

Frequently Asked Questions

1. For rural LWIAs, can grant funds be used to cover the costs of career planners traveling to and from IWDS 2.0 trainings?

Yes, but on a case-by-case basis. For geographically dispersed regions where training cannot be provided within a reasonable distance to or from other AJCs in the region, applicants may include travel-related expenses in their proposed budgets to support career planners attending IWDS 2.0 training sessions. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed costs are reasonable and necessary to accomplish the training objectives. Any request for grant funding is not guaranteed and will be reviewed as part of the planning and budgeting process.

2. Can I send an extra staff person to train-the-trainer virtual and in-person events to help with succession planning?

Yes, but on a case-by-case basis. Applicants may include travel-related expenses in their proposed budgets to support an additional career planner attending IWDS 2.0 training sessions. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed costs are reasonable and necessary to accomplish the training objectives. Local funding streams are strongly encouraged for this purpose. Any request for grant funding is not guaranteed and will be reviewed as part of the planning and budgeting process.

3. Our LWIAs are not able to identify a trainer prior to the NOFO deadline. What should we do?

You should still apply. The OET strongly encourages all regions to submit an application by the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) deadline, even if certain elements—such as identifying a trainer—are not finalized, however applicants must provide information regarding when it is anticipated the trainer will be identified/hired. Additionally, applicants must include a summary of the discussions held among all LWIAs in your region regarding this issue and an explanation of how the Regional Manager was involved in these discussions and

decision-making. This documentation will demonstrate that the matter was carefully considered and that regional coordination is underway, even if a final trainer selection has not yet been made.

4. How will OET support succession planning if selected trainers change jobs or leave the organization during the grant period?

OET is committed to continuity and support. Grantees are encouraged to identify trainers that will remain in their current positions through the lifespan of this project. In the event that a designated trainer transitions out of their role or leaves the organization during the grant period, OET will provide comprehensive onboarding assistance for the replacement trainer. This includes access to training materials, guidance from experienced staff, and technical support to ensure the new trainer is fully equipped to carry out their responsibilities. It may also include opportunities to shadow a trainer in another region. Succession planning is a recognized challenge, and OET is prepared to help regions maintain momentum and consistency throughout the life of the grant.