



WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES 4

Total Funding Available: \$34.2 MILLION

Career Training and Workforce Services in Appalachian and Lower Mississippi Delta Regions

WHAT IT DOES

Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC) Initiative aims to help rural communities create and promote new, sustainable job opportunities in competitive industries, particularly in regions that have suffered significant job losses in the energy extraction industry. WORC also aims to create economic mobility, address historic inequities for marginalized communities of color and other under-served and under-represented communities, and produce high-quality employment for workers who reside in the Appalachian and Delta regions, enabling them to remain and thrive in these communities. The grant will fund projects to provide career training and supportive services to people in the Appalachian and Delta regions so they may secure quality jobs in stable, high-demand occupations.

THE GOALS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM ARE TO:

- Address the transformation in energy production by including in the service area Energy Communities that currently or historically have had a high concentration of employment in energy extraction and related industries.
- Comprehensively and intentionally address and promote racial equity through recruitment strategies, service design, implementation, and support services that aim to provide equitable access and outcomes to communities of color, immigrants, and other marginalized groups.
- Develop and maintain meaningful partnerships with community residents, stakeholders, and experts in designing, implementing, and evaluating the proposed project.
- Support eligible individuals affected by substance use disorder.
- Achieve high-quality employment outcomes.

WHO IT SERVES (Target Population)

- Dislocated workers
- Incumbent workers
- New Entrants to the Workforce

WHO CAN APPLY

- State governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Independent school districts
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- Labor organizations or labor-management partnerships

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- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- Hispanic-serving institutions
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)

HOW TO APPLY?

- [Grants.gov](https://www.dol.gov/grants); Applications are due by July 8, 2022. More resources for how to apply can be found on [dol.gov/grants](https://www.dol.gov/grants).