



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

SEP 10 2013

Dear Colleagues:

The U.S. Department of Education (ED), Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in collaboration with a contractor, Jobs for the Future (JFF), invite states to apply to participate in Phase II of *Advancing Career and Technical Education (CTE) in State and Local Career Pathways Systems*, a two-year project to help states integrate CTE Programs of Study (POS) into their broader Career Pathways system development efforts -- focusing on transportation-related careers including highway design and construction. The State Director of Career and Technical Education and the state lead official for the State Department of Transportation must jointly submit the application on behalf of the state team.

Phase I of this project began in October 2012 when five states (Colorado, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Oregon) were selected through a competitive process to receive technical assistance for the development of comprehensive Career Pathways systems that integrate CTE Programs of Study. To be selected for participation, each state was required to create a cross-agency state team that would drive its project, identify high demand industry sectors on which to focus, and identify a local area for participation. Thus far, Phase I states are focusing on the development of Career Pathways in advanced manufacturing, healthcare, and information technology. Please see http://cte.ed.gov/nationalinitiatives/advancing_cte.cfm.

We are now entering Phase II of the project, developed in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation. Phase II is designed to assist states in the development of comprehensive Career Pathways transportation-related careers including highway design and construction, by aligning a state's On-the-Job Training Supportive Services (OJT/SS) activities, funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), with CTE Programs of Study and Career Pathways System development efforts. Under Phase II, three new states will be selected through a competitive application process to participate in this two-year project, which is managed by Jobs for the Future through a contract with ED/OVAE. Each selected state will implement a Career Pathways action plan with targeted technical assistance from an assigned state coach and from subject matter experts. In addition to direct technical assistance, state teams will participate in: a) face-to-face in-state team meetings; b) virtual meetings among the eight participating state teams; and c) networking and information sharing with other participating state teams via a web presence.

The deadline for submission of state applications is 5:00 PM EST, November 5, 2013. For more information please contact: Mary Clagett, Director for Workforce Policy, Jobs for the Future at mclagett@jff.org or 202-709-5330, ext. 406.

Best,

Sharon Miller, Director
Division of Academic and Technical Education
Office of Vocational and Adult Education
U.S. Department of Education

400 MARYLAND AVE. S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202

www.ed.gov