

Applicant: Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC); **Title:** GRCC Job Corps Scholars

Demonstration Program; **Description of target area:** The target area will be comprised of the following zip codes: 49503, 49504, 49505, 49506, 49507, 49509, and 49548. Communities within these zip codes will be targeted based on the significant concentration of eligible young adults who are low income and face other barriers to education and employment. There are a total of 33,114 youth who are 16 to 24 years. The average high school graduation rate for the target community is lower at 57.6%, compared to the national rate of 84% reported by the NCES for the class of 2016. The weighted average unemployment rate in the combined zip codes is higher at 6.6%, than the average national unemployment rate of 4.8%. The weighted average unemployment rates for 16 to 24 year olds is 14.0%, compared to the 12.9% national unemployment rate for the same group. The weighted average poverty rate for the target community is 21.4%, compared to the official 2017 poverty rate of 12.3%. **Number of participants:** 80 Job Corps eligible youth; **Residential component:** A residential component is not included. **Requested funding:** \$1,186,900; **Total cost per participant:** \$14,836.25; **Institution type:** GRCC is an accredited, two-year, public community college; **Experience working with Job Corps eligible populations:** GRCC's Workforce Training unit has included opportunity youth as one of the target populations in numerous grant projects, and has demonstrated experience delivering intensive career and personal counseling as part of those technical training programs. **Previous personal and career and employment counseling services:** GRCC has two personal and career counselors who serve as a vital link for program participants to link to education and training activities leading to sustainable employment. They also interact with community agencies and employers to ensure participants understand the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for their career choices. Two employment counselors

provide job development and job placements services. GRCC's employment counseling model was first implemented as part of a previous U.S. Department of Labor grant project and has proven to be highly successful in helping students attain jobs, with students' job placement rates going from 81.3% (2013) to 94% (2019). **Technical career training programs to complete in 12 months or less & credit earned:** Automotive Technician (Non-credit [NC]), Automotive Servicing (34 cr.), Introduction to Construction (NC), Construction Electrical (NC), Residential Construction (NC), Mechanical Design (27 cr.), Electrical Controls Mechatronics (31 cr.), Electronics Engineering Technology (22 cr.), HVAC (33 cr.), Industrial Maintenance (30 cr.), Mechatronics - Basic Industrial Electricity (16 cr.), Entrepreneurship (16 cr.), Retail Management (25 cr.), Supply Chain Operations Management (16 cr.), Computer Support Technician (NC), Baking and Pastry Arts (29 cr.), Craft Brewing, Packaging & Service Operations (23 cr.), Certified Nurse Assistant (NC), Medical Assistant (NC), Phlebotomy (NC), Machinist/CNC Technician (13 cr.), Machine Tool (17 cr.), Plastics-Polymer Engineering Technology (16 cr.), Welding/Fabrication (NC), Welding Skills (16 cr.), Welding Technology (27 cr.), Tooling and Manufacturing (26 cr.), Mechatronics/Electrical Controls (16 cr.), and Public Works (NC). **Project Summary:** GRCC will conduct outreach in the target communities to recruit Job Corps eligible youth. The program will provide intensive personal and career counseling and employment counseling to facilitate their completion of grant-funded technical training and placement in employment at a sustainable wage. Minimum outcomes: Complete training: 85%; Dropout rate: 15%; 58% placement rate upon separation; 32% placement rate during 12-months after separation; \$30,160 avg. annual starting salary; Average wage: \$15/hour; Average credit hours: 12; 5 enrolled in apprenticeship; 5 in full-time employment on separation. **Census tracts designated as qualified Opportunity Zones:** 26, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36, 38.