

EMPLOYMENT RFP FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Developmental Disabilities Council will have a maximum amount up to \$140,000 established for the priority area of Employment.

The Developmental Disabilities Council is soliciting proposals that will facilitate opportunities for youth and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to gain work experience and career-development skills.

The proposal must be consistent with the following Developmental Disabilities Council State Plan objective:

Goal 2: Employment

Objective 1: Will promote programs that facilitate the acquisition of academic training, interpersonal skills, and work experience for high school and/or post-secondary students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to enable success in long-term employment and career development.

Additional requirements:

- Proposals must include programming collaboration with local post-secondary, high/middle school, Vocational Rehabilitation, local DD service providers and other relevant entities.
- Priority is given to proposals including a self-advocate (youth/young adult with I/DD) in the proposal development, oversight/decision-making and/or as a paid employee under the grant.
- Proposals submitted by local public or private non-profit high/middle schools must include a letter of support from the school's administration.
- Proposals must include a 12-month S.M.A.R.T.—specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timed—work plan.
- Priority is given to proposals including programming targeted to individuals aged 14-30.
- May include local, county, regional, district, or statewide areas.

The South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council supports ongoing efforts to improve employment probabilities, expectations, and prospects for individuals with I/DD. The Council requests entities submitting proposals to be aware of new legislative rules affecting individuals with disabilities. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) will impact employment systems for individuals with disabilities beginning in July 2015, and final rules will be available in early 2015.

- [WIOA Factsheet](#)
- [WIOA Updates](#)

The South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council is committed to ensuring all individuals with I/DD receive services in community-based environments that encourage self-determined, integrative experiences. Therefore, the Council requests proposals align with Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule values. These values include individuals receiving programming based on personally-defined outcomes in the most integrated community setting possible, individuals receiving services in a manner that reflects personal choices and preferences, and individuals participating in programming that contributes to the assurance of health and wellness.

- [Summary of Key Provisions of the Home and Community Based Services Final Rule](#)

Awards are for three years upon Council approval; however, reapplication is required for second- and third-year funding. Year one is from 7/1/15 to 6/30/16.

Please direct questions regarding the grant application process to Valarie Bishop at (803) 734-0215 or vbishop@oepp.sc.gov.

**Current forms must be used and can be found at www.oepp.sc.gov/scddc
on the Grants Page or call**

**South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council
(803) 734-0465**