

## **Frequently Asked Questions for Green SGA**

In an effort to assist applicants, the WIB has done their best to research and provide answers to the following frequently asked questions below. This is not a comprehensive list of all questions, is meant to serve as a guide in completing the application, and reflect local interpretation of the SGA. For more comprehensive answers please contact USDOL directly.

- 1. What qualifies as serving continuous areas (PUMA's)? Is any area/neighborhood within the City's 5 boroughs considered contiguous?**

A Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) is a statistical area designated by the U.S. Census Bureau. USDOL expects the applicants will focus their projects on a geographic portion of a PUMA in order to effectively the specific populations targeted by the project. For urban areas, USDOL expects that designated communities will be neighborhoods within cities. Points will be awarded to applications that focus on areas of high poverty. Each PUMA served by the project must have a poverty rate of at least 15%. (pg. 30142)

- 2. For the Pathways Out of Poverty solicitation requirements, would an applicant still qualify if a portion of the population served is under the poverty rate?**

USDOL has clarified that applicants will receive 10 points for the Statement of Need subsection if the Poverty Data spreadsheet lists a poverty rate of 15% or more for each PUMA to be served. Otherwise, applicants will receive 0 points for this subsection. The SGA does not say anything about the individual having poverty only the PUMA. The requirement is that participants must live in the community served except that 10% can live outside the community served if the grantee determines that these individuals live in areas of high poverty. A community is defined as a geographic area located within one or more contiguous PUMAs.

- 3. How much will be awarded and what is the period of grant performance?**

ETA intends to fund grants ranging from approximately \$3 - \$8 million for national grantees, and grants ranging from approximately \$2 - \$4 million for local grantees. ETA does not expect to fund proposals less than \$2 million. (pg. 30140)

The period of the grant performance will be up to 24 months from the date of execution of the grant documents. This performance period includes all necessary implementation and start-up activities as well as participant follow-up. (pg. 30140)

**4. What are the required performance metrics for Pathways Out of Poverty?**

Awardees must track participant level data, which will be the basis of reporting, as well as participant SSN. Awardees must track outcomes for each of the following categories for all participants:

- Total participants served;
- Total # of participants beginning education/training activities;
- Total # of participants that receive basic education services;
- Total # of participants that receive supportive services funded by the grant;
- Total # participants completing education/training activities;
- Total # participants completing education/training activities that receive a degree/certificate;
- Total # participants completing education/training activities that are placed into unsubsidized employment;
- Total # participants completing education/training activities that are placed into training related unsubsidized employment;
- Total # of participants who are placed into unsubsidized employment who retain an employed status in the first and second quarters following initial placement. (pg. 30148)

**5. Is the funding award “pay as you go”?**

USDOL has clarified that funding amount will be put into an account and the grantee can draw down the funds as needed.

**6. What is the definition of certificate?**

A certificate is awarded in recognition of an individual’s attainment of measurable technical or occupational skills necessary to gain employment or advance within an occupation. These technical or occupational skills are based on standards developed or endorsed by employers. Certificates awarded by WIBs are not included in this definition. Work readiness certificates are also not included in this definition. A certificate is awarded in recognition of an individual’s



attainment of technical or occupational skills by a certifying entity (listed in the SGA) (pg. 30150)

**7. Can my organization apply for more than one grant?**

USDOL strongly discourages applicants from applying for more than one solicitation – it will not fund any one organization more than once through SGA/DFA PY08-18 or SGA/DFA PY08-19. An organization that is the lead applicant for one SGA is not precluded from participating as a suggested or required partner in applications submitted in response to the other SGA. (pg.30140)

**8. What are the WIB review deadlines for each grant solicitation? What documents will the WIB require for its review?**

The WIB has posted its requirements for support on [www.nyc.gov/wib](http://www.nyc.gov/wib).

Deadlines are as follows:

Total Funding Breakdown		WIB Due Date	DOL Due Date
\$ 50,000,000	State LMI Grants	N/A	8/14/09
\$ 190,000,000	State Energy Sector Partnership & Training Grants	N/A	10/20/09
\$ 5,000,000	Green Capacity Building Grants	7/22/09	8/05/09
\$ 100,000,000	Energy Training Partnership Grants	8/21/09	9/04/09
\$ 150,000,000	Pathways Out of Poverty Grants	9/09/09	9/29/09