

## EMPLOYMENT RFP FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

**The Developmental Disabilities Council will have a maximum amount up to \$140,000 established for Employment priority area programming for Fiscal Year 2016- 2017.**

The Developmental Disabilities Council is soliciting proposals that will provide opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to gain community-based work experience and career development skills.

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

**Goal 2: Employment**

**Objective 2: Will support initiatives that provide enhanced employment opportunities for students with severe disabilities.**

Additional requirements:

- Proposals must include programming collaboration with local post-secondary, high/middle school, Vocational Rehabilitation, local DD service providers, and other relevant entities.
- Proposals seeking funding to implement a proprietary program including Project SEARCH must include letter of agreement from appropriate national accrediting body.
- 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.
- Priority is given to proposals that include best-practice approaches to customized supported employment and person-centered planning models.
- Priority is given to proposals that build employment capacity in rural regions.
- Proposals submitted by local public or private non-profit high/middle schools must include a letter of support from the entity's administration.
- Priority is given to proposals including programming targeted to individuals aged 14-30.
- Proposals must include a 12-month S.M.A.R.T.—specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timed—work plan.

The South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council supports ongoing efforts to improve employment probabilities, expectations, and prospects for individuals with developmental disabilities. The Council requests entities submitting proposals to be aware of new legislative rules affecting individuals with developmental disabilities as set forth by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA).

- [WIOA Overview](#)
- [WIOA Factsheet](#)
- [WIOA Updates](#)
- [WIOA Proposed Rules](#)

The South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council is committed to ensuring all individuals with developmental disabilities 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 (amounts decrease each year); however, reapplication is required for second and third-year funding. Year one is from 7/1/16 to 6/30/17. Please direct questions regarding the grant application process to Valarie Bishop at (803) 734-0215 or [valarie.bishop@admin.sc.gov](mailto:valarie.bishop@admin.sc.gov).

**To retrieve a copy of the grant application visit our web site at <http://scddc.sc.gov/>  
or call (803) 734-0465**

**South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council**  
Department of Administration :: Office of Executive Policy and Programs