NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS by the Employment Development Department In Coordination with the California Workforce Investment Board on behalf of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency

Governor’s Gang Reduction Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CalGRIP) 2009/10 Workforce Investment Act Solicitation For Proposals May 2010


Section 1 Overview

A. Purpose The Employment Development Department (EDD) in coordination with the California Workforce Investment Board (State Board), the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, and in conjunction with the Governor’s Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy, announces the availability of at least $6 million of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Governor’s Discretionary 15 Percent funds to expand job training for youth that are at-risk of gang involvement, gang involved or current gang members, as part of Governor Schwarzenegger’s (Governor) California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) Initiative. On May 25, 2007 the Governor announced the CalGRIP Initiative and targeted $31 million in state and federal funding toward local anti-gang efforts. As part of the statewide initiative, this SFP will award funds to implement intervention and prevention strategies which include job training, supportive services, education and placement. Research demonstrates that employability is critical to the success of at-risk youth. The link between crime and lack of economic opportunity requires more concerted attention through collaboration between communities, employers, the juvenile justice system, education and the workforce development system. Early intervention is the most effective way to ensure that at risk youth remain in school and successfully complete secondary education to enter career pathways. Additionally, this SFP will focus on career partnership pathways that place youth into part-time employment in after-school programs leading to continuing post-secondary preparation for teaching, community and social service positions (e.g. licensed social worker, youth worker,
counselor, etc.). Strategies should be comprehensive and community focused providing a holistic approach to serving youth.

B. Target Population Proposals must target youth that are at-risk of gang involvement, gang involved or current gang members who are in or out of school, and are 14–24 years of age (Category 1, ages 14–24; Category 2, ages 17-24). Youth ages 14 through 18 must be low income as defined in the WIA Eligibility Technical Assistance Guide referenced in Directive WIAD04-18. In accordance with the WIA 15 Percent Project Requirements, WIAD02-14, youth ages 19 through 24 will not need to meet the low income requirements. For purposes of this SFP, the State has defined youth needing additional assistance as an individual who is either at-risk of gang involvement, gang-involved or a current gang member. Applicants must provide a description of how they will determine whether a youth is at-risk of gang involvement, gang involved or a current gang member.

C. Funding Categories The CalGRIP SFP has the following two separate and distinct funding categories. Applicants may submit only one application under either Category 1 or Category 2.

Category 1 - Job Training Expansion Job Training Expansion shall focus on implementing intervention and prevention strategies, including job training, supportive services, education and placement for youth, ages 14-24, targeted in this solicitation. Strategies should be comprehensive and community focused providing a holistic approach to serving youth. Additionally, the State is seeking proposals that will link youth to career pathways in high wage/high growth industries or in occupations with future career advancement opportunities.

Category 2 - Career Pathway Partnerships The Career Pathway Partnerships will target youth, ages 17-24, who did not complete high school, who are still in high school or graduated high school but lack academic skills and have barriers that would hamper their ability to enter post secondary education or training that leads to employment as a credentialed teacher or in community service (e.g., licensed social worker, youth worker, counselor, etc.). The pathway starts with a bridge program to provide skill remediation, orientation, and other necessary support and continues to a community college and then to a California State University (CSU).

A key to the Career Pathway Partnership is part-time employment in after-school programs. Youth are expected to work in these programs throughout their stay in the pathway. After- school programs receive state funding through the after School Education and Safety programs (ASES), and funding from federal and other sources. ASES was enacted by Proposition 49 and inspired by Governor Schwarzenegger. All elementary schools, middle, junior, and high schools are eligible to receive funding for after-school programs.

These programs provide students in participating schools with tutoring, homework assistance, physically and emotionally safe environments and educational enrichment. Operation of these programs has created a significant need for teachers and other staffers. Programs, particularly in
urban areas, are actively seeking trained youth with ties to the local community to serve as staffers and aides.

To ensure a successful pathway, each partnership must include an after-school employer (part-time employment), a community college, a CSU, and a community based organization. Proposals can only be submitted for pathways that have begun implementation or for which there has been substantial planning. Implementation of funded grant proposals should begin no later than the end of September 2010. Below is an example of a successful career pathway partnership model
Proposal Summary
Industry of Focus:
Education: credentialed teacher training pathway which includes employment in local after school programs for participants, Associate Degree articulated with baccalaureate program at California State University at Dominguez Hills.

Targeted Partner Highlights:
South Bay Center for Counseling will offer intense case management including total wrap-around services to combat social and economic barriers. CalSAC will train Bridge participants to work in local after school programs. Harbor College will provide academic training and job readiness, job placement services. Pacific Gateway WIN will promulgate program at One-Stops and refer qualified clients to the program. Five local after school programs have agreed to hire program participants who complete the basic skills Bridge and after school training certificate course.

Project Description:
Youths and older youths or adults, including gang members, those at risk of becoming gang members, dropouts, continuation school students and others with multiple barriers to employment and success, will be recruited and served with intense case management to support a complete teacher training pathway beginning with a basic skills Bridge program, continuing to an Associate Degree which is articulated with the Baccalaureate program in the Department of Education at California State University at Dominguez Hills (CSUDH). Case management services include an assigned case worker attending all classes with each small learning community cohort, offering complete wrap-around services to combat social and economic barriers to success, monthly one-on-one meetings with participants and periodic cohort meetings. Case manager will support the academic program by monitoring any tutoring necessary to enhance academic success. This program devoted to at-risk youths and older youths is based on the successful Urban Teacher Fellowship model devised by the partners, which has been seen 32 participants complete the community college program and proceed to CSUDH, while enrolling an additional 30 students in the current community college cohort.

Proposed Outcomes:
Sixty students will participate, of which at least 80% will complete the Bridge program and CalSAC after school program training. The students will then pursue their Associate Degrees while working 20 hours per week for local after school programs.