

GOOD JOBS CHALLENGE FACT SHEET



Expanding pathways for more Americans to access good-paying jobs is vital to building a globally competitive economy and a thriving middle class, particularly as local economies continue to recover from the pandemic. Achieving this goal requires coordinated public-private partnerships to break down historic and systemic barriers that have left many Americans without the skills to secure good jobs.

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) launched the

\$500 million **Good Jobs Challenge** to get Americans into quality jobs by building and strengthening systems and partnerships, bringing together employers who have hiring needs with other key entities to train workers with in-demand skills that lead to good-paying jobs.

With a focus on equity, the Good Jobs Challenge seeks to remove barriers to career pathways. The program focuses on providing comprehensive wraparound supports like childcare, transportation, language supports, high-speed internet, mentoring, and career counseling. Additionally, the program calls on employers, training providers, workforce development organizations, labor unions, and other key stakeholders to work in partnership with each other and underserved communities to create more training and apprenticeship programs and hire based on skills, not just degrees.

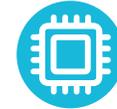
TOP 5 INDUSTRIES BY NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED



1. MANUFACTURING
162 Applications



2. HEALTHCARE SERVICES
161 Applications



3. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
142 Applications



4. BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
125 Applications

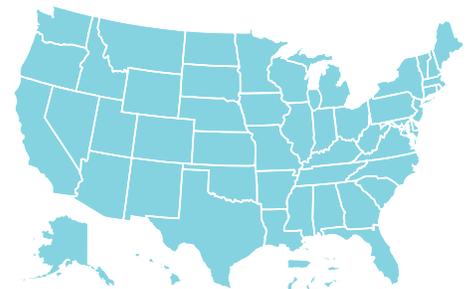


5. TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND LOGISTICS
88 Applications

EQUITABLE PATHWAYS TO GOOD JOBS

EDA encouraged applicants to reach historically underserved populations and areas, communities of color, women, and other groups facing labor market barriers, and that is robustly reflected throughout this pool. Applicants took thoughtful approaches to embedding equity throughout their proposals and aim to serve a wide variety of populations including but not limited to people of color, women, justice-impacted people, veterans, and immigrants. This commitment to equity is exemplified through applicants' who provided clear strategies to recruit high proportions of participants from underserved populations and to provide participants with wraparound supports to make high quality training and good jobs more accessible. **Additionally, among the 509 applications received from all states and territories, many include Indigenous, rural, and coal communities.**

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**509 APPLICATIONS
RECEIVED FROM ALL STATES
AND TERRITORIES**



To learn more about EDA's American Rescue Plan **Good Jobs Challenge**, visit eda.gov/arpa/good-jobs-challenge/.

The Good Jobs Challenge received applications totaling \$6.4 billion in requested funds, with an average request of \$12.7 million per applicant.

EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIPS

The Good Jobs Challenge aims to tear down silos that exist in the workforce development space. This program has brought employers together with training providers, community-based organizations, and other key stakeholders to build demand-driven pathways into good jobs.

Collectively, **thousands of employers submitted letters of support** for these proposals, capturing actions that will help grow stronger employer-driven partnerships across the country.

Examples of employer engagement in the 509 applications submitted include curriculum development, co-delivery of training, equipment donations, mentorship, match dollars, earn-and-learn training opportunities, and, most importantly, **tens of thousands of commitments to hire.**



THOUSANDS OF LETTERS OF EMPLOYER SUPPORT

LABOR PARTNERSHIPS

EDA recognizes that labor unions are key partners to the success of this program and the American Rescue Plan funding opportunities. Through labor's efforts, American workers are able to secure decent wages, affordable health care, job security, safe and respectful workplaces, and impactful job training opportunities. The 509 proposals reflect a strong commitment across these projects to place workers into union jobs and build sector partnerships that include organized labor.

More than one hundred proposals include labor partners or will place workers into union jobs.

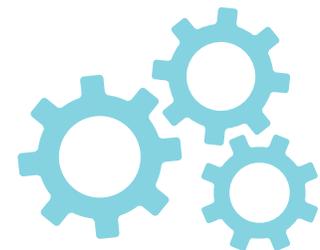


OVER 100 PROPOSALS INCLUDE LABOR PARTNERS/ UNION JOBS

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Well-trained employees are crucial to a strong American economy. These proposals reflect widespread interest in the Good Jobs Challenge model with **more than 100 industries represented.**

By creating pipelines of skilled workers to meet the needs of growth industries, these proposals will jumpstart regional economies and support an equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, many of the proposals **target industries that are essential to our supply chains and global competitiveness**, including but not limited to aerospace and defense, green energy, transportation and logistics, advanced manufacturing, and information technology.



MORE THAN 100 INDUSTRIES REPRESENTED

The Good Jobs Challenge is part of a suite of American Rescue Plan programs developed by EDA to equitably distribute its \$3 billion allocation to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to build a better America by accelerating economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and building local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks. EDA is currently evaluating the applications and will announce grantees by September 30, 2022.