



## Work-Based Learning Funding in Colorado

In Colorado, work-based learning is a strategy that provides individuals with opportunities to gain awareness, exposure and training for in-demand occupations and the skills needed by business and industry. This document provides a list of publicly available funding resources throughout the state that can be leveraged to develop work-based learning programs. This is not an exhaustive list of funding sources. Additional eligibility requirements and deadlines may apply to secure these funding sources. Please contact the appropriate state agencies for further information and guidance on applying for these funds. (Last updated December 12, 2018)

Program	Program Description	Requirements	Max \$ per Candidate	Mechanism	Resources	Contact
Adult Education Acts	The Office of Adult Education Initiatives (AEI) manages the federally-funded Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) grant under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the state-funded Adult Education and Literacy Act (AELA) grant established in 2014. Grants may be used to provide adult basic and secondary education, as well as integrated education and training.	Adult learners must be 17 years or older and participate in an orientation that includes testing to determine educational functioning level. Learners can attain their high school equivalency while also receiving supports to gain meaningful employment.	N/A; cost per learner differs depending on a variety of factors.	Adult learners visit a grant-funded adult education program and register. The Request for Proposal (RFP) will be released in the fall of 2019 for the for new grantees in 2019-2020-2023 grant cycle.	<a href="#">Website</a>	<a href="#">Find a program</a>  AEI@cde.state.co.us 303-866-6884
Advanced Nursing Education Workforce	Nursing Workforce Diversity supports grants to 14 nursing schools to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities who are underrepresented among registered nurses. Grant activities will include academic support, financial assistance, and student mentoring.	Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities who are underrepresented among registered nurses.	\$4.6 million	University of Denver and Northern Colorado	<a href="#">Website</a>	
ASCENT (Accelerating Students Through Concurrent Enrollment)	Students who have completed at least 12 credit hours of postsecondary course prior to completion of his/her 12th-grade year may be eligible for the ASCENT program. They remain students in their Local Education Provider (LEP) for one year following their 12-grade year, and the LEP receives ASCENT specific per-pupil state funding that it uses to pay their college tuition at the resident community college rate. Students receive their high-school diplomas at the end of their ASCENT year. [C.R.S. § 22-35-108]	Coursework completed by a qualified student through ASCENT/Concurrent Enrollment, which may include coursework related to apprenticeship programs or internship programs qualifies at basic skills credit or academic credit applicable toward earning a degree at the institution at which coursework is taken or at any other Colorado public institution.  Courses could replace certain graduation requirements for students in foster care if competency is demonstrated under Colorado HB 18-1306	The ASCENT program is complex and high school counselors are the first point of contact to discuss ASCENT as an option, CDE is also available to answer ASCENT related questions. ASCENT could allow a student to earn two years worth of college credits before being awarded a high school diploma, which significantly reduces the cost of a 4-year degree.	Many highly mobile students are eligible for PELL grant through completing the FAFSA. The ASCENT program only covers tuition at the resident community college rate, and the Pell covers a portion of tuition, fees, books and living expenses.	<a href="#">Website</a>	Mary Anne Hunter Hunter_Mary@cde.state.co.us
Career Development Success Program	In May 2016, the Governor signed into law HB 16-1289, the Career Success Pilot Program. The bill provides financial incentives for participating school districts and charter schools that encourage high school students (grades 9-12) to complete qualified industry credential programs, internships, residencies, construction pre-apprenticeship or construction	Participating districts or charter schools could receive up to \$1,000 for each student who successfully completes one of the qualified programs and will be distributed in tiered order. This pilot program is in effect through August 31, 2019.		Colorado Department of Education	<a href="#">Website</a>	Marina Kokotovic Kokotovic_M@cde.state.co.us

	apprenticeship programs, or qualified Advanced Placement courses.					
Career & Technical Education	Perkins- Federal funding passed through the State CTE office for CTE programs that develop more fully the academic, career, and technical skills of secondary and postsecondary students who elect to enroll in career and technical education programs.	Eligible agencies qualify for funding based upon their State plans and annual revisions approved under Perkins IV, section 122.	Per federal formula for eligible agencies		<a href="#">Website</a>	Sarah Heath Sarah.heath@CCCS.edu
	Colorado Technical Act (CTA)- State funding to support secondary Career and Technical Education Programs	Secondary CTE programs who effectively complete the program approval process	Reimbursement of general fund dollars spent on approved CTE programs		<a href="#">Website</a>	Sarah Heath Sarah.heath@CCCS.edu
Colorado First Customized Job Training	Grants for companies expanding in or relocating to Colorado for training delivered to net new hires  Program jointly administered by the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) and managed through participating colleges. Some monies may be available on a case-by-case basis for registered apprenticeship program development.	Training must be customized to meet the company's specific needs. Companies must contribute a minimum of 40% (cash or in-kind) to the total costs of grant-funded training and pay an average hourly wage of at least \$13.00/hour in urban counties and at least minimum wage in rural counties. Applications are reviewed on a competitive, rolling basis. Companies must develop and submit applications via their local participating college representative.	\$1,400	Training costs are reimbursed after training takes place. Training funding is capped at \$150,000.00 per application; total training funding is capped at \$200,000.00 per company per fiscal year.	<a href="#">CCCS CFEI</a>	Yvonne Gilstrap, CFEI Manger Colorado Community College System (303) 595-1607 <a href="mailto:yvonne.gilstrap@cccs.edu">yvonne.gilstrap@cccs.edu</a>  Kendra Rodriguez, CFEI Asst. Manager Colorado Community College System (820) 858-2203 <a href="mailto:kendra.rodriguez@cccs.edu">kendra.rodriguez@cccs.edu</a>
Colorado P-TECH: Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools in Colorado	P-TECH is an innovative partnership between a school district, a community college(s), and one or more local high growth industry employer(s). As such, students graduate with both a high school diploma and an industry-recognized associate degree in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) focused high-growth industry, in addition to gaining relevant workplace skills.	P-TECH is open to all students grades 9-14, with a special focus on encouraging enrollment of students who are socio-economically and racially diverse, the first to attend college in their family, English language learners, and students with disabilities. Requirements include: High school diploma + high-growth industry recognized associate degree. Industry recognized pre-apprenticeship and other certificates can be earned in addition to associate degree. Must have a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) focus that is informed by current and projected industry standards. Must receive workplace experiences and training (mentoring, job shadowing, internships, pre-apprenticeship training).	Yrs 1-3: District/Charter School PPR  Yrs 5-6: State-based PPR  Students are eligible to allocate the College Opportunity Fund stipend per college credit hour taken.  Students enrolled in 5th or 6th yr of high school at a PTECH school or program are eligible for f/t funding if they are scheduled for a minimum of one class in the semester.	Colorado Department of Education	<a href="#">Approved Schools:</a>  <a href="#">Website</a>	Mary Anne Hunter Hunter_Mary@cde.state.co.us
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)	Works with students with disabilities who are transitioning from high school to post-secondary education and employment. The goal is to promote competitive, integrated employment outcomes for Colorado's youth with disabilities by incrementally building career pathways with pre-employment transition services as a result of coordinated	Students must be between the ages of 15 - 21, on an Individualized Education Program, 504 Plan or qualify as a person with a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students must be potentially eligible, applicants or eligible to receive services through DVR.	Every service provided must be necessary and appropriate offered at lowest possible cost as driven by individualized plan.	Anyone may self-refer to DVR or be referred through education.  To learn more: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dvr/youth-and-transition-services">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dvr/youth-and-transition-services</a>	Each DVR Region has a Lead Counselor for Transitioning Youth who also serve as liaisons for connections at the local level.	Cheryl Carver, MA, CRC, CVE Youth Services & Transition Manager <a href="mailto:cheryl.carver@state.co.us">cheryl.carver@state.co.us</a>

	services with our education, workforce center, and other adults service agency partners.				<a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dvr/liaisons-schools">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dvr/liaisons-schools</a>	
<b>Enterprise Zone New Employee Credit</b>	A tax credit offering to businesses/ non-profits if located in an economically distressed area for economic development activities	Must be located in an enterprise zone and pre-certify with state prior to activity.	\$1100 per net hire and \$750,000 cap for business expenses	Pre-certify and claim with taxes at the end of the year	<a href="#">Website</a> <a href="#">List of Tax Credits Available</a>	Edward Fuerte <a href="mailto:Edward.Fuerte@denvergov.com">Edward.Fuerte@denvergov.com</a> 720-913-1800
<b>Existing Industry Customized Job Training</b>	Grants for existing companies in CO to help them remain competitive, adapt to new technology, and prevent layoffs. Program jointly administered by the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) and managed through participating colleges. Some monies may be available on a case-by-case basis for registered apprenticeship program development.	Training must be customized to meet the company's specific needs. Companies must contribute a minimum of 40% (cash or in-kind) to the total costs of grant-funded training and pay an average hourly wage of at least \$13.00/hour in urban counties and at least minimum wage in rural counties. Applications are reviewed on a competitive, rolling basis. Companies must develop and submit applications via their local participating college representative.	\$1,200	Training costs are reimbursed after training takes place. Training funding is capped at \$150,000.00 per application; total training funding is capped at \$200,000.00 per company per fiscal year.	<a href="#">CCCS CFEI</a>	Yvonne Gilstrap, CFEI Manger Colorado Community College System (303) 595-1607 <a href="mailto:yvonne.gilstrap@cccs.edu">yvonne.gilstrap@cccs.edu</a> Kendra Rodriguez, CFEI Asst. Manager Colorado Community College System (820) 858-2203 <a href="mailto:kendra.rodriguez@cccs.edu">kendra.rodriguez@cccs.edu</a>
<b>Federal Bonding</b>	A business insurance policy that protects the employer against financial loss due to theft, forgery, larceny, or embezzlement caused by employee dishonesty	Applicants denied coverage by commercial carriers because of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record of arrest, conviction or imprisonment</li> <li>• History of alcohol or drug abuse</li> <li>• Poor credit history</li> <li>• Lack of an employment history</li> <li>• Dishonorable Discharge</li> <li>• Special situations requiring fidelity bond</li> </ul>	\$5,000	Recovery of demonstrated financial loss due to employee (no deductible) for up to 6 months	<a href="#">Brochure</a>	303-318-8961 or <a href="mailto:cdle_fbp@state.co.us">cdle_fbp@state.co.us</a>
<b>Governor's Summer Job Hunt</b>	Funding to local workforce centers to support young people into internships/work experience and marketing of summer program.	Funding is disbursed through the workforce center system and participants must be 16-24.	Varies		<a href="#">Website</a>	Steve Wright <a href="mailto:steve.wright@state.co.us">steve.wright@state.co.us</a>
<b>Jobs Plus Pilot Initiative</b>	Provides intensive, employment-focused programs targeting every able-bodied, working-age welfare recipient at a public housing development.	Public Housing residents only	\$30,000,000- \$100,000,000	HUD	<a href="#">Website</a>	
<b>Rehire Colorado</b>	A transitional employment program created by the Colorado Careers Act (HB13-1004) of 2013 and administered by Colorado Department of Human Services. The goals of this program is to help individuals with barriers to employment re-enter the workforce by combining wage-paid work, job skills training and supportive services.	All participants must meet the following minimum eligibility criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawfully present and eligible to work in the United States</li> <li>• Colorado residents</li> <li>• At least 18 years old</li> <li>• Not incarcerated or otherwise unavailable for work</li> <li>• Family income below 150% of the federal poverty level, as adjusted for family size</li> </ul>	Determined by the contracted vendor managing the program and their budget allocation agreement from the program	Direct referrals state staff through email, plus Discover Goodwill in El Paso and Teller, Larimer County Workforce Center, Catholic Charities in Pueblo, Colorado Coalition through 12/2018...RFP in process for the next 2.5 years to select vendors	<a href="#">Website</a>	Steve King <a href="mailto:steve.king@state.co.us">steve.king@state.co.us</a>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unemployed, or employed for no more than 20 hours per week, for at least four consecutive weeks</li> <li>Demonstration of active job search through the public workforce system</li> </ul>				
<b>State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant (USDOL)</b>	Federally- funded grant to expand apprenticeship programs state-wide	Participating workforce centers may subsidize up to \$3000 per participant for apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship training .	\$3000 per apprentice	Funds supplied to WFC via NFA	CDLE PGL	Michael Muszynski <a href="mailto:michael.muszynski@state.co.us">michael.muszynski@state.co.us</a>
<b>STEP</b>	This interagency collaborative program launched in January 2018, Colorado Works Subsidized Training and Employment Program (CW STEP) helps connect at-risk populations who are eligible for basic cash assistance from Colorado Works— with crucial professional work experience and opportunity.	At-risk populations who are eligible for basic cash assistance from Colorado Works, a federally funded program providing temporary cash assistance for needy families		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Front Range Alliance</b> servicing Arapahoe, Douglas, Boulder, Larimer, El Paso, Teller, Jefferson and Weld counties;</li> <li><b>Discover Goodwill of Southern and Western Colorado</b> servicing El Paso and Teller counties;</li> <li><b>Rio Grande County Department of Social Services</b> servicing Conejos, Mineral and Rio Grande counties;</li> <li><b>Hilltop Community Resources, Inc.</b> servicing Mesa County.</li> </ul> <p>from Jan. 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.</p>	<a href="#">Website</a>	<a href="mailto:jonl.gallegos@state.co.us">jonl.gallegos@state.co.us</a>
<b>Student Re-engagement Grant</b>	The Student Re-Engagement Grant Program assists local education providers in providing educational services and supports to students to help them maintain engagement and/or support re-engagement at the secondary level.	Funding may be used to support activities and strategies focused on student engagement and student re-engagement and improvement of Postsecondary Workforce Readiness performance indicators	\$100,000	Colorado Department of Education	<a href="#">Website</a>	Fumnanya Camara <a href="mailto:Camara_F@cde.state.co.us">Camara_F@cde.state.co.us</a>
<b>WORK Act Grant</b>	A 6-year state matching grant designed to increase awareness of, enrollment in and completion of Colorado’s skilled worker training programs.	<p>This grant is for any government or nongovernment entity that offers or plans to offer a skilled worker training program and has partnered with industry sectors. A training program must be an:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>accredited educational training program,</li> <li>occupational education training program,</li> <li>apprenticeship, or</li> <li>similar training program</li> </ul> <p>This opportunity does not include funding for bachelor’s or higher degrees.</p>	\$7.6 million for outreach efforts and updating training, no maximum request per applicant. Eligible applicant shall not use grant money for tuition subsidies or to reduce tuition.	Grant application to CDLE	<a href="#">Website</a>	Elizabeth Shupe <a href="mailto:elizabeth.shupe@state.co.us">elizabeth.shupe@state.co.us</a>
<b>Work Opportunity Tax Credit</b>	Federal-level tax incentive that benefits employers and qualified workers	<p>The new hire must belong to one of nine WOTC target groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hire a Hero</li> <li>High risk or summer youth</li> <li>Veteran food stamp recipients</li> <li>Disabled Veterans</li> <li>Ex-felons</li> <li>Vocational rehabilitation referrals</li> <li>Welfare/TANF recipients</li> <li>18 – 39-year-old food stamp recipients</li> <li>SSI recipients</li> <li>Long Term TANF recipients</li> <li>Designated community residents</li> </ul>	\$2400-\$9600	Report filed with annual income taxes to offset business tax owed	<a href="#">Brochure</a>	Call: 303-318-8845 or Visit: <a href="http://www.colorado.gov/cdle/taxcredits">www.colorado.gov/cdle/taxcredits</a>

<b>Work Training Experiences</b>	Planned structure learning for career exploration funded 100% through WIOA	Employee must be enrolled into WIOA program before the start date of the WTE. Cannot exceed 12 weeks, 25 hrs. maximum per week, and position pays state minimum wage or more. (Local workforce Centers may vary in funding.)	\$6,000 (Local areas may vary)	100% paid wages through WIOA funding	<a href="#">WE State Requirements</a>	<a href="https://www.yourworkforcecenter.com/">https://www.yourworkforcecenter.com/</a>
<b>YouthBuild</b>	YouthBuild is a community-based pre-apprenticeship program that provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth ages 16-24 who have previously dropped out of high school. Youth learn vocational skills in construction, as well as in other in-demand industries, including health care, information technology, and hospitality.	Funding is provided to local nonprofits including Mile High Youth Corp.		USDOL	<a href="#">Website</a>	