

# **SUNY Community College Workforce Development Training Grant Pathways Track Program Detailed Guidelines**

## **Overview and Purpose**

The SUNY Workforce Development Training Grant – Pathways Track provides funding for SUNY community colleges to operate workforce development/job training programs to address training needs for businesses and organizations in local communities.

The funding is administered by SUNY System Administration’s Office of Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline, with assistance from the Finance and Budget Office, Counsel’s Office, Office of Governmental Relations, and Provost’s Office as needed.

## **Funding Details**

Up to \$1.5M will be available for award.

Funding may be used to create or enhance educational pathways which must be designed in conjunction with one or more employers and engage community and workforce development partners. These pathways must be market driven, focused on high-demand and high-wage fields and include credential(s). They must demonstrate to students the progression through an educational track to obtain and then move through positions with higher responsibility and salary.

## **Eligible SUNY Pathways Projects**

- SUNY Online Pathway (credit or non-credit fully online or hybrid credential pathway to an online associate degree)
- Apprentice2Associates Pathway (beginning with pre-apprenticeship and providing a pathway to an associate degree)
- EOC2Associates Pathway (beginning at an Educational Opportunity Center and providing a pathway to an associate degree)
- Non-credit2Credit Pathway (beginning in a non-credit program and providing a pathway to an associate degree)
- Other (non-credit or credit programs with a certificate, credential, microcredential or industry certification)

Each college must include a minimum of two or maximum of four pathways in the proposal.

## **Pathway Overview and Examples**

A pathway in this program typically includes a series of courses culminating in an associate degree where the student receives two or more credentials (including the degree) within a particular industry focus. Pathways can also map to additional postsecondary degrees.

Credentials in the pathway may include non-credit and credit options including non-degree and degree-eligible stackable or short-term course(s) with a college issued certificate, industry-recognized credential, microcredential, certification or license and/or associate or other degree.

Following are two examples of pathways. These are simply illustrative and many other pathway opportunities exist:

Example 1: Apprentice2Associates Pathway: Apprentice completes related instruction training through non-credit coursework. College establishes internal articulation agreement or conducts a credit by evaluation process which provides apprentice completer with a certain number of credits toward an associate degree. The credits can recognize related instruction, on-the-job training, or both. Credentials include journeyworker card and associate degree.

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Example 2: Non-credit2Credit Pathway: Student completes a non-credit workforce development course which includes a college issued credential. College establishes an articulation agreement or uses credit by evaluation to determine the number of credits the student receives as they continue on the pathway to associate degree. Successful completion ensures student can move into an associate degree at the college and/or another institution and bring with them a certain number of credits to bring them closer to completion.

**Deliverable:**

Awarded colleges will be expected to develop an action plan that addresses the following steps:

- Design pathways and supports – develop partnerships, engaging with at least one employer, as well as community and workforce development organizations; design pathway sequence including credentials and articulations or credit by evaluation (CPL/PLA), outline holistic student supports, identify student metrics to be tracked, create graphic map/representation of each pathway sequence, etc.;
- Market pathways – design outreach materials (flyers, website, etc.); engage in outreach with employers, community partners, Career Centers and Workforce Development Boards to recruit and enroll students;
- Launch pathways – enroll participants and track student metrics for each pathway; and
- Report on pathways –submit annual reports providing metrics, accomplishments and outcomes, as well as related supports.

Lessons learned and curriculum will be shared with other SUNY community colleges for replication across the system.

**Allowable use of funds:**

- Supporting business engagement professionals, faculty and best-in-class curriculum developers to create or enhance courses included in the pathway.
- Supporting business engagement professionals and faculty to evaluate non-credit courses for credit (CPL/PLA) within the pathways, in particular to ensure course are eligible for Workforce Development Part-Time TAP once launched. To be eligible non-credit courses must be within a significant industry and must have been evaluated for credit. Courses must be less than twelve semester hours per semester (if more than twelve credits course must run over multiple semesters).
- Engaging faculty and trainers to teach courses and/or covering the cost of training for students in identified pathways allowing students to enroll at low or no cost.
- Paying for exams or tests required to obtain credential included in the pathways.
- Providing holistic student supports while student is in training such as:
  - Academic services that support student success (advising, tutoring, mentoring, etc.), and
  - Other supportive services for students (transportation, childcare, food security, etc.).
- Deploying innovative outreach and marketing activities to target community and employer partners as well as prospective students.

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- Supporting costs involved with tracking student metrics including technology consulting or software applications (must get prior approval for this expense).

Capital expenses are not allowable; however, limited funds may be used for equipment and supplies necessary to support pathways.

**Funding Guidelines**

**Eligibility:** All 30 SUNY community colleges are eligible to apply. If a college was previously awarded SUNY Workforce Development Training Grant – Pathways Track funding pathways on this submission must be new and not included in the previous award.

**Funding Amount:** A college may apply for a max of \$150,000. Funds may be used for a period up to three years.

**Deadline:** August 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM with awards made in fall 2023.

**Application:**

Application Link: [Application Link](#)

Budget Template Link: [WFD Training Grant Pathways Track Budget chart](#)

Pathways Chart Link: [Workforce Development Training Grant Pathways Track Chart](#)

**Proposal Contact**

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