

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5713**

---

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2017 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      65th Legislature                      2017 Regular Session**

**By Senate Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Palumbo, Wilson, Zeiger, and King)**

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/17.

1            AN ACT Relating to creating the skilled worker outreach,  
2 recruitment, and career awareness training program; adding a new  
3 chapter to Title 43 RCW; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The definitions in this section apply  
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires  
7 otherwise.

8            (1) "Department" means the department of commerce.

9            (2) "Eligible applicant" means any government entity or any  
10 nongovernment entity, association, or organization that is not a  
11 private vocational school, that:

12            (a) Offers, or plans to offer, a skilled worker awareness  
13 program; and

14            (b) Has partnered with industry to either offer or fund a skilled  
15 worker awareness program.

16            (3) "Grant program" means the skilled worker outreach,  
17 recruitment, and career awareness grant program.

18            (4) "Grant review committee" means the skilled worker outreach,  
19 recruitment, and career awareness grant program review committee  
20 created in section 5 of this act.

1 (5) "Matching grant" means a grant funded by the state to match  
2 funding provided by an eligible applicant to support efforts to  
3 increase the state's skilled workforce.

4 (6) "Skilled worker awareness program" means a program designed  
5 to increase awareness of, and enrollment in, accredited educational,  
6 occupational, state-approved preapprenticeship, apprenticeship, and  
7 similar training programs that: (a) Train individuals to perform  
8 skills needed in the workforce; and (b) award industry or state-  
9 recognized certificates, credentials, associate degrees, professional  
10 licenses, or similar evidence of achievement but not including  
11 bachelor's or higher degrees.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Subject to availability of amounts  
13 appropriated for this specific purpose, the skilled worker outreach,  
14 recruitment, and career awareness grant program is created. The  
15 purpose of the grant program is to increase the state's skilled  
16 workforce by raising awareness of the state's worker training  
17 programs.

18 (2)(a) Under the grant program, the department must award  
19 matching grants to eligible applicants that will engage in outreach  
20 and recruiting efforts to increase enrollment in and completion of  
21 worker training programs.

22 (b) Recipients of the grant must provide matching cash funding.  
23 The recipient's match must be two dollars for each one dollar of the  
24 grant. The recipient's match may not be in the form of in-kind  
25 contributions.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The department shall administer the  
27 grant program and establish a process for accepting grant  
28 applications, including application guidelines and deadlines.

29 (2) By January 1, 2018, and annually no later than January 1st  
30 thereafter, the department shall start accepting grant applications.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) To be considered for a matching grant,  
32 an eligible applicant must include, at a minimum, the following  
33 information in its application:

34 (a) A description of how the matching grant will be used to  
35 provide outreach, education, and recruitment for training programs;

1 (b) A description of the training programs the applicant plans to  
2 promote, the particular skills taught by that training program, and  
3 the number of years the training program has been in operation;

4 (c) Past, current, and projected enrollment in the training  
5 program the applicant plans to promote and the estimated increases in  
6 enrollment, if the training program has been in existence;

7 (d) If the applicant is promoting an existing training program, a  
8 comparison of the number of participants who enroll in the training  
9 program and the number of participants who complete the program over  
10 a five-year period, if available;

11 (e) Specific industry needs or gaps in the workforce that the  
12 training program will or does address;

13 (f) A description of intended or existing partnerships with  
14 industry members, including those where training program participants  
15 will have the opportunity to earn income or credit hours;

16 (g) Costs or the anticipated costs to implement the skilled  
17 worker awareness program;

18 (h) Resources that the eligible applicant will commit in matching  
19 dollars and, if the applicant already has a skilled worker awareness  
20 program, existing resources that the applicant has invested in  
21 recruiting, outreach, and funding of its skilled worker awareness  
22 program; and

23 (i) Any other information the department requires.

24 (2) Upon receipt of an application that satisfies the  
25 requirements in this section, the department must send the  
26 application to the grant review committee for its consideration.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) The department must establish a grant  
28 review committee to review grant applications and make  
29 recommendations on who should receive a matching grant and the  
30 amount. The grant review committee must consist of eleven members  
31 with representatives from the following:

32 (a) The department of labor and industries;

33 (b) The employment security department;

34 (c) The department of enterprise services;

35 (d) The workforce training and education coordinating board;

36 (e) The state board for community and technical colleges;

37 (f) Two representatives from business;

38 (g) Two representatives from labor; and

1 (h) Two representatives from the Washington apprenticeship and  
2 training council.

3 (2) The grant review committee shall designate a chair to oversee  
4 the committee's meetings.

5 (3) The grant review committee shall establish criteria for  
6 ranking eligible applicants for matching grant awards. The grant  
7 review committee shall consider and rank eligible applicants based on  
8 which applicants currently are able to or have the best potential to:

9 (a) Reach a broad diverse audience, including populations with  
10 barriers as identified in the state's comprehensive workforce  
11 training and education plan, through their recruitment and outreach  
12 efforts;

13 (b) Collaborate with and utilize centers of excellence within the  
14 community and technical college system;

15 (c) Significantly increase enrollment and completion of the  
16 training program the applicant plans to promote;

17 (d) Fill existing needs for skilled workers in the market; and

18 (e) Demonstrate the following, prioritized in the following  
19 order:

20 (i) That the eligible applicant will provide monetary  
21 contributions from its own resources; and

22 (ii) That the eligible applicant has secured:

23 (A) An industry partner; or

24 (B) Monetary contributions from an industry partner, conditional  
25 job placement guarantees, or articulation agreements.

26 (4) The grant review committee shall submit its recommendations  
27 to the director of the department, who shall determine to whom and in  
28 what amounts to award matching grants. Matching grants must be  
29 awarded no later than April 1st each year following the application  
30 submittal deadline.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Grant recipients may not use matching  
32 grants for tuition subsidies or to reduce tuition for any training  
33 program.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) Each eligible applicant that receives  
35 a matching grant shall submit a quarterly report and an annual report  
36 to the grant review committee on the outcomes achieved. The grant  
37 recipient shall include in the report at least the following  
38 measurable outcomes:

1 (a) The manner in which the grant recipient has used the matching  
2 grant for outreach and recruitment;

3 (b) The number of participants enrolled in and the number of  
4 participants who completed the training program being promoted, both  
5 before the matching grant was awarded and since the matching grant  
6 was received;

7 (c) The number of participants who obtained employment in an  
8 industry for which the participant was trained under the training  
9 program promoted by the recipient, including information about the  
10 industry in which the participants are employed;

11 (d) The number of participants recruited; and

12 (e) Any other information the grant review committee determines  
13 appropriate.

14 (2) By December 1, 2019, and by each December 1st thereafter, the  
15 grant review committee shall submit an annual report to the governor  
16 and appropriate committees of the legislature in accordance with the  
17 reporting requirements in RCW 43.01.036. The report must include:

18 (a) The number of matching grants awarded in the prior year,  
19 including the amount, recipient, and duration of each matching grant;

20 (b) The number of individuals who enrolled in and completed  
21 training programs promoted by each grant recipient;

22 (c) The number of individuals who obtained employment in a  
23 position that uses the skills for which they were trained through a  
24 training program promoted by a grant recipient; and

25 (d) Other information obtained from grant recipients' reports  
26 under subsection (1) of this section.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** To assist with implementation of the grant  
28 program, the department, in coordination with the workforce training  
29 and education coordinating board and the workforce training customer  
30 advisory committee, shall coordinate skilled worker awareness  
31 programs throughout the state. The coordination must include:

32 (1) Partnering with industry associations, labor-management  
33 programs, and businesses to assess and determine their workforce  
34 needs; and

35 (2) Coordinating with training program providers on skill sets  
36 being developed and the quality of students being trained.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The skilled worker outreach, recruitment,  
38 and career awareness grant program account is created in the custody

1 of the state treasurer. The department shall deposit in the account  
2 all money received for the program. The account shall be self-  
3 sustaining and consist of funds appropriated by the legislature for  
4 the skilled worker outreach, recruitment, and career awareness grant  
5 program and private contributions to the program. Expenditures from  
6 the account shall only be used for matching grants provided to grant  
7 recipients. Only the director of the department or the director's  
8 designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is  
9 subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an  
10 appropriation is not required for expenditures.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** This chapter expires July 1, 2022.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** Sections 1 through 10 of this act  
13 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

--- END ---