Request for Applications: Business Advisory Council Grants

January 2025

Ohio Department of Education & Workforce

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The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is requesting applications for a competitive grant for Title IV funds allocated to facilitating direct student supports to enhance career connected learning. The Business Advisory Council competitive grant funds will support opportunities for career exploration through Business Advisory Councils. Applicants will be selected based on existing programming or new programming that support the Quality Practices in the standard of operations of high-quality councils.

Awards will be granted based on an applicant's proposal and ability to provide programming that will directly impact students. Student impacts will include career awareness, exploration, or planning and collaboration with Business Advisory Councils. Applicants should identify the districts they aim to support through their grant proposal.

Eligible Entities

The following entities are eligible to apply for Business Advisory Council grants:

- Business Advisory Councils or any entity that can serve as a Business Advisory Council:
  - Career Technical Planning Districts (CTPD)
  - Local Educational Agencies (LEA)
  - Educational Service Centers (ESC)
  - Community Schools

Applying entity must have an information retrieval number (IRN).

Awards

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce reserves the right to award an amount that is less than or greater than the amount requested by any applicant. The total amount of all awards cannot exceed the total funding available. Funds may be used to directly impact students and Business Advisory Councils to facilitate career exploration.

Total funding available is $39,500. Eligible applicants must indicate award amount requested and provide a budget narrative of how funds will be allocated. Applications will be collected and scored outside of the Departments unified grants application system, the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP). Funding will be allocated through CCIP.

Requirements for All Applicants

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND REVIEW PROCESS TIMELINE

These dates are subject to change and will be communicated to the lead applicant.

Date	Topic
January 15, 2025	Request for Application Release
February 5, 2025	**Application Submission Deadline at 5 p.m.**
February 2025	Award Announcement

SUBMISSION

Send completed PDF application form to Michelle Washington containing all elements of the application outlined below by the submission deadline.

Application Part I

Within the *Application Form*, provide the following descriptive information for the grant applicant and partners:

- Applicant Contact Information
  - Primary point of contact name for the lead applicant or fiscal agent, institution name, email address, and phone number.
- Applicant Partners
  - Districts supported through grant.

Abstract

Provide an abstract that includes an overall summary of the proposal (limited to 1,500 characters).

Application Part II

Within the *Application Form*, respond to each prompt question. See *Evaluation Criteria* for the range of scores available for each prompt.

Prompt 1 Provide a brief overview of the applicant and past track record to facilitate career exploration in collaboration with business and industry.

Prompt 2 Provide additional details on how the applicant will stand up existing programming or spearhead new programming to facilitate career exploration for students in grades k-12.

Prompt 3 Describe the plan for collaboration with business and industry to facilitate career exploration and hands on learning for students.

Prompt 4 Provide information on how this program will specifically impact student's knowledge by aligning curriculum to real world application.

Prompt 5 Provide information on proposed how proposed career exploration aligns to in-demand professions in the region.

Prompt 6 Provide the narrative description of the budget for the proposed model. (Also complete the Budget section within the Application Form.)

Prompt 7 What additional information do you want to share that has not been addressed within one of the other prompts or can expand upon other prompts?

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Application Part III
Budget Section
Complete the *Budget Sheet* below.

Purpose Code/Object Code	Salaries 100	Retirement Fringe Benefits 200	Purchased Services 400	Supplies 500	Capital Outlay 600	Other 800	TOTAL
Instruction							
Support Services							
Governance/Admin							
Prof Development							
Family/Community							
Safety							
Facilities							
Transportation							
Nonpublic							
Indirect Cost							
TOTAL							

Allowable expenses:
- Career exploration engagement for students in districts (industry tours, career fairs, guest speakers, etc.)
- Supporting a small part of an FTE to support the work of the council including job placement, building partnerships, working on career pathway outside of CTE, etc.
- Purchase of career exploration kits for students
- Hosting a convening with emphasis on BACs, elevating business partnerships and student voice
- Addressing transportation barriers to students' internships
- Students' stipends in a quality career pathway with business partners in an in-demand career field

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Evaluation Criteria

Prompt	Topic	Question	Total Possible Points	Response Point Range
1	Experience	Provide a brief overview of the applicant and past track record to facilitate career exploration in collaboration with business and industry.	20	**Strong (4)** Entity demonstrates a history of consistently implementing sustained effective career exploration and hands on learning with partners and has been a 3–4-star Business Advisory Council. **Good (3**) Entity demonstrates a history of engaging in some career exploration activities (2-3) per year. The council has been recognized by the state as a 2–3-star Council. **Marginal (2)** Entity demonstrates very few career exploration actives and has a 2-star rating with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. **Weak (1)** Entity does not have a history of providing career exploration learning opportunities to students.
2	Plan of Action	Provide additional details on how the applicant will stand up existing programming or spearhead new programming to facilitate career exploration for students in grades k-12.	20	**Strong (4)** Programming is aligned with employer/industry and focuses on developing application for in-demand careers. **Good (3)** Programming has some alignment with employer/industry and provides career exploration for students. **Marginal (2)** Programming is loosely aligned with business and industry and limited career exploration. **Weak (1)** Programming does not involve business/industry and no plan for career exploration.
3	Collaboration	Describe the plan for collaboration with business and industry to facilitate career exploration and hands on learning for students.	20	**Strong (4)** Entity has sustained programming aligned with in-demand industry partners in region including workforce boards and higher education. **Good (3)** Entity has some programs aligned with in-demand industry partners including Higher education or workforce boards. **Marginal (2)** Entity has limited programs aligned with in-demand industry partners and may include workforce boards or higher education partners. **Weak (1)** Entity does not have programs aligned with in-demand industry partners.

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4	Student Impact	Provide information on how this program will specifically impact student's knowledge by aligning curriculum to real world application.	20	**Strong (4)** Program has strong focus on providing significant alignment with industry and knowledge attainment. **Good (3)** Program provides some focus on providing some alignment with industry and knowledge attainment. **Marginal (2)** Program provides limited focus on providing alignment with industry and knowledge attainment. **Weak (1)** Program does not align to industry standards or provide skill attainment.
5	Relevance	Provide information on proposed how proposed career exploration aligns to in-demand professions in the region.	20	**Strong (4)** Proposal focuses on in-demand professions in the area. **Good (3)** Proposal focuses on some in-demand professions in the area. **Marginal (2)** Proposal focuses on limited in-demand professions in the area. **Weak (1)** Proposal does not focus on in-demand professions.
6	Budget	Provide the narrative description of the budget for the proposed model. (Also complete the Budget section within the Application Form.)	20	**Strong (4)** Clearly demonstrates financial viability, sustainability, efficacy, and efficiency. **Good (3)** Demonstrates fiscal viability and sustainability. **Marginal (2)** Attempts to demonstrate fiscal viability but does not demonstrate sustainability or efficiency. **Weak (1)** Demonstrates gaps in viability, sustainability, efficacy, or efficiency.
7	Additional	What additional information do you want to share that has not been addressed within one of the other prompts or can expand upon other prompts?	0	No point value but may enhance points for other responses to prompts.
Total			120	