

# Strategic Workforce Initiative

## Proposal Request

During the 2016 legislative session, the Utah State Legislature created the Strategic Workforce Investment (SWI) fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide resources to establish educational pathway partnerships that serve regional and statewide industry workforce needs. These pathway programs are meant to provide workforce for high growth and wage occupations.

### Important Dates:

Applications Due: January 4, 2019 before 5:00 PM

Technical Assistance Phone Call: October 15, 3:00 PM, 801-823-1785, no pin required.

The Utah State Legislature will make the funding decisions during the 2019 legislative session.

### Submittal Process:

- All proposals must be submitted to Kimberlee Carlile, [kcarlile@utah.gov](mailto:kcarlile@utah.gov)
- Email is the only process through which proposals will be accepted.

### Proposal Overview:

The following provides an overview and requirements for proposals submitted for SWI funding. This information is taken from legislation (<https://le.utah.gov/~2018/bills/static/SB0103.html>). In the 2018 legislative session, amendments were made that now allows for statewide partnerships, in addition to regional partnerships. Please see this legislation for additional details and definitions for SWI.

*A proposal shall include:*

*(a) a program of instruction that:*

*(i) is responsive to the workforce needs of a strategic industry cluster as identified by the Governor's Office of Economic Development*

*(A) in one CTE region, for a proposal submitted by a regional partnership; or*

*(B) in at least two CTE regions, for a proposal submitted by a statewide partnership;*

*(ii) leads to the attainment of a stackable sequence of credentials; and*

*(iii) includes a non-duplicative progression of courses that include both academic and CTE content;*

*(b) expected student enrollment, attainment rates, and job placement rates;*

*(c) evidence of input and support for the proposal from an industry advisory group;*

*(d) a description of any financial or in-kind contributions for the program from an industry advisory group;*

*(e) a description of the job opportunities available at each exit point in the stackable sequence of credentials;*

- (f) evidence of an official action in support of the proposal from:
- (i) the Utah System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees, if the eligible partnership includes a college described in Section 53B-26-102; or
  - (ii) the Board of Regents, if the eligible partnership includes:
    - (A) an institution of higher education; or
    - (B) a college described in Subsection 53B-26-102(1)(b), (c), or (d);

(g) if the program of instruction requires board approval under section 53B-16-202, evidence of board approval of the program of instruction;

(h) a funding request, including justification for the request.

**Each proposal must clearly demonstrate the following:**

- **Requested funding will be used solely for the direct costs associated with the program, such as the cost of instructors or equipment.**
  - **Funding for general administration, marketing, internships, etc. will not be allowed.**
- **Stackable certifications/degrees must be clearly defined, with “on-ramps” and “off-ramps” leading to specific, regionally demanded employment opportunities.**
- **Clearly defined, active industry engagement and leveraged participation from industry.**
  - **Examples may include; financial or in-kind program donations, instructors, mentors, internships, job shadows, scholarships, etc.**

**The Legislation Requires That Each Application Should Contain the Following:**

- Support for the proposal should be widespread within a CTE region or statewide partnership
- The proposal should expand the capacity to meet regional workforce needs or statewide workforce needs
- Amount that the proposal be funded
- A clear model of stackable credentials outlined between multiple institutions
- Industry playing a key role within the program

**Strategic Industry Clusters identified by GOED include:**

- Aerospace and Defense
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Financial Services
- Life Sciences
- Outdoor Products
- Software Development and Information Technology
- Any additional strategic industry cluster designated by the Governor's Office of Economic Development

If you have any questions regarding SWI please email Kimberlee Carlile, [kcarlile@utah.gov](mailto:kcarlile@utah.gov).