

City of Minneapolis
Request for Committee Action

To: Community Development & Regulatory Services
Date: 2/16/2016
Referral: N/A
From: Community Planning & Economic Development
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File type: Action
Subcategory: Grant

Subject:

Application for a U.S. Department of Labor TechHire Partnership Grant.

Description:

Authorizing proper City officials to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Labor TechHire Partnership Grant opportunity (CFDA # 17.268).

Previous Actions:

15-01104: City Council approved the 2016 Mayor's Recommended Budget.

15-01004: Community Planning and Economic Development's 2016 Budget Presentation included \$350,000 for the TechHire Initiative.

Ward/Address:

All Wards

Background/Analysis:

In March 2015, President Obama and his Administration announced the TechHire Initiative. TechHire is a multi-sector initiative to empower Americans with the skills they need, through traditional university and community college degrees or nontraditional rapid training programs, such as "coding boot camps," to obtain well-paying jobs in technology careers. Employers across the United States are in critical need of talent with these skills. Many of these roles do not require a four-year computer science degree.

President Obama's Administration selected the City of Minneapolis, along with 20 other communities across the nation, to participate in the TechHire Initiative. As part of the initiative, the U.S. Department of Labor has committed approximately \$100 million to fund approximately 30-40 grants in its TechHire Partnership Grant (CFDA #17.268) competition.

The City of Minneapolis will be the lead applicant in a metropolitan-wide proposal to target youth and young adults (ages 17-29) who are out of secondary school and have barriers to training and employment in the region's high-growth Information Technology (IT) sector. Through the seven-county metropolitan partnership, the project will support the needs of employers while addressing disparities throughout the IT workforce.

Approximately 500 jobseekers will be served.

Partners include: metro Workforce Investment Boards, employers, community-based employment service providers, training providers, and a workforce intermediary.

A Request for Proposals, approved by the Permanent Review Committee, has been issued to select a workforce intermediary.

The requested total federal award will be approximately \$4 million over the 48 month project period. No cost sharing or matching funds are required to apply for the grant. However, the U.S. Department of Labor expects (but does not require) applicants to secure leveraged resources in the amount of at least 25% of requested grant funds. The leveraged resources will be a scored part of the application. Leveraged resources can include: funds and other resources leveraged from businesses, labor organizations, education and training providers, and/or Federal, state, and local government programs. Existing City funds already appropriated to the TechHire Initiative and funds from partners will be used to evidence such leverage to the greatest extent possible.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

Future budget impact anticipated.