

## Colorado First and Existing Industry Mobile Learning Lab Assistance Program Fact Sheet

Mobile Learning Labs (MLL) offer on-site workforce education at business locations to help address Colorado's workforce needs by providing hands-on, flexible training options. To increase mobile learning lab opportunities, the Colorado First & Existing Industry Job Training Program, administered by the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) and the Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT), is conducting a program to provide grant funding to assist with the build-out of MLL for use in Colorado.

### MLL Assistance Application Timeline – Spring/Summer 2017 Round\*

- **Grant application deadline:** May 30, 2017
- **Grant notification by CCCS/OEDIT:** July 1, 2017
- **Build-out completion deadline:** August 1, 2019
- **Funding Available:** \$1,000,000

\*Funding for the Spring/Summer 2017 Round shall include funds from FYs 2016/17 and 2017/18

### Program Parameters

- The **Mobile Learning Lab Assistance Program** will require a final budget covering all costs, including those paid by the grant, and cash and any in-kind matching funds needed for completion of the lab.
- Grant funds will be disbursed by the CCCS through direct payments to vendors based on invoices submitted by the college which match the budget submitted with the application.
- In the event that the Colorado First and Existing Industry (CFEI) grant and contributions from the college do not initially cover the full cost of the MLL, grant disbursements from the CCCS will not begin until an institution awardee confirms they have obtained the full funding required to construct a viable operating lab.
- Initially \$1M will be available to the MLL program. Future funding will be evaluated annually in light of state budget appropriations to the CFEI program, demand for CFEI training, and funding opportunities and costs for MLLs (*contingent on available funding*). MLL money not awarded from the previous year will roll forward to the next year for the purpose of MLL.
- Preference will be given to applications with a 10% cash or in-kind match. The match can include labor and service to support the creation of the MLL. The 10% match is subject to any supplanting prohibitions.
- MLL assistance applications will be reviewed and evaluated in conjunction with CFEI job training applications for equitable CFEI program participation. The MLL training purposes should be in broad alignment with current Colorado industry needs and purposes of the program as set forth in C.R.S 23-60-307(3). However, the match requirements described in C.R.S 23-60-307(3)(h), the company sponsor requirement in (3)(c), and the costs outlined in (3)(e) are not applicable for MLL assistance funding.
- The types of training supported by the MLL should align with the trainings that are competitive in the Colorado First and Existing Industry competitive grant process.
- The grant recipient must make the MLL available throughout Colorado to requesting eligible institutions (see below) to support CFEI training. When the labs are used for training funded by the Colorado First and Existing Industry program, the charges for using the MLL must be at rates which do not include any capital recovery charges for the use of the lab for training. Only direct

variable charges (personnel, fuel, travel, maintenance, and materials) are allowed for CFEI sponsored trainings with MLLs.

- Colorado First and Existing Industry trainings shall have priority over other uses of the MLL.
- Construction can begin only after grant applicants receive approval by the **Mobile Learning Lab Assistance Program** state administrators and sign grant agreements with the CCCS.
- The MLL must be available for use by multiple companies in Colorado.
- The program fiscal year is the same as the state's, which runs July 1 through June 30.
- Approved MLL must be constructed and fully operational within two years from the application approval date.
- Grant funds may not be used for planning purposes, but only for eligible expenses as outlined in the original application and approved budget.
- Quarterly reports to the CCCS will be required during the MLL construction progress.
- Annual reports to the CCCS and OEDIT will be required pertaining to capacity utilization, use for the CFEI Training Program and return on investment to understand on-going use and impact for the first three full operational calendar years after the MLL is completed.
- An on-site lab visit by CCCS representatives in partnership with OEDIT will be required to certify completion of the lab.

### **MLL Application Considerations**

- Applications will be reviewed and scored on a **competitive** basis, with a bonus for collaborations (multi-institution). Factors considered will be: alignment with industry needs demonstrated by industry and trade group support / justification for MLL need as opposed to existing campus facility / job enhancing skills / institution training participation / state geographic representation / use of MLL by multiple companies in Colorado / projected return on investment.
- Per CFEI focus, emphasis will be placed on the following industries: advanced manufacturing, bioscience, aerospace, energy & natural resources, advanced technology, electronics, and infrastructure engineering. Additionally, given the current acute labor shortage, construction will also receive emphasis.
- Applications for MLLs shall include letters from multiple companies stating that they plan to use the MLL for training.
- Applications for MLL shall include an accompanying training plan which lists companies that will use the labs, forecasts the number of trainings, and employees trained and high level outlines of the training curriculum. At least one private company shall participate with the institution in designing the curriculum used in the training plan.
- MLL applications shall be reviewed by both OEDIT and the CCCS for approval.

### **Eligible Institutions**

All CCCS community colleges, Aims Community College, Colorado Mountain College, and Colorado Mesa State University are eligible to participate in the **Mobile Learning Labs Assistance Program**.

**To Apply** for an MLL assistance grant, please partner with your local CFEI business representative. Visit: <https://www.cccs.edu/partnering-for-success/training-funds/mobile-learning-labs-assistance-pilot-program/> to find the nearest representative, or contact Yvonne Gilstrap, Colorado Community College System, CFEI Program Manager [yvonne.gilstrap@cccs.edu](mailto:yvonne.gilstrap@cccs.edu).