



Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants, Round One (SCC1)

Program Description

The Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants program (referred to as Strengthening Community Colleges or SCC) aims to build the capacity of community colleges to collaborate with employers and the public workforce development system to meet local and regional labor market demand for a skilled workforce. The SCC grants also build the capacity of community colleges to address challenges associated with the COVID-19 health crisis, such as expanding online and technology-enabled learning and migrating services to a virtual environment.

Authorizing Legislation and Funding

Section 169(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) authorizes the SCC program. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 funds the program with an appropriation of \$40 million in Dislocated Worker National Reserve Grant funding. The first round of SCC grants used Funding Opportunity Announcement [FOA-ETA-20-07](#)

On January 15, 2021, the Department awarded 11 four-year grants to seven consortia of colleges and four single institutions, with awards ranging from approximately \$1.7 million to \$5 million.

The 11 grants proposed results-driven designs to work in a range of industry sectors. Eight grants focus on a single sector and three focus on multiple sectors. Industry sectors represented among grants include:

- Advanced Manufacturing (5)
- Healthcare (5)
- Information Technology (4), including Cybersecurity
- Supply Chain and Logistics (1)
- Public Sector (1)
- Education (1)
- Construction and Shipbuilding/Repair (1)

Grantees

SCC1 lead grantees are community colleges that applied as a consortium of colleges undertaking capacity building and systems change within one state or across one or more community college districts within a state; or as a single institution undertaking capacity building at that institution. Both single institutions and consortia work with required workforce development system partners and required employer partners.

Program Design

All programs incorporate the core elements of evidence-based design, sector strategies and employer engagement, enhancing career pathways programs and accelerated learning strategies, and strategic alignment with the public workforce system. In addition, consortium grantees are undertaking innovative systems change in their choice to pursue either accelerated learning pathways strategies or statewide data integration and use.

The SCC1 program's focus on capacity building and systems change builds on the lessons learned through the Department's past investments in community colleges, specifically the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) program.

Eligible Participants

Eligible participants include a broad spectrum of adult workers—dislocated workers, incumbent workers, and new entrants to the workforce—as well as older youth who are new entrants to the workforce.

For more information, please visit the [Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants page](#).