

STEM TALENT CHALLENGE

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The U.S. Economic Development Administration's STEM Talent Challenge **aims to build STEM talent training systems to strengthen regional innovation economies.**

The FY21 STEM Talent Challenge will deploy a total of \$2 million in grants to organizations that are creating and implementing STEM talent development strategies that complement their region's innovation economy.

Competition applicants may request up to \$250,000 for implementation of a 24-month program.

The STEM Talent Challenge seeks applications for projects that use work-based learning models to expand regional STEM-capable workforce capacity and build the workforce of tomorrow.

Competitive projects should clearly align training activities with the talent needs of regional employers, leading to an increase in high-wage, high-growth employment opportunities with innovation-driven businesses and in industries of the future. Projects should clearly indicate how workers will be prepared for employment. Experimentation and innovation are encouraged.

GOALS

Successful applicants will focus on the following three goals:

- 1 Utilize STEM work-based learning and training models
- 2 Increase regional innovation capacity
- 3 Promote diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM fields

WHO SHOULD APPLY



Cities, counties, states, other political subdivisions of states, and Indian tribes



Non-profit organizations



Public-private partnerships



Federal laboratories or science/research parks



Institutions of higher education



Economic Development Organizations



A consortium of the aforementioned

TIMELINE

AUGUST 12, 2021

Notice of Funding Opportunity published

OCTOBER 12, 2021

Applications due

WINTER 2021

Awards announced

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Anticipated start date