



BACKGROUND: The Technical Skills Training Grant was first developed in 2020 in response to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program supported new and expanding accelerated skilled workforce training programs for displaced workers. During the 67th Legislative Assembly Special Session, Commerce received \$3 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to sustain and evolve this program. The grant program aims to offset the cost for program providers and employers in their effort to support the development of highly trained skilled workers to meet the demands of our labor market. There will be four funding rounds pending availability of funds. Please visit ndgov.link/TSTG for information on funding windows.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE: The Technical Skills Training Grant is designed to support eligible training for providers and employers in their efforts to design rapid, non-degree re-skilling and upskilling programs, expand capacity in new or existing programs that began after March 3, 2021, and/or move training to virtual platforms in order to train workers. All training programs must mitigate a workforce issue that was created or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program has two tracks, each focused on developing a highly skilled workforce.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: North Dakota colleges and universities, businesses, non-profit organizations, and/or trades organizations/associations.

Note: Degree programs are not eligible for funding under this grant.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY:

- Training must take place in North Dakota.
- Majority of program participants must reside and intend to work in North Dakota.
- Training programs that have previously received a total of \$100,000 through this grant are not eligible for funding.
- If tuition or training costs are part of the proposed application, the applicant may not pay those funds directly to the individuals receiving the education or training. The funds must be paid to the organization providing the education or training.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

TRACK A

New and expanding accelerated, non-degree training programs that prepare trainees for new jobs.

Funding available: up to \$100,000 with a dollar-for-dollar match throughout the lifetime of the grant program (not for incumbent workers).

TRACK B

Internal upskilling opportunities for incumbent workers to promote movement and advancement throughout the organization, create more comprehensive onboarding and new worker training programs, and/or provide safety training for employees.

Funding available: up to \$50,000 with a dollar-for-dollar match throughout the lifetime of the grant program.

FOR COMPLETE GRANT DETAILS & TO APPLY: ndgov.link/TSTG

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