



# C A L I F O R N I A

## Labor & Workforce Development Agency

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### **\$10.4 Million Available In Recovery Act Training Grants To Address Shortages Of Skilled Workers In Strategic Industries**

**SACRAMENTO** – California is targeting funding available through President Obama’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) to develop innovative approaches to training workers for a wide range of skilled jobs in the growing industries of the future. Such industries include allied health care, information technology, and repair and maintenance.

“With this initiative we are committed to turning this economy around and putting Californians back to work in good-paying jobs that open the way for them to move upward in the future,” said Doug Hoffner, Acting Secretary of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA). “Some of these new workers will fill vacancies as skilled baby boomers retire, others will break ground in rapidly growing new industries. Everyone will win: unemployed workers, industries, and the state as a whole.”

The state Employment Development Department (EDD), in coordination with the California Workforce Investment Board, and the LWDA, is asking public and private agencies to submit proposals designed to quickly turn this vision into reality. Federal Recovery Act grants totaling \$10.4 million will go to agencies that develop programs bringing together a broad array of services to maximize training and employment opportunities. The plans will focus on employment and training of low-income, unemployed, dislocated workers or under-skilled adults ages 18 years or older who have particular challenges in gaining or regaining employment.

The Solicitation for Proposals calls for plans that bring together workforce investment agencies and industries that will play a major role in the recovery or expansion of local and regional economies. The focus will be on sectors with a shortage of skilled workers. According to labor market and economic data, industry sectors that are projected to grow, have a high demand for workers, and offer career pathways include:

- Healthcare and Social Services Sector: Allied Health Occupations
- Information Sector: Information Technology Occupations
- Transportation, Warehousing and Other Services Sector: Maintenance and Repair Occupations

Public, private non-profit, and private for-profit organizations, local Workforce Investment Boards, education and training providers, and faith and community based organizations are eligible to apply. EDD will release the SFP on November 04, 2009, by posting the package at: [http://www.edd.ca.gov/jobs\\_and\\_training/WDSFP\\_Workforce\\_Development\\_Solicitations\\_for\\_Proposals.htm](http://www.edd.ca.gov/jobs_and_training/WDSFP_Workforce_Development_Solicitations_for_Proposals.htm). Complete proposals are due December 8, 2009.

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