

2024 Skills to Build Employer Tech Skilling Grants FAQ



Internships



Registered Apprenticeships



New Hire
On-the-Job Training



Incumbent Worker
Training/Upskilling

What is the goal of the grant funding?

The goal of this funding is to grow and develop the talent pipeline for infrastructure-related information technology occupations in Southeastern Wisconsin. Specifically, the funding is geared toward offsetting employer costs of operating internship, registered apprenticeship, new hire/on-the-job training, and upskill/incumbent worker training for tech occupations.

How much money is allotted per grantee?

There is no prescribed monetary allowance per grantee; rather, the program is market responsive. Depending on demand from employers for tech talent, an equitable and proportional allocation of funding will be delivered to qualified applicants. Employers are encouraged to apply for every program of interest relevant to their tech talent development needs.

Where can talent supported by this grant reside?

Employers may be based anywhere, but tech talent supported through the grant must reside in Southeastern Wisconsin, specifically Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Waukesha and Washington counties.

My organization is a tech skilling provider in the region.

Are we eligible to apply for these grants?

All organizations who employ tech talent in a full-time capacity are eligible to apply for these grants. Interns may be employed on a part- or full-time basis, but all other talent (apprentices, new hires, and incumbent workers) must be W9 employees.

Are contractors eligible to receive new hire training and/or upskilling training?

No, contractors are ineligible talent to be supported via this grant.

What are the reporting requirements? Are they onerous?

The reporting requirements typically involve filling out a straightforward 1-2 page template on a monthly basis. Depending on the program, this report may need to include wage payment information or evidence of training expenditures. Consult the grant application for more information.

MKE Tech Hub Coalition is an Equal Opportunity employer and service provider. If you need this information or printed material in an alternate format, or in a different language, please contact us at contact@mketech.org.

This project is funded in whole or in part by the Department of Labor Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant.

2024 Skills to Build Employer Tech Skilling Grants FAQ



Internships



Registered Apprenticeships



New Hire
On-the-Job Training



Incumbent Worker
Training/Upskilling

Must employers have a training provider identified to apply for the apprenticeship, new hire training, or incumbent worker training grants?

No. At the time of application, it is perfectly fine if employers do not yet know who their prospective skilling provider partner may be. The matter will need to be resolved by the due date of an employer grantee's first report. If employers need support in finding the right skilling partner, they can consult the Tech Skilling Program Directory here: <https://www.mketech.org/tech-skilling-providers/>.

My company pays interns directly. Is there a way for us to have their wages reimbursed to us instead of having the grant pay them?

No. As part of the grant, interns are paid directly via checks from Employ Milwaukee. If interns are very likely to be hired on as full-time employees, employers may consider applying for the new hire training grant instead, as that grant is structured to provide partial wage reimbursements to employers rather than direct wage payments to tech talent.

My company is hoping to implement an apprenticeship program after 2024. Will the grant re-open for funding rounds in future years?

Yes. The grant will re-open for future rounds through 2028 as funds are available. Please stay tuned for upcoming grant announcements from MKE Tech Hub Coalition and Employ Milwaukee.

Who is eligible to provide new hire training?

Employers themselves may provide new hire training, or employers may choose to secure a third-party skilling provider to deliver this training. Either way, the training must be occupationally related for new hires to be eligible for wage reimbursements.

Would the incumbent worker grant cover mentorship activities?

No. The grant covers costs of upskilling existing full-time tech staff via an internal or external skilling provider. The training provided must be occupationally related, and should lead talent to career advancement, job enlargement, and/or an industry-recognized credential.

MKE Tech Hub Coalition is an Equal Opportunity employer and service provider. If you need this information or printed material in an alternate format, or in a different language, please contact us at contact@mketech.org.

This project is funded in whole or in part by the Department of Labor Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant.