

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blueprint for Prosperity: DWD Secretary Announces Intent to Award \$2.5 Million for Second Round of Innovative School-to-Work Grants

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today announced DWD's intent to award 45 grants totaling \$2.5 million to develop or expand employer-driven training programs that prepare high school pupils for workforce or post-secondary education success in high-demand fields. Grant funding will train up to 1,102 high school students and could involve employment at up to 250 employers.

"Governor Walker's *Wisconsin Fast Forward – Blueprint for Prosperity* High School Pupil grant program is addressing the skills gap while strengthening career and technical education in our state," says Secretary Newson. "This second round of grant awards will help develop a young and ready-to-work pipeline of skilled workers with the industry training and certifications required by Wisconsin employers."

DWD issued a Grant Program Announcement (GPA) in December 2014 for up to \$3 million in potential awards for high school pupil working training programs that include work-based learning, apprenticeship preparation and dual credit models. Intent to award projects ensure that graduates gain industry-recognized certifications from the 2013 Wisconsin Act 59 approved list and receive job placement opportunities in high-demand fields.

Governor Walker's Wisconsin Fast Forward program was quickly approved in 2013 with overwhelming bipartisan support to address the skills gap through a \$15 million investment in grants to employers for customized skills training to fill current job openings and ongoing skill requirements. The program is administered by the OSD, which has developed an effective process that enables businesses to easily apply for grants.

In March 2014, Governor Walker signed legislation under his Blueprint for Prosperity initiative to invest an additional \$35.4 million in the Wisconsin Fast Forward program to reduce technical college wait lists in high-demand fields, enhance employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and support collaborative school-to-work projects. The first round of High School Pupil Worker Training grants funded 30 projects to train and employ 949 high school students.

(more)

2015 Wisconsin Fast Forward – Blueprint for Prosperity High School Pupil Intent to Award Grants

Applicant	Counties Impacted	Intent to Award
Lakeshore Technical College	Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet	\$20,455
Lakeshore Technical College	Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet	\$11,932
Lakeshore Technical College	Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet	\$14,528
Lakeshore Technical College	Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet	\$8,036
Lakeshore Technical College	Manitowoc, Sheboygan,	\$20,547
Metal Era	Waukesha, Ozaukee, Milwaukee	\$108,673

April 2, 2015

Trace-A-Matic	Waukesha, Milwaukee	\$118,287
CL&D Graphics	Waukesha, Milwaukee	\$141,528
Wisconsin Bakers Association	Milwaukee, Waukesha	\$75,865
Fond du Lac Area Association of Commerce	Fond du Lac, Dodge	\$43,240
Fond du Lac Area Association of Commerce	Fond du Lac, Dodge,	\$42,696
Asset Builders of America, Inc.	Dane, Racine, Milwaukee	\$45,150
CESA 2	Walworth, Dane, Jefferson	\$52,810
Algoma High School - Algoma School District	Kewaunee, Brown	\$26,134*
Community Career Connections, Inc.	Milwaukee, Waukesha	\$149,000
Southwest Technical College	Grant, Crawford	\$13,660
Sparta Area School District	Monroe, La Crosse	\$75,036
Baraboo School District	Sauk	\$58,747
Workforce Resource Inc.	Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire	\$127,777
Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board	Milwaukee, Sauk	\$56,152
Chippewa Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America	Eau Claire, Chippewa	\$41,932
Oak Creek Franklin Joint School District	Milwaukee, Waukesha	\$47,000
Northcentral Technical College	Marathon, Lincoln, Langlade, Shawano	\$149,806
Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College	Washburn, St. Croix, Polk	\$96,631
School District of New Holstein	Calumet, Fond du Lac	\$16,570
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee	\$60,637
Fox Valley Technical College	Outagamie, Winnebago, Waupaca, Waushara	\$53,779
Madison Area Technical College	Dane, Columbia, Milwaukee, Sauk, Walworth	\$66,219
Florence County School District	Florence, Oneida, Marinette	\$45,372
Wisconsin Restaurant Association	Dane, Milwaukee	\$4,310
School District of Mishicot	Manitowoc, Brown	\$71,081
CESA 6	Winnebago, Calumet, Outagamie, Fond du Lac	\$55,162
CESA 6	Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca	\$19,188
CESA 6	Winnebago, Outagamie, Fond du Lac, Waupaca	\$69,300
School District of West Salem	La Crosse, Monroe	\$20,022
Gateway Technical College	Kenosha, Walworth, Jefferson	\$72,826
Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools	Wood, Portage	\$33,555
Spooner Machine, Inc.	Washburn, Burnett	\$14,200
School District of Beloit	Rock	\$23,362
School District of New Berlin	Waukesha	\$36,600
School District of New Berlin	Waukesha	\$14,675
School District of New Berlin	Waukesha	\$46,445
Algoma School District	Kewaunee	\$31,447
GPS Education Partners	Waukesha, Milwaukee, Winnebago, Brown, Marinette, Ozaukee, Washington, Walworth, Outagamie, Racine, Marinette, Kenosha	\$142,718
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee	\$82,083
TOTAL		\$2,525,173*

* Rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

A summary of each award is available [online](#).

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