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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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STEP Grant Information Available Online; Applications Due April 19

JUNEAU, Alaska—The State Training and Employment Program, which will competitively fund \$4 million in worker training and employment projects from July 1 through June 30, 2014, helps thousands of Alaskans upgrade their job skills and get them into higher paying jobs in critical demand occupations.

STEP is administered on behalf of the Alaska Workforce Investment Board by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Division of Business Partnerships.

"Grant applications that prepare Alaskans with high-demand skills needed to obtain current and emerging jobs in the priority industries as identified by the AWIB are encouraged for this solicitation," Business Partnerships Director Corine Geldhof said.

STEP targets training for individuals who have contributed to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and are drawing or have exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits. Other criteria for trainees include Alaskans who are employed but likely to lose their job within six months due to a work force reduction or conditions requiring they learn substantially different job skills, or need training to improve their prospects for obtaining or retaining employment.

Grant applications are submitted through the division's electronic grants administration and management system, EGrAMS, which can be accessed at the division's web site at <http://labor.alaska.gov/bp/egrans/>. The web site includes a tutorial on using EGrAMS. Interested parties are encouraged to view the tutorial before using EGrAMS.

The Request for Grant Application document, which provides further detail about STEP and the requirements for submitting a grant application, can be accessed from the online public notice system at <http://bit.ly/XTM4XQ>. Applications are due at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 19. For more information, email Christine.Sanderford@Alaska.Gov with "STEP" in the subject line.

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Business Partnerships
Labor.Alaska.Gov/bp/

State Training and Employment Program
Labor.Alaska.Gov/bp/step.htm