



Pathway Home 3 Grant Program

OVERVIEW

The Employment and Training Agency's (ETA) Pathway Home grants support occupational training aligned with in-demand job skills needed by local employers, and the career and educational goals of the participants. Further, the Pathway Home grants provide funding for services, such as case management, legal assistance, and transportation that support participants' participation and success. The goals of the program include:

- ✓ Provide individuals incarcerated in state correctional facilities or local or county jails with workforce services prior to release and continues services after release by transitioning the participants into reentry programs in the communities to which they will return.
- ✓ Build on the findings of the Linking Employment Activities Pre-Release (LEAP) pilots and implementation study, which have shown potential for breaking the cycle of recidivism by linking participants to the workforce system early—while still in jail—and then immediately upon reentry into the community.
- ✓ Ensure that people transitioning from custody into reentry are prepared to meet the needs of their local labor markets with the skills valued by employers.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Pathway Home 3 grants meet the Appropriations Committee's directions "to ensure grantees establish formal partnerships with employers and that program participants receive industry recognized credentials and training in fields that prepare them for successful reintegration, including ensuring participants receive training and credentials in fields where their record is not a barrier to entry or continued employment." The program is administered by the Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) unit of ETA, and it's authorized under WIOA's demonstration grant authority in Section 169(b).

Additionally, scoring criteria gave consideration to: applications with employer partners and/or industry organization partners that provide high-quality jobs, such as career progression into higher wages, benefits, and opportunities to exercise worker voice; and applicants where the lived experiences of incarceration and/or community violence of the applicant's staff, leadership board, or committee members have influenced or enhanced the organization.

Also, in accordance with President Biden's goal to support diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as combat community violence, the Pathway Home 3 grants scoring criteria points were allotted

within the organizational capacity criteria to help enable grantees be successful in reaching these goals.

PROGRAM IMPACT

The PH 3 program awarded \$50,643,113 to fund 18 grants. Individual PH 3 grant program awards range from \$998,343 to \$4,000,000. REO anticipates approximately 5,366 adults will be served by this project. Grant performance periods are 42 months including, 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.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The purpose of the PH 3 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.

These projects ensure that returning citizens are prepared to meet the needs of their local labor markets with the skills valued by employers. Grantees' occupational training programs were developed to ensure they had no federal, state, or local regulations that restrict individuals with criminal records from obtaining licenses or other necessary credentials in that career. Employer connections inform specific program curricula and ensure relevance to the needs of local businesses and jobs. Teaching returning citizens foundational employability skills, digital literacy, in addition to providing Registered Apprenticeships and occupational training leading to industry-recognized credentials, can provide access to employment and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Grantees are encouraged to utilize staff that have personal experience with incarceration and/or community violence as they are able to build relationships with participants based upon shared experiences and be non-judgmental. These staff can model trust, commitment, stability, and a life after successful reentry.



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ELIGIBILITY

Eligible grant applicants included 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.

Applicants, based on Employer Identification Numbers, who received funding from the FY 2019 Pathway Home 1 competition [FOA-ETA-20-02] and FY 2020 Pathway Home 2 competition [FOA-ETA-21-02] were not eligible to participate in this competition, and their applications were considered non-responsive.

Eligible participants:

- Are at least 18 years old;
- Were 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;
- Upon release, are scheduled to return to reside in the target area identified in the applicant’s application; and
- Are legally eligible to work in the United States.

PROGRAM SITES

REGION 1	REGION 2	REGION 3	REGION 4	REGION 5	REGION 6
Bridgeport, CT Syracuse, NY New York, NY Pennsville, NJ	Upper Darby, PA Newport News, VA Roanoke, VA		Little Rock AR Cheyenne, WY Albuquerque, NM	Toledo, OH McClure, OH Lansing, MI Indianapolis, IN	Las Vegas, NV Sonora, CA Tumwater, WA