

#1

COMPLETE

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Q1 Contact Information for Nomination

Name of Contact	Josh Richardson
Full Name of State Agency	Indiana Department of Workforce Development
Email Address	jrichardson@dwd.in.gov
Name of Initiative the state (and/or partnership) is being nominated for:	Next Level Jobs

Q2 1. Provide a brief description of the innovative initiative, innovative framework, or efforts of national impact you have chosen as your primary focus for the nomination.Response Word Limit: 200

Indiana employers will need to fill 1 million jobs in the next 10 years, over half of which will require some type of certification or credential beyond a high school diploma. Governor Holcomb’s Next Level Jobs initiative was created in 2017 as part of his Next Level Agenda to build a stronger skilled workforce throughout the State of Indiana. Next Level Jobs has two grant programs – the Employer Training Grant and the Workforce Ready Grant.

The Employer Training Grant reimburses Indiana employers in high-demand industries up to \$5,000 for each new or incumbent employee who is hired, trained and retained for six months. There is a \$50,000 cap for each employer, and the jobs must be middle skill, high-demand and high-wage.

The Workforce Ready Grant provides free training for Indiana residents with a high school diploma (or equivalent) but less than a college degree. The occupational training can either be credit-bearing or non-credit-bearing and leverages Hoosiers into a high-wage, high-demand career.

Next Level Jobs builds upon past strategies such as the Skill Up Initiative and Innovation Network wherein the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) identified industry sectors and brought together businesses to further develop what these skills should be. The Next Level Jobs initiative is the next step in that process of evolution of now providing Hoosiers and businesses with the tools and funding they need to skill-up Indiana’s workforce.

Q3 2. Provide a statement of results, accomplishments, impacts and any other appropriate information that demonstrates why the nominee’s efforts described in question #1 were an exceptional contribution. Response Word Limit: 200

Gov. Holcomb allocated more than \$20 million for both grant programs to be used over a period of two years. However, because the success of both programs was much greater than expected and funds were anticipated to run out midway into Program Year 2018-19, the Governor continued to lobby for greater support and, in the following years, received \$40 million for the Employer Training Grant and \$4 million for the Workforce Ready Grant.

Initially, the Employer Training Grant offered \$2,500 for each new employee hired, trained and retained for six months with a cap of \$25,000 per employer. The bump to \$5,000 and \$50,000, respectively, speaks to the volume of interest from businesses and the need to offer training for higher-skill occupations. Additionally, the Employer Training Grant first restricted businesses to train new employees but later expanded into advancing the skills of Hoosiers already employed.

Since its inception, \$23.9 million of the Employer Training Grant has gone to nearly 1,800 businesses that have collectively trained more than 8,600 employees. Those trained employees have realized an average annual salary increase of \$4,160.

At the start of the Next Level Jobs program, the Workforce Ready Grant was handled by a different agency. However, in 2018, due to increased interest and success on the non-credit-bearing side, DWD took over that part of the Workforce Ready Grant, receiving additional allocation, to increase participation and better streamline the process.

On the Workforce Ready Grant’s non-credit-bearing side since DWD took over, of the 1,677 program starters to-date, 798 (72.9%) completed training and 535 (67.5%) earned a credential.

Q4 3. Provide a brief description of the nominee’s significant contributions in any one of the other two areas listed under “criteria” that you did not focus on above. Response Word Limit: 200

The Next Level Jobs initiative also meets the innovative framework criteria. Several partnerships and services provided by state programs and agencies help to make the Next Level Jobs initiative a success for Hoosiers and Hoosier businesses. Next Level Jobs and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) were braided for a broader band of support to Hoosiers and employers. For the Employer Training Grant, incumbent worker training was developed by the Workforce Development Boards and WorkOne Career Centers. The Workforce Ready Grant utilizes the INTraining Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL), meaning that all training providers are held to the standards of the ETPL which is WIOA-funded and federally-regulated.

Indiana Career Ready is a tool for users to determine occupational demand, find job training resources such as Next Level Jobs, access Labor Market Information and more. These resources all partner with each other instead of operating in silos so that there is a streamlined and comprehensive process of skilling up or getting a better-paying career.

Next Level Jobs is one cog in an integrative machine to solve Indiana’s workforce issue of needing the right skills and certifications to meet businesses’ needs, which then creates a more fruitful environment not only to attract new businesses to relocate to Indiana but also for current businesses to attract and retain talent.

Q5 4. Provide samples of work including creative materials, videos, graphics, documents, plans, etc. regarding the efforts and results you outlined in questions #1 and #2. File size limit is 16 MB. Only PDF, DOC, DOCX, PNG, JPG, JPEG, GIF files are supported.

NextLevel Jobs Infographic-Monthly-12062019.pdf (895.8KB)

Q6 Sample of Work #2File size limit is 16 MB.

NLJ_ETG_Flyer_Final.pdf (1.5MB)

Q7 Sample of Work #3File size limit is 16 MB.

Next-Level-Jobs-OnePager.7cff7b8d.pdf (102.1KB)

Q8 Sample of Work #4File size limit is 16 MB.

Next Level Jobs Multimedia Resources.docx (11.5KB)

Q9 Sample of Work #5File size limit is 16 MB. **Respondent skipped this question**

Q10 Please upload a statement of approval from the Agency Administrator

Agency Approval Letter 010620.pdf(243.2KB)



January 6, 2020

NASWA Innovation Awards Selection Committee:

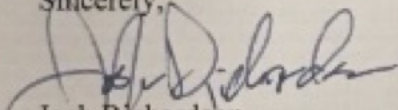
The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is pleased to submit nominations for three of the 2020 Workforce Innovation Awards. These include:

- The redesigned Employer Self Service system for the Merrill Baumgardner Innovation in Information Technology Award
- Hiring Hoosiers and Rafael Sanchez for the William J. Harris Equal Opportunity Award
- Next Level Jobs and Gov. Eric J. Holcomb for the Pinnacle Award for Workforce Development

All three award nominations have been approved by me and the rest of DWD's leadership team.

We will look forward to the nominations review process, and the announcement of the recipients in February.

Sincerely,



Josh Richardson
Chief of Staff/Administration

Next Level Jobs Multimedia Resources

“Employer Training Grant Success Stories” YouTube playlist:







<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHkh0UD1YVNZjj5XpaPpDvThhNDqT73Mb>

“What Next Level Jobs’ Employer Training Grant Can Do for You” YouTube video:

https://youtu.be/Kvi_QC2LvIM


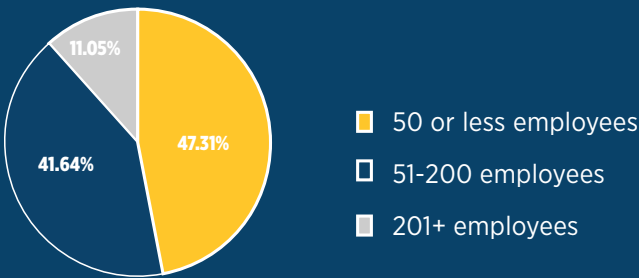
Employer Training Grants *to help* Hoosier Businesses

Training Reimbursement for High-Demand Sectors

		Month:	Received	Active
Advanced Manufacturing:				
Agriculture:				
Building and Construction Trades:				
Health Sciences:				
IT/Business Services:				
Transportation and Logistics:				
Cumulative				

“The Employer Training Grants make training possible, and we are confident it will have real, life-changing impact on Hoosiers across central Indiana.”


Cathy Boggs
Executive Director for Government and Affiliate Relations
 Community Health Network
 Behavioral Health Services

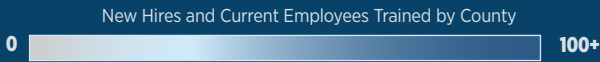
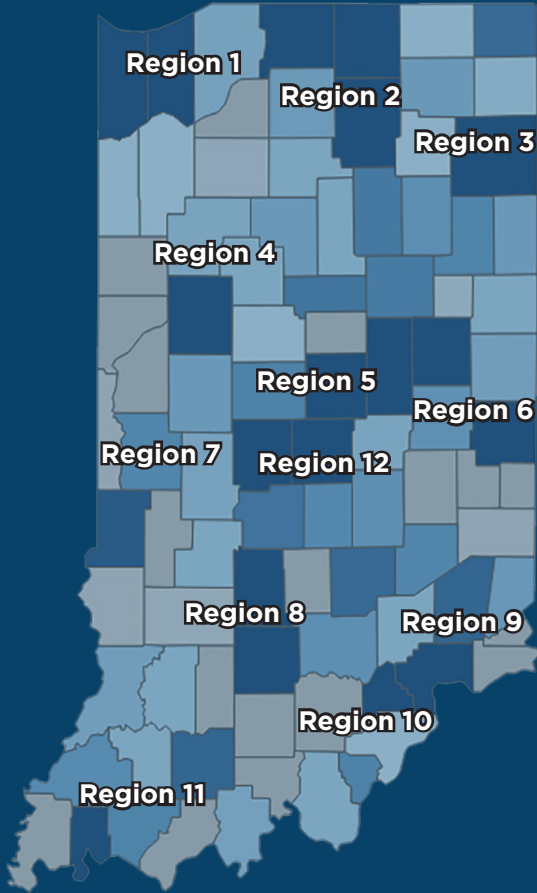
- Minority Business Enterprise:
- Woman Business Enterprise:
- Veteran Business Enterprise:

TOP 5 EMPLOYER DEMANDED TRAINING:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



Average wage of ALL current NLJ: ETG's =



YOU CAN AFFORD TO

DREAM BIG.

FREE JOB TRAINING AT NEXTLEVELJOBS.ORG



99% of jobs created in the last decade require education and training beyond high school



1,000,000 job vacancies are expected over the next 10 years

WHAT IS NEXT LEVEL JOBS?

Next Level Jobs pays for tuition-free certificates in high-demand sectors:



ADVANCED
MANUFACTURING



BUILDING &
CONSTRUCTION



IT & BUSINESS
SERVICES



HEALTH &
LIFE SCIENCES



TRANSPORTATION &
LOGISTICS



JOB SEEKERS

Next Level Jobs provides free training to Hoosiers for some of the state's most in-demand, high-paying jobs in rapidly growing industries.

JOB CREATORS

Indiana employers can get reimbursed up to \$5,000 for each employee trained, and retained for six months.



Let's give Hoosiers the tools they need to reach their full potential.



ERIC J. HOLCOMB, GOVERNOR OF INDIANA

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ERIC J. HOLCOMB, GOVERNOR OF INDIANA

NextLevel Jobs Employer Training Grant 3.0

Reimbursing your company for newly trained employees



About NextLevel Jobs

NextLevel Jobs is part of Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Indiana agenda. The initiative focuses on high-priority sectors and high-demand jobs. Two million Hoosiers need additional training to compete in the future workforce, and there will be millions of job openings due to retirements and the creation of new jobs in the next decade. NextLevel Jobs will help meet that challenge.

About the Employer Training Reimbursement 3.0

Employers in any high demand business sector can be reimbursed up to \$5,000 for each newly trained employee, hired and retained for six months. There is a \$50,000 cap for each employer and the jobs must be middle skill, high-demand and high-wage jobs.



That's why we'll double the funding [available statewide] for the Employer training Grant, which provides financial support to Indiana Companies to hire, train, and retain Hoosier adults to fill our job openings.



Gov. Eric J. Holcomb
January 2019

What Skills Does the Employer Training Reimbursement 3.0 Cover?

Employer Training Grants cover occupational skills training. Employers can use training providers on DWD's eligible training provider list or third party providers. The training plan must verify that it's occupational skills training, aligns to an approved middle skills occupation, and is greater than 40 hours.

What Occupations are Eligible?

More than 100 occupations are eligible for Employer Training Grants. Those occupations cover six priority sectors – Advanced Manufacturing, Agriculture, Building and Construction, Health Sciences, Information and Business Services, and Transportation and Logistics.

For a full list, go to nextleveljobs.org/Employer/Eligible-occupations

NextLevelJobs.org



**Advanced
Manufacturing**



Agriculture



**IT & Business
Services**



**Health &
Life Sciences**



**Transportation
& Logistics**



**Building &
Construction**

Employer Training Grant 3.0 Process and Timeline



it's as easy as 1... 2... 3...

apply in 1 minute... we'll be in touch in 2 days... within 3 days you will be moving forward...

1-10 days

Training Review
You share plan; DWD Reviews and approves (if applicable)
HR Job Description
You provide; DWD reviews and files
Salary Range
You provide; DWD documents
Agreement Signed
DWD shares all details; You review and sign; funding obligated

30-45 days

W9
DWD shares, you complete and return
Direct Deposit
DWD shares, you complete and return
Training Invoice
DWD shares, you track, retained new hires

6-8 months

Completed Invoice
You submit trained, retained new hire data; DWD crosschecks
Payment
DWD sends reimbursement funding to you; NET 35 days

How To Apply

Go to nextleveljobs.org. Click on the button "I'm an Indiana Employer." Follow the steps to complete and submit company and contact information, and type of training requested. The form takes less than five minutes to complete. A member of the DWD Business Services team will be in touch within 24 to 48 hours.

For More Information

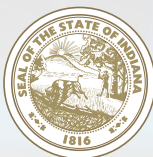
Bryon Silk
DWD Director of Business Services
bsilk@dwd.in.gov

“

Using Next Level money to train the workers and retain them, we're working on new plans to attract and retain the right employees and engage our employees to help us improve our work processes.”

Curtis Malone
HR Manager, Saint-Gobain Abrasives

Employer Training Grants administered by:



INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

“

The Employer Training Reimbursement makes training possible and we're confident it will have a real, life-changing impact on Hoosiers across central Indiana.”

Cathy Boggs
Executive Director for Government and Affiliate Relations
Community Health Network Behaviors Health Service

NextLevelJobs.org



Advanced
Manufacturing



Agriculture



IT & Business
Services



Health &
Life Sciences



Transportation
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