

SENATE FILE NO. SF0095

Career and technical training grants.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Job, Case, Hastert and Landen and
Representative(s) Cohee, Davison, Iekel,
Jaggi, Millin and Zwonitzer, Dn.

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to labor and employment; establishing a
2 career and technical training grant program in the
3 department of workforce services; providing definitions;
4 providing for reimbursement of grants as specified;
5 requiring rulemaking; providing appropriations; and
6 providing for an effective date.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 27-15-101 through 27-15-105 are
11 created to read:

12

13 CHAPTER 15

14 VOCATIONAL TRAINING

15

16 ARTICLE 1

CAREER AND TECHNICAL TRAINING GRANTS

27-15-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Approved career and technical training provider" means:

(A) Wyoming community colleges, the University of Wyoming, private post secondary educational institutions and private schools or organizations providing career and technical training in Wyoming which are licensed or registered under W.S. 21-2-401 through 21-2-407;

(B) Training facilities and entities approved by and registered with the office of apprenticeship, United States department of labor.

(ii) "Career and technical training" means training through an approved training career and technical training provider resulting in the acquisition by the trainee of skills necessary for a specific vocation

1 designed to advance an individual's general proficiency in
2 a specific career and technical area;

3

4 (iii) "Department" means the department of
5 workforce services;

6

7 (iv) "Industry" means a business entity, group
8 of entities or an industry association;

9

10 (v) "WORKKEYS score" means as defined in W.S.
11 21-16-1301(a)(xix).

12

13 **27-15-102. Career and technical training grants**
14 **established.**

15

16 (a) The department shall, by rule and regulation,
17 establish and administer a program to provide training
18 grants for the training of persons participating in a
19 career and technical training program.

20

21 (b) The primary purpose of the career and technical
22 training grant program is to provide the career and
23 technical training necessary to access quality high demand
24 and high wage employment within Wyoming in an industry for

1 which the trainee receives training under the program
2 established by this section.

3

4 (c) The department is authorized to promulgate rules
5 and regulations for the purpose of implementing this
6 article. All rules and regulations shall be promulgated in
7 consultation with training providers and industry
8 specialists. No grants shall be awarded under this article
9 until adoption of final rules pursuant to this subsection.

10

11 (d) The department may receive donations from
12 foundations or other private sources. Any such funds
13 received shall be deposited into a separate account and are
14 continuously appropriated to the department, which may
15 distribute those funds in accordance with the provisions of
16 this article. Services eligible to be paid for by another
17 public program shall not be reimbursed under this article.

18

19 **27-15-103. Career and technical training grants;**
20 **eligibility.**

21

22 (a) Under the career and technical training grant
23 program, subject to availability of funds as determined by
24 the legislature, the state shall provide a grant pursuant

1 to this article to any trainee who has been accepted by and
2 enrolls in an approved training program, and who meets the
3 following qualifications:

4
5 (i) The trainee has demonstrated Wyoming
6 residency as determined by the eligible program at which
7 the trainee is enrolled;

8
9 (ii) The trainee has:

10
11 (A) Graduated from an eligible high school
12 or is otherwise eligible under rules promulgated pursuant
13 to this article. The department shall by rule and
14 regulation establish exceptions to the requirements of this
15 subparagraph for trainees who have attended an eligible
16 high school in Wyoming, but who subsequently graduate from
17 a secondary educational institution in another state or a
18 foreign country that is the equivalent of a high school. An
19 exception under this subparagraph shall be granted only if:

20
21 (I) The trainee's custodial parent or
22 lawful guardian is a Wyoming resident at the time of
23 application for a grant under this article and was a

1 Wyoming resident during the trainee's attendance at the
2 eligible high school;

3

4 (II) The trainee's absence from this
5 state was due to the custodial parent's or lawful
6 guardian's employment requirements or was necessitated by
7 other conditions beyond the reasonable control of the
8 parent or guardian; and

9

10 (III) Neither the trainee nor the
11 trainee's custodial parent or lawful guardian claimed
12 residency in any other state or foreign country for any
13 purpose during the trainee's high school attendance.

14

15 (B) Applied for a grant under this article
16 and demonstrated eligibility pursuant to this article and
17 rules of the department. The department shall by rule and
18 regulation establish exceptions to the requirement of this
19 paragraph for military service, religious service and other
20 good cause shown; and

21

22 (C) The baseline WORKKEYS score specified
23 under this article for the type of grant to be awarded.

24

1 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,
2 trainees who are Wyoming residents and graduates of an out-
3 of-state high school shall be deemed to have graduated from
4 an eligible high school for the purpose of qualifying under
5 this article. A trainee whose custodial parent or guardian
6 is in active military service and maintains Wyoming as that
7 parent's or guardian's state of domicile is deemed to be a
8 Wyoming resident and if a high school graduate of a high
9 school outside of Wyoming accredited by the appropriate
10 regional accrediting agency shall be deemed to have
11 graduated from an eligible high school for the purpose of
12 qualifying under this article.

13

14 (c) No trainee shall be eligible for a grant under
15 this article for more than the equivalent of three (3)
16 years. No trainee shall be eligible for a grant under this
17 article for any period commencing after six (6) calendar
18 years following the trainee's initial eligibility. For
19 purposes of this subsection a trainee's initial eligibility
20 shall be deemed to commence when the state is obligated to
21 reimburse an eligible program for the trainee's grant under
22 this article. The department shall by rule and regulation
23 establish exceptions to this subsection for military
24 service, religious service and other good cause shown.

1

2 (d) A trainee is not eligible for a grant under this
3 article if he:

4

5 (i) Is not a United States citizen or a
6 permanent resident alien who meets the definition of an
7 eligible noncitizen under federal Title IV requirements or
8 requirements of a subsequent similar federal enactment;

9

10 (ii) Has not complied with United States
11 selective service system requirements for registration, if
12 the requirements are applicable to the trainee;

13

14 (iii) Is in default on a federal Title IV
15 education loan. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits a
16 trainee who is otherwise eligible for a grant under this
17 article and has fully repaid a defaulted loan or is no
18 longer in default, from receiving a grant after the default
19 is cured;

20

21 (iv) Owes a refund under a federal Title IV
22 trainee financial aid program or a subsequently enacted
23 similar federal student financial aid program, or a student
24 financial aid program administered through the state.

1 Nothing in this paragraph prohibits a trainee who is
2 otherwise eligible for a grant under this article and has
3 fully paid the refund owed, from receiving a grant after
4 paying the refund owed;

5

6 (v) Is incarcerated;

7

8 (vi) Has been convicted of a felony in this
9 state or another jurisdiction and has not been granted an
10 exception pursuant to rules adopted by the department; or

11

12 (vii) Does not otherwise qualify under this
13 article for a grant.

14

15 (e) Awards pursuant to this article shall not exceed
16 Hathaway scholarship awards pursuant to article 13 of
17 chapter 16 of title 21.

18

19 (f) The department shall pay the cost of an eligible
20 applicant's initial WORKKEYS tests. Any retesting to
21 improve an applicant's score shall be at the applicant's
22 own expense.

23

1 (g) If an applicant for a grant under this article is
2 also qualified for a Hathaway scholarship for the same
3 career and technical training pursuant to article 13 of
4 chapter 16 of title 21, that scholarship shall be applied
5 before any grant pursuant to this article.

6
7 **27-15-104. Career and technical training grants;**
8 **agreement; remedies upon breach; technical assistance.**

9
10 (a) Grant payments shall be made directly to an
11 approved career and technical training provider, and shall
12 be conditioned upon the trainee under the grant entering
13 into a written agreement with the department providing that
14 the trainee shall work in Wyoming in the industry for which
15 the trainee receives training for the period provided in
16 the department's rules.

17
18 (b) If a trainee breaches the agreement required by
19 subsection (a) of this section, the trainee shall repay
20 that portion of all funds for the corresponding contract
21 period provided to or on behalf of the trainee under the
22 agreement, together with costs of collection and attorney
23 fees.

1 (c) The department shall provide technical assistance
2 to prospective trainees in the application and reporting
3 requirements established by department rules.

4

5 **27-15-105. Legislative report.**

6

7 The department shall report by October 1, 2009 to the joint
8 education interim committee, the joint labor, health and
9 social services interim committee and the joint
10 appropriations interim committee on the career and
11 technical training grant program, including industry and
12 trainee participation, numbers of persons completing
13 training, numbers of former trainees working in Wyoming,
14 total grant expenditures, per trainee grant expenditures
15 and administrative expenditures.

16

17 **Section 2.**

18

19 (a) There is appropriated six million five hundred
20 thousand dollars (\$6,500,000.00) from the general fund to
21 the department of workforce services. This appropriation
22 shall be for the period beginning with the effective date
23 of this act and ending June 30, 2010. This appropriation
24 shall only be expended for the purpose of the career and

1 technical training grants established under W.S. 27-15-102
2 created by this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of
3 law, this appropriation shall not be transferred or
4 expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,
5 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall
6 revert as provided by law on July 1, 2010. This
7 appropriation shall be included in the department's 2011-
8 2012 standard biennial budget request.

9
10 (b) There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand
11 dollars (\$250,000.00) from the general fund to the
12 department of workforce services. This appropriation shall
13 be for the period beginning with the effective date of this
14 act and ending June 30, 2010. This appropriation shall
15 only be expended for the purpose of administering the
16 career and technical assistance grant program established
17 by this act, including initial WORKKEYS testing and
18 promotional and technical assistance activities for the
19 program. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
20 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
21 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
22 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
23 by law on July 1, 2010. This appropriation shall be

1 included in the department's 2011-2012 standard biennial
2 budget request.

3

4 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
5 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
6 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
7 Constitution.

8

9 (END)