**STATE OF MAINE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**RFA SUBMITTED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS SUMMARY**

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| **RFA NUMBER AND TITLE:** | 202205071 - Higher Education Workforce Grants, New or Expanded Programs |
| **RFA ISSUED BY:** | Department of Education |
| **SUBMITTED QUESTIONS DUE DATE:** | By May 24, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. local time. |
| **QUESTION & ANSWER SUMMARY ISSUED:** | June 1, 2022 |
| **PROPOSAL DUE DATE:** | By June 16, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. local time. |
| **PROPOSALS DUE TO:** | [proposals@maine.gov](mailto:proposals@maine.gov) |

**Provided below are submitted written questions received and the Department’s answers**

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| **1** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Section A, Page 2;  Section B, Page 3;  Application, Page 12 | Can funds be used to offer tuition assistance? Various sections  of the RFA refer to supports and supportive services to address  students’ needs as well as strategies for attracting students. For  low-income students, tuition assistance is a critical form of  support and a significant recruitment tool. |
| **Answer** | |
| Yes, if it is a targeted service to support impacted industries. Priority shall be given to disadvantaged populations like students, students with disabilities, and individuals such as new Mainers; Black, Indigenous, and people of color; low-income students; students seeking work in rural communities and unemployed and underemployed workers. Please refer to the RFA for further clarification. | |

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| **2** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Subaward  Agreement Section  4.b., Page 17 and  Section 6.b., Page  18 | Are costs of developing the program (incurred after March 3,  2021) allowable for reimbursement? |
| **Answer** | |
| No, only expenses during the term of the award will be allowed. | |

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| **3** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Application, Page 14 | The budget lists “Technology Access” as a category. Does this  include the following types of expenditures: equipment for  campus, equipment for students, expanding Wi-Fi and other  technology infrastructure? |
| **Answer** | |
| Yes, limited to scope of project only. | |

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| **4** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Section A, Page 1 | Graduates in business and related fields are in demand across  all of the targeted industries in high-paying positions necessary  to the success of these businesses (i.e., management,  accounting, human resources, technology/cybersecurity). Would  applications that include these employment gaps be  considered? |
| **Answer** | |
| No, support for employment gaps is ineligible. | |

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| **5** | **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
| Section C, Page 3 | Can you share more about the application process? We would apply through the University of Maine. |
| **Answer** | |
| The grant is for private college and universities. You would have to partner with a private postsecondary of Maine. Eligibility to submit bids is on page 3 of the RFA. | |