

Grant Funds Available For Pharmacy Technician Training Programs

The Department of Labor's Employment Training Administration (ETA) has announced the availability of approximately \$220 million in grant funds authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to provide training and placement services within specified industries. Specifically, \$125 million is expected to be allocated to projects in the health care sector. We encourage you to read the Federal Register notice of Solicitation for Grant Applications and view a Webinar on how to apply for these grants.

Summary points from the notice:

1. The closing date for receipt of grant applications is **October 5, 2009**.
2. The ETA intends to fund 45-65 grants ranging from approximately \$2 to \$5 million. Approximately \$25 million of the total funds available through this solicitation will be reserved for projects serving communities impacted by automotive-related restructuring.
3. Successful training programs will result in an employer-or industry-recognized certificate or degree. ASHP encourages applicants to note in their grant applications that they intend to seek accreditation of their pharmacy technician training program through ASHP.
4. Eligible applicants include public entities and private nonprofit organizations.
5. Applicants must demonstrate that their proposed project will be implemented by a robust strategic partnership, including an entity from the public workforce investment system, public and private employers (eg. Federally Qualified Community Health Centers), and the education and training community.
6. Grants will fund projects that provide unemployed workers, dislocated workers, and incumbent workers including low-wage workers with training.
7. The purpose of these grants is to teach workers the necessary skills for, and help them pursue careers in, health care and other high growth and emerging industry sectors.
8. The DOL encourages viewing of a pre-recorded Webinar available on-line at <http://www.workforce3one.org> and accessible for viewing on **August 12, 2009 by 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time**, and anytime after that date.