

1 **RURAL COWORKING AND INNOVATION CENTER GRANT**

2 **PROGRAM AMENDMENTS**

3 2021 GENERAL SESSION

4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Chief Sponsor: Carl R. Albrecht**

6 Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill addresses the Rural Coworking and Innovation Center Grant Program.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

12 ▶ modifies the circumstances under which a grant may be awarded under the Rural  
13 Coworking and Innovation Center Grant Program; and

14 ▶ makes technical changes.

15 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

16 None

17 **Other Special Clauses:**

18 None

19 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

20 AMENDS:

21 **63N-4-504**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 467

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

23 Section 1. Section **63N-4-504** is amended to read:

24 **63N-4-504. Requirements for awarding a working hubs grant.**

25 (1) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the



28 office shall make rules establishing the eligibility and reporting criteria for an entity to receive  
29 a grant under this part, including:

- 30 (a) the form and process of submitting an application to the office for a grant;
- 31 (b) which entities are eligible to apply for a grant;
- 32 (c) the method and formula for determining grant amounts; and
- 33 (d) the reporting requirements of grant recipients.

34 (2) In determining the award of a grant, the office may prioritize projects:

35 (a) that will serve underprivileged or underserved communities, including communities  
36 with high unemployment or low median incomes;

37 (b) where an applicant demonstrates comprehensive planning of the project but has  
38 limited access to financial resources, including financial resources from local or county  
39 government; and

40 (c) that maximize economic development opportunities in collaboration with the  
41 economic development needs or plans of an educational institution, a county, and a  
42 municipality.

43 (3) Subject to legislative appropriation, a grant may only be awarded by the executive  
44 director after consultation with the advisory committee.

45 (4) A grant may only be awarded under this part:

46 (a) if the grant recipient agrees to;

47 (i) provide any combination of funds, land, buildings, or in-kind work in an amount  
48 equal to at least 25% of the grant;

49 (ii) (A) for a grant awarded for construction or renovation of a coworking and  
50 innovation center, allow use of the center for seven or more years in the rural area where the  
51 center is located; or

52 (B) for a grant awarded for extending or improving utilities or broadband service  
53 connections to a coworking and innovation center or for purchasing equipment, furniture, or  
54 security systems for a coworking and innovation center, allow use of the center for five or more  
55 years in the rural area where the center is located; and

56 ~~[(b)]~~ (iii) ~~[if the grant recipient agrees not to]~~ not use grant money for the ongoing  
57 operation or maintenance of a coworking and innovation center; and

58 ~~[(e)]~~ (b) in an amount no more than \$500,000 to a grant ~~[applicant]~~ recipient.