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Building the Future: Grant Funding Opportunities for Workforce Training

Webinar Transcript • November 6, 2025

Presented by Elizabeth Evans and Sandy Trowbridge • Grants Office, LLC

Welcome and Introductions

Elizabeth Evans:
Hi everyone, my name is Elizabeth Evans, the Manager of Research and Consultation here for our North American operations at Grants Office. And today we're going to be talking about building the future: grant funding opportunities for workforce training.

Housekeeping

Elizabeth Evans:
Before I get started, I've got a few housekeeping items for you. First and foremost, you can listen hands-free over your computer speakers or headphones — there's no need to dial in. But if you do become disconnected, you can use the audio and video menu at the top of your screen to access the feed. You can also ask questions at any time using the question and answer interface on the right-hand side of your screen. Please feel free to submit as many questions as you like. We'll get to as many as possible during today's webinar.

And finally, know that this is being recorded. The recording will be available for download at the Grants Office website provided in the chat box on your screen starting tomorrow. The PowerPoint slides presented today will also be available at that same location, or you can send us a quick email request to education@grantsoffice.com, which is also going to be posted by our amazing webinar coordinator Kate in the chat box.

Today's Speaker and Agenda

Elizabeth Evans:
Today we have an amazing speaker from our team joining us — Sandy Trowbridge, who is a Grants Development Associate, and she's going to be chatting with us about workforce development funding. She's going to start off by giving a high-level overview of what's out there, current and anticipated funding opportunities that we're expecting to see come out in the near term, and then talk a little bit about ways you can strengthen your proposal. I'll wrap up with a real quick highlight of the services that

we offer here at Grants Office before we move on to our Q&A. With that, enough from me, we'll turn it over to the real star of the show, Sandy. So Sandy, please take it away. Thank you.

Setting the Stage: The Workforce Training Grant Landscape

Sandy Trowbridge:
Thank you, Elizabeth. Hello, everyone. So from advanced manufacturing to healthcare, technology, and the skilled trades, there is high demand for a well-prepared workforce. But the current supply of skilled workers is just not meeting the demands — both current and anticipated — of employers in key industries. As a result, we are finding that federal, state, and private funders are investing heavily in workforce training initiatives to help organizations bridge these talent gaps. Before diving into a sampling of specific workforce training grant examples, let's spend just a few minutes setting the stage.

What Workforce Training Grants Aim to Do

Sandy Trowbridge:
Workforce training in the grants context goes beyond basic job search or soft-skills workshops by focusing on developing practical, in-demand skills that lead to real employment in high-growth, high-demand, and high-wage industries. Workforce training grants are looking to help people gain sustainable employment, help employers find talent, and ultimately help communities grow stronger together.

Common Goals Across Workforce Training Grant Programs

Sandy Trowbridge:
Across workforce training grant programs, we see a common set of goals emerge. First, these grants aim to prepare people for real, in-demand jobs, especially in sectors where employers are actively hiring — like healthcare, IT, manufacturing, and construction. The focus is on skills-based training that leads directly to employment.

Second, and directly related to the first, they work hand in hand with employers to close critical skill gaps, making sure businesses have access to the talent that they actually need to grow and stay competitive.

Third, they emphasize advancing equity and economic mobility by helping individuals who have faced barriers to employment gain access to high-quality training and pathways to better wages and long-term stability. Examples of this are programs that integrate training with credential attainment and supportive services like childcare, transportation, or mentorship.

Fourth, successful programs are built on strong partnerships by bringing together employers, training providers, and government agencies to co-design programs that ultimately lead to recognized

credentials and actual employment opportunities for participants. Partnership, as you'll hear echoed throughout this session, is absolutely key to any successful workforce training initiative.

Fifth, funders supporting these workforce training initiatives expect measurable outcomes via the tracking of things like credential attainment, job placement rates, employer satisfaction, and wage gains. These metrics demonstrate real value for workers, employers, and the broader economy. So each workforce training program must be able to demonstrate measurable outcomes — really moving the needle in these areas.

And finally, workforce training grants often seek to promote workforce adaptability by ensuring that workers can reskill and upskill as industries evolve, so that the workforce remains competitive over time. As things like AI become more prevalent, for example, we see workforce training funding priorities shifting to align with these new skills needs, and this will likely continue to be the case moving forward.

Common Themes in Recent Awards

Sandy Trowbridge:
In reviewing recent workforce training grant awards made across the federal, state, and local levels, the common themes that emerge are outlined on the slide. Namely: these workforce training programs are industry-driven and employer-led, they're region-focused, and they prioritize job-specific skills development and credential attainment. They require cross-cutting partnerships, they encourage innovation and collaboration, and they place a strong focus on sustainability and replicability.

Essentially, funders are supporting projects that equip participants with real, in-demand skills; projects that connect training directly to active high-demand, high-wage job opportunities in the region; projects that promote equity by expanding access to high-quality training opportunities and minimize or remove barriers to employment; and projects that demonstrate measurable, lasting results.

Training Delivery Formats

Sandy Trowbridge:
When thinking about what these workforce training programs look like in practice, they are often comprised of a number of different delivery formats, often relying on multiple formats within one program to help people develop the skills they need to enter the workforce in a high-growth, high-demand, high-wage occupation as quickly as possible. These include all of the formats detailed here on this slide. Preferred training formats will vary pretty widely depending on the industry you're working in.

For example, apprenticeships are really a cornerstone of workforce development in industries that require hands-on skills, technical mastery, and certification — typically blending paid, on-the-job training with classroom or online instruction. In contrast, internships are a key form of workforce training in fields that emphasize professional experience, project work, and networking rather than

skilled manual trades. The important thing is that the training content, whatever format it takes, aligns with job-specific skills development and results in measurable outcomes like job placement or wage gains.

Key Workforce Training Funders

Federal Funders

Sandy Trowbridge:
In thinking of key workforce training funders at the federal level, workforce training is funded and administered by several major departments and agencies. For example, the US Department of Labor is the lead agency for national workforce development policy and funding. Within the Department of Labor, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is the main hub for workforce training grants.

In addition, we have the US Department of Education, which supports workforce-related education, especially through Career and Technical Education and adult learning. And the US Department of Health and Human Services also supports workforce training in healthcare and human services sectors — the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in particular supports workforce training for health professionals. But these are just examples. Many other federal agencies also support workforce development work relevant to their particular missions, so be sure to look more broadly as well depending on what sector you're working in.

State Funders

Sandy Trowbridge:
At the state level, the largest funders are the state workforce development agency, or equivalent title — the exact name often varies state to state — and the community college system. Funding also flows from state economic development agencies, state Departments of Education, state human services agencies, and governors' discretionary workforce initiatives. Most states weave these sources together to support regional partnerships, employer engagement, and equitable access to in-demand training.

Foundation Funders

Sandy Trowbridge:
There are also thousands of foundation funders to consider — some national, some more regional or local, a few of which are highlighted on the screen here. Many foundations have explicit workforce development priorities, and bank foundations in particular are often interested in strengthening the income potential of folks in their regions through various workforce training efforts. The same goes for local foundations that are super keyed in on the needs of their local area.

I definitely recommend signing up for email listservs for any funders most relevant to your sector, so that you're notified the moment grant funding opportunities open for application. Also set Google alerts for your area with the terms “workforce training,” “workforce development,” and “grants.” This ensures that you don't miss any announcements, but also enables you to see what other similar organizations are doing in your region and perhaps spur ideas for potential future partnerships.

Example Workforce Training Grants

Sandy Trowbridge:
Throughout this next section, I will highlight three example workforce training grant opportunities: one at the federal level, one at the state level, and one at the foundation level. This is by no means all-encompassing, but is really meant to give you hope that there are grant funding opportunities out there for your workforce training needs.

As noted on the previous slide, many federal agencies support workforce development work relevant to their particular missions, as do their state-level counterparts. So relevant opportunities are many and varied depending on what sector you're operating in. It's also important to acknowledge that the grants I'll be highlighting are primarily workforce-training-focused. There are many additional opportunities where workforce training is a component of a larger effort. For example, the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program out of the Department of Homeland Security includes the training of organization personnel in cybersecurity as one of the program's key objectives. So on the surface it might not seem relevant, but once you dig in, it could be a strong opportunity. Just keep that in mind as you consider these and other grant opportunities moving forward.

Federal Example: Industry-Driven Skills Training Fund

Sandy Trowbridge:
First up, we have the Industry-Driven Skills Training Fund grant program. This program is the federal opportunity out of the Department of Labor, and provides grants to state workforce agencies to form partnerships with eligible employers in key industry sectors that then apply for outcomes-based reimbursement for actual training costs associated with providing skills training to their employees.

Priority industries here include skilled trades like shipbuilding, occupations essential to the buildout of artificial intelligence infrastructure, advanced manufacturing, nuclear energy, domestic mineral production, and information technology including AI. This was last due in September of this year, and we anticipate future rounds to be released, of course pending the availability of funds.

One of the awards made under the most recent round of this grant program went to Michigan's Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. They were awarded $8 million to help Michigan workers gain the skills needed to fill critical, high-wage jobs in shipbuilding and related maritime

manufacturing. The awarded program intends to help individuals in Michigan earn a skill certificate or degree, grow the middle class by removing barriers to education and employment, and support businesses by developing a pool of right-skilled talent to meet their needs.

Other Federal Workforce Training Grants to Know

Sandy Trowbridge:
Before we move on to a state-related workforce training example, I also just want to call out a few other common workforce training grants to be aware of at the federal level. Take a look at Apprenticeship Building America, the H-1B Skills Training Grants — the most recent iteration of which was Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Program — also Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO), the Workforce Pathways for Youth grant program, and YouthBuild. All of these also come out of the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, or ETA, like this Industry-Driven Skills Training Fund example, so definitely worth monitoring the ETA website for updates.

For workforce training in K-12, take a look at Perkins V and 21st Century Community Learning Centers out of the Department of Education, and the Navy Marine Corps STEM Education Workforce Program out of the Department of Defense. For higher ed, perhaps take a look at Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants, also out of the ETA, as well as Advanced Technological Education out of the National Science Foundation. All provide opportunity to align education programming with career pathways.

State Example: Florida's LINE Fund

Sandy Trowbridge:
Now for a state example. For healthcare opportunities, we recommend keeping an eye on opportunities coming out of the Health Resources and Services Administration at the federal level, such as the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention program, but also be sure to closely monitor state opportunities, as this is where much of the funding is. For example, New York has an Increasing Training Capacity grant. Texas has a Nursing Shortage Reduction Program. Minnesota has a Pediatric Primary Care Mental Health Training grant. And Florida has the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) fund, which is highlighted on screen here.

By way of example, let's dive into LINE. It was initially established to incentivize collaboration between nursing education programs and healthcare partners to help combat the nursing shortage in the state. This competitive grant program provides matching funds on a dollar-to-dollar basis to participating agencies that partner with healthcare providers. It has an upcoming deadline of November 21, with future rounds anticipated as well.

A recent award under this program went to AdventHealth University, with grant funds going to the purchase of simulation equipment to help future nurses develop greater confidence and critical thinking skills through the availability of hands-on practice in a safe learning environment.

While this is a healthcare-related state example funded by the state Department of Education, for other state opportunities in other sectors, be sure to take a close look at your other state agencies such as your state economic development agencies, state human services agencies, your state community college system, and the governor's office to see if any state-specific opportunities have been released or are anticipated. For example, Maryland has a grant program titled Road to Careers out of their Department of Labor with an upcoming deadline of January 23, and Texas has a grant program titled Texas Talent Connection Grant Program out of their state office of the governor with an annual deadline in April. All examples of excellent region-specific opportunities to fund your workforce training programs.

Foundation Example: Bank of America Charitable Foundation

Sandy Trowbridge:
Let's wrap up this list of examples with a foundation funding opportunity. As noted earlier, there are thousands of foundations out there, many that would be willing to fund your workforce training initiatives. Bank foundations in particular, like the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, are often interested in strengthening the income potential of individuals in their regions through workforce-related training efforts.

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation directly notes an interest in income creation through efforts that enable job or career readiness and exposure, sustainable income, and financial resilience. They offer two funding cycles per year to 501(c)(3) or educational entities in their service area.

A recent Bank of America Charitable Foundation award went to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to support a student-led clinic that provides hands-on experience to students while also benefiting the surrounding community. Again, this is just one of many foundation funding examples — do definitely consider foundations to be a very strong funding option for your workforce training programming.

Strategies to Strengthen Your Grant Proposal

Sandy Trowbridge:
Let's imagine that one of the workforce training opportunities we just reviewed is the perfect fit. You did your due diligence to confirm that you meet all eligibility requirements, you confirmed the opportunity aligns with your project needs and goals, you believe you have the expertise to actually implement the grant requirements if awarded, you believe you'll be competitive when looking at projects and

organizations the funder has awarded in the past, and ultimately you believe you'll be able to compile a competitive application by the noted deadline. So what are some key strategies to now implement in order to strengthen your grant proposal?

Partnerships Are Non-Negotiable

Sandy Trowbridge:
First, if I were to highlight just one key point, it would be the importance of strong partnerships in the success of any workforce training initiative. For example: state and local workforce agencies can help identify labor market needs and connect you to job seekers; nonprofit community organizations can help recruit participants and offer wraparound support services like childcare or transportation; education agencies can help deliver the training that then leads to recognized credentials and degrees; and businesses can help align training programs with real workforce needs and commit to hiring participants upon program completion.

Partnership is really non-negotiable if you want to get your project funded. When I look at program summaries of awarded workforce training projects, the partnership section listing the organization names of all that are involved are paragraphs long, further highlighting how partnership is essential in order to be able to deliver on what you're promising to do — namely, moving folks into sustainable employment.

Think about what your strengths and weaknesses are as an organization, what resources you already have, and what resources you need. This will help you determine who might be best-fit partners to meet those needs and really fill the gaps in your projects. Some funding opportunities might spell out specific partnership requirements while others will leave this up to you, but either way, all of your partners should be leveraged to not only enhance the quality of your project but also expand the reach and impact of it. In sum, engage with partners early on in the project development process to really ensure that you can fully benefit from their insights and expertise and effectively build their buy-in for the project's future success. And to improve your chances of award, you'll want to highlight these partnerships in detail in your grant proposal, which we'll dive into in more detail on the next slide.

Align with Funder Goals and Priorities

Sandy Trowbridge:
Let's consider now just a handful of different strategies that you can implement when actually sitting down to draft your workforce training grant proposals. Firstly, align your proposed project with funder goals and priorities. Carefully read the funding opportunity announcement to identify the funder's key objectives. For example, do they note interest in specific in-demand industries or specific underserved populations? Then tailor your narrative by explicitly showing how your project meets those priorities.

Mirror the funder's language throughout as appropriate, and cite relevant data such as labor market statistics, regional workforce needs, or industry demand data to further support this alignment.

Demonstrate Evidence-Based Approaches

Sandy Trowbridge:
In addition, demonstrate evidence-based approaches. Show that your proposed training model has been successful elsewhere. Include peer-reviewed studies or government reports that validate your approach. And if proposing something new, explain why it is likely to succeed and how risk will be managed. Highlight if possible how your innovation is grounded in evidence, and be clear on what is new and innovative in your approach if relevant.

Present Clear SMART Goals

Sandy Trowbridge:
Next, present clear SMART goals — meaning that each goal should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. Connect these goals to the funder's priorities and industry needs, and consider incorporating outcome metrics such as job placement rate, credential attainment, wage increase, or employer satisfaction as a way to measure your program's effectiveness. Describe how you will collect and report on this data, including any formal data-sharing partnerships with employers or state agencies.

Highlight Strong Partnerships in the Proposal

Sandy Trowbridge:
Which again brings me to my next point, just reiterating the importance of showing strong partnerships. Clearly list all partners and their roles in your proposal. Be sure to highlight in particular any industry partners who are committed to hiring or supporting your trainees. Formal letters of commitment here strengthen the credibility of these claims, and be sure to leverage community organizations as well. As we noted on the previous slide, nonprofits, education agencies, and workforce boards can really enhance your ability to effectively reach individuals and employers best aligned with your program, provide accompanying support services, and enhance your training capacity.

Funders absolutely love to see formalized commitment to shared responsibility for the program's success and future sustainability, so be sure to include formal Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), letters of support, and letters of commitment established with your partners, as appropriate, in your proposal as well.

Address Participant Barriers

Sandy Trowbridge:
Be sure to address potential participant barriers to success in your program design. This may include consideration of incorporating childcare, transportation, mentorship, counseling, or even digital literacy supports. Go out of your way to demonstrate how participants will be supported from training through employment.

Detail Your Training Curriculum and Methods

Sandy Trowbridge:
Next, take the time to really detail your training curriculum and methods. Don't leave the funder wondering as to what exactly you will be doing. Detail the format or formats you plan to implement, as well as the planned sequencing and duration. Show how participants will progress from foundational skills to actual job readiness. Highlighting how this curriculum was developed in coordination with industry partners will also go a long way in enhancing its credibility in the eyes of funders.

Even if not required by the grant, consider creating a strong logic model as a part of your planning process. It's a great way to clearly connect program inputs to activities, to outputs, to outcomes. The visual model shows reviewers exactly how your program achieves impact and limits opportunity for confusion or misunderstanding. Be sure to illustrate clear pathways to employment, and include career ladders or credentialing sequences where appropriate.

Present a Realistic Budget and Sustainability Plan

Sandy Trowbridge:
Next, be sure to present a realistic budget and budget narrative. Align your costs with activities, with every budget line supporting specific program components. Justify expenses in your budget narrative, explaining both how costs were calculated and why they're needed for program success. And include sustainability planning, showing how training will continue after grant funding ends.

Highlight Organizational Capacity

Sandy Trowbridge:
Also, be sure to highlight your organizational capacity throughout. Include resumes for key personnel with relevant training or industry experience. Describe previous successful grants, successful programs, or other relevant positive training outcomes. Demonstrate that you have the facilities, technology, and systems in place to deliver the promised training — if not in-house, then within your partnership.

Make Your Proposal Clear and Compelling

Sandy Trowbridge:
Finally, make your proposal clear and compelling. Tell a story — connect your data to your need, to your solution, to make a compelling case for funding. Explain how successful components could expand to other regions or industries, and definitely use plain language: avoid jargon, define any technical terms. And then finally, proofread and format. We find that clean, well-organized proposals increase credibility and readability for reviewers, which goes a long way. To help with this, ask a colleague who's not involved in your project to review your materials prior to submission, just to make sure that everything's crystal clear, and then click Submit. And then of course, be sure to pause and celebrate all the hard work that went into submitting a strong proposal.

I'll hand things back over to Elizabeth at this point to detail a new resource available to you to support you in your workforce training efforts, including both the identification of grant opportunities and project building and proposal development support. So Elizabeth, over to you.

Grants Office Communities

Elizabeth Evans:
Thank you so much, Sandy, for sharing all of that wonderful information. For our audience, if you have any questions, please, I encourage you to drop them in the Q&A box at the bottom right-hand corner of your screen. I'll give Sandy a quick minute to grab a sip or two of water before we start digging into those Q&As.

While she does that, I want to quickly share some information about Grants Office Communities. It's a new search and collaboration platform for grant seekers that Grants Office has just launched. We've been live since September and have had a great time seeing folks log in, make projects, find grants, and work through their grant application process together.

For those who haven't had a chance to explore yet, Grants Office Communities is a grant search and collaboration platform. It's basically a singular site where you can come up with ideas for grant-funded projects, find grants to support those ideas, and even bring in your project partners to apply for opportunities together.

When you're in the platform, there is no limit to the number of projects where you can start building out your vision — whether you're looking just to jot down some ideas on what you would like to do someday, or even get into the weeds with very meticulous details about your proposed project. You can invite everyone from your accounting team to see your proposed budget, your boss to supervise progress and get that signature, or even colleagues you need to assign tasks to in order to keep the project planning process moving forward. You can also set up separate workspaces to work on proposal

pages together. Essentially, Grants Office Communities provides you with a virtual collaborative space where you can turn tasks, documents, conversations, and other grant-seeking activities into completed grant applications together.

The best part is, the collaborators that you're bringing in — whether that's your boss, your finance team, maybe an external partner or vendor that's helping you with drawings or specs for construction — they don't actually need to have a paid subscription to Grants Office Communities to see the project and contribute toward that work.

As I hinted at earlier, standing behind all of these collaboration spaces is a robust database of available grant funding opportunities for your consideration as well. In fact, last month we added more than 10,000 federal, state, and foundation funding opportunities from the United States to that database, and that number is growing every day. So just know that the humans here at Grants Office are constantly looking for more grants to add to this database, and we're always keeping watch on those existing grants to ensure that you're getting the latest and greatest information.

For example, Sandy mentioned the Bank of America Charitable Foundation earlier. If that grant was of interest to you for something you're cooking up, as a Grants Office Communities user, you could find this grant in the database, link it to your project space, and then invite potential project collaborators to review the grant so you can easily decide as a group whether or not you want to apply.

Hands-On Services from Grants Office

Elizabeth Evans:
And behind all of this is the Grants Office team. So if at any point you have a question or are feeling like you need a little extra assistance, we are here to help you with any steps of the grant-seeking process that you may need. We offer funder prospecting, research, and project development consultation services, wherein you and your team can chat with grant funding experts like Sandy about your interests and learn about potential opportunities specifically relevant to your proposed effort. We also have specialists that can help you with developing a more competitive proposed effort, drafting that proposal by actually putting pen to paper on your behalf, or even reviewing documents that you have written to make sure you didn't miss anything.

So feel free to engage with us. You can contact us at any point in time, at any point of the grant-seeking process — whether you're not sure what grants you are interested in and what's out there for you for a specific effort or in general, or whether you're ready to start working on an application and you want a little extra help to get over the finish line. We're happy to help wherever you are in your grant-seeking journey.

Q&A Session

Elizabeth Evans:
With that, I have hopefully given Sandy enough time to catch her breath and have some water. So we're going to go ahead and jump over to the Q&A session.

Q1: Are there any special workforce training funds available for veterans?

Sandy Trowbridge:
The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program out of the US Department of Labor is forecasted to be released early this year. It's an employment-focused competitive federal grant program specific to veterans, so I would definitely recommend checking that out. There are also a number of foundations specifically focused on veterans that would be worthwhile seeking out as well. The two that come straight to mind are the Overwatch Alliance and the Veteran Support Foundation. So definitely funding out there related to veteran workforce development.

Elizabeth Evans:
Awesome, thanks Sandy.

Q2: You mentioned the availability of region-specific workforce training funds. What is an example of that?

Sandy Trowbridge:
Good question. One that came straight to mind, because I just thought about an award made under it, is the New Jersey Film Works grant program that's focused on expanding opportunity in the state's film and digital media industry. So that's an example of an opportunity that's very much specific to a local region that would not be as relevant elsewhere. That's, I'd say, really the beauty of a lot of these state opportunities — they're open to funding what is most of relevance to local workers.

Q3: How can I get to the Grants Office Communities platform to give it a try?

Elizabeth Evans:
Thanks, Sandy. We have another question here, which I'm just going to quickly answer myself. Someone has asked how they can get to the Grants Office Communities platform and give it a try. There are actually three different ways you can get there. First, you can always go to GrantsOffice.com — you'll see our website featured in the photo of the slide on your screen — from our main company webpage, there's a link to Grants Office Communities. Or you can go to communities.grantsoffice.com and be taken to the platform directly. And of course, as a third option, there's always Google searching for Grants Office Communities. We made sure to be the first result that pops up when you search for the platform by name.

I will also add: we are currently offering a free 14-day trial to anybody who's interested. So if you're not sure if you want to commit to a new way of grant seeking just yet, that's a-okay. I encourage you to make use of that 14-day trial period to just hop in and poke around.

Q4: For K-12, what is the best federal workforce-training-related grant we should be considering?

Elizabeth Evans:
For our next question: for K-12, what is the best federal workforce-training-related grant we should be considering?

Sandy Trowbridge:
Perkins. Perkins comes out of the US Department of Education, and it's a federal pass-through grant where awards are calculated using a formula. Individual award amounts will vary depending on the number of students participating in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. Its whole purpose is to develop the academic knowledge and technical and employability skills of both secondary education students and post-secondary education students enrolled in CTE. So deadlines for that one vary, awards vary based on formula — I would recommend reaching out to your state Department of Education for more information. In terms of eligibility, it's open to public secondary schools and post-secondary education agencies that offer CTE instruction as well.

Q5: Are there a lot of school-focused or technology grants in the Grants Office Communities platform?

Elizabeth Evans:
Awesome. Thank you so much, Sandy. All right, we've got another one. This one is asking if there are a lot of school-focused or technology grants listed there for someone to apply to. I assume you're talking about the Grants Office Communities platform, and yes, that is correct.

In fact, we have a whole wide range of funding opportunities listed in there from state, federal, and foundation sources, for nonprofit organizations, healthcare organizations, colleges and universities, K-12 districts, private schools, transportation departments, water authorities — you name it. There's something in there for any organization that might be eligible for grants. In fact, all of the programs that Sandy mentioned today are featured within Grants Office Communities, and they'll also be added to the webinar resources page in case you want to look up a little bit more information on them after the event.

Q6: Any tips for getting funded by the Bank of America Foundation specifically?

Elizabeth Evans:
Then we have another question for you, Sandy. They wanted to know if you have any tips for getting funded by Bank of America Foundation specifically. They have tried several times without success, even though they have a workforce development project.

Sandy Trowbridge:
Good question. Well, I'd want to know a little bit more about your situation in particular in order to provide more targeted advice. Definitely feel free to reach out to us and we can dig into this more. But the reasons that foundations may reject applications can vary pretty widely. Sometimes it's just that there are so many applicants and a limited amount of funds.

Other times, specifically with bank foundations in particular, they might require that you have support from a local branch or district manager — and if not required, they might suggest it, or your application could benefit from having that local support. So I'd look at that. Another reason could be that while on the surface you're applying for a workforce development project, it might not align with the specific type of workforce development projects they've funded in the past. For that I'd look at their website, see if you can take a look at what they've actually funded before, maybe take a look at their tax forms, see if they provide any detail on organizations they've funded, and reach out to them. Any insight you can gain into what they've actually funded will help you tailor your request accordingly.

Another thing that sometimes helps with foundations like this is being able to show that you also have skin in the game — showing that you're internally committed to this project, or even that you have other foundations committed, so that you can show that existing community buy-in. That can help. But those are just the things that come straight to mind. I'd be happy to dive into it in more detail if you reach out directly.

Closing

Elizabeth Evans:
Great, thanks so much. We're getting some really granular questions here about more specific projects for our attendees' unique interests — whether that's getting a training agency for deaf persons within their state started up, or grants specifically for support services for disabled individuals, or grants to fund school positions. These are all wonderful projects, certainly are going to be fundable, but this is a great chance for you to hop into Grants Office Communities and check it out and see what's in there based on those search criteria. Or reach out to us for a one-on-one chat.

Unfortunately we don't have the time to get through each of those unique instances today, but I do want to thank everybody for joining us today and definitely appreciate you coming in. I see one last

question asking if they can try the free 14-day trial without a credit card. Unfortunately, that's something we are looking into, but we don't have that capability at this moment because of the platform that we're set up on. We're looking at different vendors, but if it's not something you're interested in pursuing after 14 days, you can always just cancel out. That's a-okay. We're here to help you provide as much or little support as you're interested in, and we definitely hope that you're interested in working with us.

Like I said, please don't hesitate to reach out. If you do have additional questions, feel free to contact us with your unique use cases and we can answer those questions one-on-one.

So with that, again, thank you everybody for joining us today. Remember that today's session has been recorded, and this recording, as well as the slides, will be available on the events resource page within the next 24 hours. Again, if your questions didn't get answered or you think of one later, you're always welcome to email us at education@grantsoffice.com and somebody will be in touch shortly. If you miss something, if you need anything, you want to share some of the resources from today, share this recording, look up those grants summaries — you can also go back to this event's landing page later at your convenience and get those resources.

We hope you found today to be a valuable use of your time, and we do look forward to seeing you on future Grantscasts. Thanks everybody.

— End of Transcript —

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