



Community Engagement Partners Solicitation

Information Session

**RHODE
ISLAND**

What is the Office of Community Engagement?

The Office of Community Engagement (OCE) leads the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training's (RIDLT) commitment and strategy to be a diverse, equitable, and inclusive organization, both internally and externally in serving the public.

The mission of the OCE is to promote and ensure fair treatment and quality employment for all, while supporting and developing partnerships and equitable distribution of services and resources through meaningful community engagement.

Why did RIDLT release this grant opportunity?

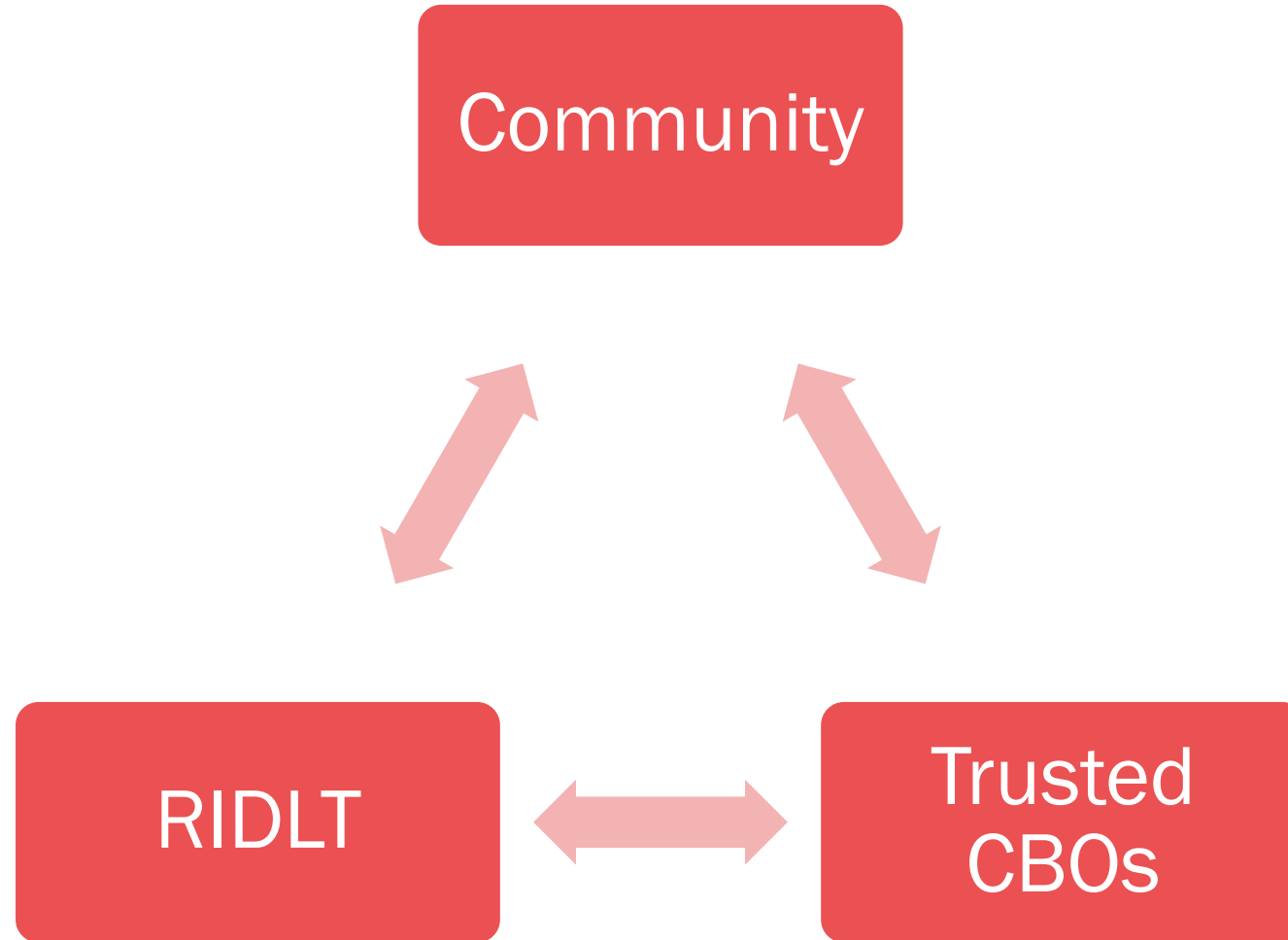
To better serve all Rhode Islanders!

- *Unemployment Insurance*
- *Temporary Disability / Caregiver Insurance*
- *Labor Standards (wage theft, worker misclassification)*
- *Career services (job coaching, job placement)*
- *Workforce training*
- *Apprenticeship*

Equity focus on marginalized populations and populations with barriers to employment, such as:

- *BIPOC communities*
- *Justice-involved*
- *People with disabilities*
- *Veterans*
- *Low-skilled and under-educated*
- *Limited English proficiency*
- *Immigrants and Refugees*
- *Former foster youth*

How will this grant promote equity?



Can our organization apply?

- ✓ Community-based organization (non-profit or for-profit)
- ✓ Serve a distinct community of clients that is marginalized and/or faces particular workforce challenges
- ✓ Effective convener, facilitator, and representative to gather input and feedback from your community on barriers and needs and communicate that information back to the RIDLT
- ✓ Can effectively outreach to and educate your community on workforce matters

What must we do (and report on) if selected?

Represent the interests and needs of your communities in reviewing and advising on RIDLT policies and program delivery.

- ✓ Attend and actively participate in no fewer than 8 two-hour **working meetings** per year with RIDLT staff and engage in related work in between meetings as required.
- ✓ Convene at least two **focus groups** to gather information and feedback on workforce-related issues.
- ✓ Help design and disseminate at least two **surveys** to the community to gather information and feedback on workforce-related issues.

Outreach to and **educate** your community about RIDLT services and programs, including recruitment for job training and other programs.

- ✓ Implement at least one **awareness activity** per quarter, such as an email blast, in-person event, recruitment fair, etc.

How much funding would we get?

\$12,000 <i>(quarterly payments, no receipts)</i>	for	Successfully completing grant requirements/reports
+ Up to \$3,000 <i>(monthly payments with receipts)</i>	for	Materials for surveys, focus groups, outreach and community education activities
Up to \$15,000		TOTAL for one year

How do we apply?

Submit the following by email attachment to pauline.abetti@dlt.ri.gov:

1. Completed application form
 - Download on our [website](#)
2. Certificate of Good Standing
 - Request one from the RI Department of State [here](#)
 - You may submit proof of request if you can't get the letter in time
 - *Please note the original RFP incorrectly requested a Letter of Good Standing from the Division of Taxation – that is not required*
3. Signed fiscal agent assurances form
 - Download on our [website](#)
4. Completed W-9 Taxation Form
 - Download [here](#)
5. Resume of nominated spokesperson (optional)

Application Questions

1. Briefly describe the mission statement of your organization and outline the services you provide.
2. Describe the size and demographics of the community your organization serves. Estimate how many people your organization would be able to reach by survey and explain how you arrived at that number.
3. Explain why the perspective of your organization and community you serve is important for this purpose. Speak to how this community is historically marginalized and/or faces particular barriers in securing good jobs or growing their careers; also speak to any intersectionality and complexity or nuance of barriers. Mention any other challenges that your community faces with regard to interactions with the RIDLT, such as challenges with accessing unemployment insurance, experiencing wage theft, etc.

Suggested 300 word maximum per question

Application Questions cont.

4. Explain why your organization will be an effective representative for that community to communicate their unique barriers and needs. Also explain how your organization currently outreaches to and educates the community you serve in a culturally- and linguistically-appropriate way, using specific examples (e.g., email campaigns, community events).
5. If selected, your organization will be asked to nominate a spokesperson to attend meetings with the RIDLT and other selected community partners. This spokesperson should be someone who has extended and recent experience working directly with the community you serve, and ideally is a member of that community themselves. This person can be different from the primary contact named above. Who from your organization will serve as the primary spokesperson for this purpose, and why are they a good fit for this role? You may attach a resume for this person, though this is not required.
6. Is there anything else that the RIDLT should know about your organization or community?

Suggested 300 word maximum per question

When is the application due?

Release of Solicitation

December 1, 2022

Information Sessions

December 15, 2022 & January 11, 2023

Q & A deadline

January 26, 2023

Proposal Due Date

Friday, January 27, 2023 at 4:00pm ET

Grant Awards Announced

February-March 2023

How will RIDLT select the grantees?

Evaluation Committee will consider the following:

Community Served <ul style="list-style-type: none">Is the community served historically marginalized and/or do they face particular workforce challenges?Will representation of this community through the applicant organization provide a unique perspective that will help the RIDLT in its mission to serve Rhode Islanders more equitably?	40 points
Effectiveness as Convener and Spokesperson <ul style="list-style-type: none">Has the applicant made the case that they can effectively convene this community and collect meaningful feedback on barriers and needs?Has the applicant made the case that they engage in effective, culturally- and linguistically-appropriate outreach and education to their community?	60 points

Note: The RIDLT will also consider other factors such as target population or geographic distribution to ensure a diverse group of grantees.

What if we have more questions?

Email us: pauline.abetti@dlt.ri.gov

Check the Frequently Asked Questions document on our website:
<https://dlt.ri.gov/office-community-engagement>