

**Summary of the  
U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration  
Solicitation for  
State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) and Training Grants**

*(full text of the grant notice can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), funding opportunity number: SGA-DFA-PY-08-20)*

- What:** Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, U.S. DOL/ETA announced the availability of approximately \$190 million in grants to State Workforce Investment Boards to highlight the important role States play in building a national green economy. This is an investment in workforce sector strategies that target energy efficiency and renewable energy industries and other green industries<sup>1</sup>. A portion of the funds will be reserved for communities or regions undergoing auto industry restructuring. ETA intends to fund grants ranging from \$2 to \$6 million.
- Process:** The application will be the result of a strategic planning process that aligns the Governor's overall workforce vision, State energy policies, and local and regional training activities that lead to employment in targeted industry sectors. It affords the opportunity to develop a statewide energy sector strategy through a comprehensive partnership and development of a data driven Sector Plan. The process should include:
- ◆ Review and analysis of the Governor's overall workforce vision and goals, energy policy, and specific policies for energy efficiency and renewable energy industries;
  - ◆ Establishment of the State strategic vision and goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce to meet the current and emerging needs of the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries and aligns them with overall workforce development, education, and economic development;
  - ◆ Analysis and determination of sectors for investment and relevant occupations and needed skills;
  - ◆ Analysis and determination of target populations, their characteristics, and needed training activities to address needs of both target sectors and populations;
  - ◆ Development of an energy sector strategy for training workers including training activities that will lead to employment in targeted industries and plans for how funds will be distributed to local/regional project teams in a way that aligns with the State's vision and strategies.
- Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to provide training, job placement, and related activities that reflect a comprehensive statewide energy sector strategy that integrates education, training, and supportive services that promote skill attainment and career pathways for workers.
- Role of CLEG:** CLEG will, in collaboration with the Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth (DELEG), determine and coordinate membership of the "State Energy Sector Partnership" (SESP) and serve as project operator

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<sup>1</sup> Energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofit industries; renewable electric power industry; energy-efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry; biofuels industry; deconstruction and materials use industries; energy-efficiency assessment industry serving residential, commercial or industrial sectors; and manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

responsible for managing the partnership; manage the overall planning, implementation, oversight, and technical assistance of Sector Plan operations including management of local/regional project teams. CLEG is responsible for ensuring alignment with State vision and policies, timely implementation, program and fiscal oversight, and team performance outcomes and deliverables.

**Membership  
and Role of the  
Partnership:**

The SESP<sup>2</sup> will be comprised of representatives from the State workforce system, local WIBs or regional consortia of WIBs and Michigan Works! centers, and at least one representative from each of the following:

- ◆ State cabinet officials from agencies receiving ARRA funding related to relevant energy efficiency and renewable energy resources and other green occupations and industries;
- ◆ Public, private, or non-profit energy industry employers; and
- ◆ Labor organizations, including labor-management training programs.

SESP is encouraged to include representatives from the following:

- ◆ USDOL Office of Apprenticeship;
- ◆ Community and faith-based organizations;
- ◆ The education and training community;
- ◆ State and local veterans' agencies and organizations; and
- ◆ Economic development organizations.

The SESP will serve as the steering committee and inform the planning and implementation of the State's energy sector strategy. Their primary activities will include (1) strategic planning and Sector Plan development, including selection of local and regional project teams; and (2) oversight of implementation and operation of the Sector Plan. The SESP will provide regular updates to the CLEG.

**Local and  
Regional**

**Project teams:** The SESP will select local WIBs or consortia of WIBs and their One Stop systems and other partners to serve as project teams. Teams will identify, assess, and refer candidates for training and connect and place workers with employers with existing job openings. As part of the grant application, teams must submit (and later implement) comprehensive projects that include:

- ◆ Robust recruitment strategies;
- ◆ Seamless integration of supportive service strategies;
- ◆ One stop system case management;
- ◆ High quality degree or certificate related training; and
- ◆ Follow-up and retention services.

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<sup>2</sup> The intention is for the Green Partnership Team to serve as Michigan's SESP.