period of performance is based on the amount of funds requested by the applicant. Applicants must clearly identify the proposed number of participants to be enrolled over the life of the grant, based on the minimums identified in the table in Section II.A of the FOA. Applicants that fail to propose to serve the minimum number of participants required per the table will be deemed non-responsive and removed from consideration.

18. Can grant funds be used to pay participant wages?

Yes. Grantees may use grant funds to pay for the wages of participants where the objective assessment and the individual development plan indicate that work experiences are appropriate. Further, providing stipends to training enrollees for wage replacement is an allowable cost under this grant.

In addition, grantees may provide incentive payments to participants for recognition and achievement tied to training activities and work experiences. Incentive payments must align with the goals of the grant.



PATHWAY HOME 3 (PH3)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



19. The sample monthly schedule of pre-release activities appears to be required on page 16 of the FOA, but on page 25 it is listed under requested attachments (not required). Is the schedule of pre-release activities required or just requested?

The sample monthly schedule of pre-release activities is a requested attachment. However, if the attachment is not included the applicant may not receive full points for the criterion in Section IV.B.3.c.(v), on page 16.

20. Who should I contact if I have further questions?

Applicants should e-mail all technical questions about this FOA to Andrea Chism, Grants Management Specialist, Office of Grants Management, at Chism.Andrea.N@dol.gov.