

California Opportunity Youth Apprenticeship (COYA) Program (PY) 2025-2027 Questions and Answers

What is the eligibility criteria for nonprofit organizations partnering with high schools and industry leaders.

The Eligible Entity Types include:

- Non-profit Community-Based Organizations
- Workforce Development Boards
- Unions
- Local Education Agencies
 - Community Colleges
 - County offices of education
 - TK-12
 - Adult Education
 - Regional Occupational Programs
 - Regional consortia of community college districts
- Apprenticeship Intermediaries
- Apprenticeship program sponsors

We are seeking clarity on whether a Workforce Development Board can move forward with applying for a Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant and partner with an entity that has experience in apprenticeships to fully implement the proposed project.

The Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation grant aims to support effective pre-apprenticeship programs that have strong linkages to RAPs and prioritize supportive services for and recruitment of opportunity youth and can offer educational stipends to allow for paid training.

The Pre-Apprenticeship program must meet the following requirements:

- Registered with the DAS
- Provide a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) linkage with a DAS registered apprenticeship program
- Program length cannot exceed six (6) months
- Program should not have any paid On-The-Job Training (OJT) as part of their program

We would like to apply to develop a formal apprenticeship program for trail building and maintenance. This field of work has vast employment opportunities in the public sector, recreation and is fire prevention/mitigation adjacent. Is this industry type eligible for this planning grant?

As defined in the enabling legislation for this funding opportunity, SB 191, the eligible sectors for the COYA Grant include:

IACA Sectors: The focus of the COYA Grant is on Interagency Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (IACA) connected programs. These are programs that serve occupations across all sectors of the economy except for the building trades. As examples, this includes healthcare, education, advanced manufacturing, information technology, public sector, transportation and more.

Fire Trades: Programs serving occupations in the fire trades are eligible to apply for this funding; however, any new apprenticeship programs serving these occupations shall meet the conditions specified in subdivision (b) of Labor Code Section 3075 and the proposal must be approved by the California Apprenticeship Council (CAC), the council established pursuant to Labor Code Section 3070.

However, eligible sectors do not include:

Building Trades: Programs serving occupations in the building and construction trades are NOT eligible for this funding. These include the building and construction programs that are within the jurisdiction of the CAC, the council established pursuant to Labor Code Section 3070.

Based on the information provided, this occupation is likely in land management or fire trades, which would likely be eligible as an IACA or Fire Trades Sector, however more information would need to be provided to fully determine eligibility.

Is a required minimum number of individuals served by the program? Our apprenticeship program serves six apprentices in each year-long cohort and has been in operation for four years. Would this allow us to qualify for potential COYA funding?

For an Apprenticeship Implementation Grant, the award range is \$500,000 - \$2,000,000. The award amount is up to \$10,000 per DAS registered apprentice. Therefore, the minimum projected number of participants served is 50 participants over the 2 year performance period.

Is there a PDF of the entire application so that we can view the complete list of questions and items that will be needed?

Yes. It can be found on the CORD website.

I understand that at the grant midpoint we should demonstrate at least one or both of the following:

- **That the certain number of guaranteed spots indicated within the RAP's MOU were fulfilled**
- **That sixty percent (60%) pre-apprentices have been placed in a DAS registered apprenticeship program**

Can you help define "guaranteed spots"?

As per the number listed in your MOU with the RAP.

Is it the full amount of pre-apprentices for the grant?

This would evaluate the rate of placement in a DAS Registered Apprenticeship Program based on those you have served to date through the grant.

If we were to apply for funding for a total of 50 pre-apprentices, but serve 25 in year 1 and 25 in year 2, does that meet the requirement?

Yes

If the grantee fails to meet one or both of the above conditions, the second half of the grant awarded may be withheld.

"Funding priority will be given to those applicants that utilize more of the funding for supportive services in their proposal."

Can you define "supportive services"? Does that exclude professional training?

Supportive services are defined as services that directly benefit the participants in the program, which includes:

- Transportation
- Equipment and tools including laptops, tablets and software along with other industry connected tools
- Internet connection services
- Emergency housing
- Mental Health Services
- Mentoring
- Coaching including life coaching, interview coaching
- Work clothing
- Legal support for participants
- Staffing for case management

Instructional costs are separate from supportive services.

I am going through the application and found that I must list a partner already with a DAS Registered program.

I'm a little confused as to why this is necessary, as ours would be a new apprenticeship.

Is it for mentoring and their existing experience?

This will be dependent on the category of funding that you are applying for. If you are applying for an Implementation Grant, then the applicant must be either one of the following:

- A DAS RAP that targets opportunity youth
- Community Based Organizations (CBOs) non-profit or eligible workforce/educational organization with a MOU with a DAS RAP for recruitment of and supportive services for opportunity youth apprentices

I have a question about eligibility for applying to this grant. Our organization is currently a subcontractor of a current awardee for this grant. We partner with them to recruit and perform case management. Given this circumstance, are we still eligible to apply for this grant?

Yes, you are eligible to apply as long as you are not the lead applicant in the current COYA grant. And if awarded you cannot report serving the same apprentices under both grants. The participants served must be unique to each grant.

As a COYA Round 1 Apprenticeship Implementation grant recipient, what is the metric that will determine our eligibility to apply for a Round 2 grant?

COYA Round 1 grantees cannot apply for the same category grant with the same occupations for which they are already being funded. COYA Round 1 grantees applying for a new grant category or with new occupations must be in good standing with their current COYA grant to be considered for additional COYA grant funding.

Can we have the effective start date of the Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant on November 1 and continue to use the planning grant funding until November 1?

COYA Round 1 grantees applying for a new grant category or with new occupations must be in good standing with their current COYA grant to be considered for additional COYA grant funding. There is not flexibility on the start date or performance period due to the timelines of spending authority.

If a student has a learning disability and receives accommodations through our college, do they qualify? (Do learning disabilities qualify for eligibility?)

Grantees must obtain proof that a participant meets the eligibility requirements. The documentation obtained must be kept on file in the case of a grant audit but does not need to be provided to DIR-DAS in the reporting process. For people with disabilities, due to the sensitive nature in dealing with disabilities and the collection of this type of information, an individual can validate their eligibility through a completed self-reporting form. The grantee should be able to show their linkage and affiliations with health agencies that have sent over potential participants to the program.

Any suggestions on navigating determining disabilities and HIPPA allowable questions for perspective eligible students?

Grantees must obtain proof that a participant meets the eligibility requirements. The documentation obtained must be kept on file in the case of a grant audit but does not need to be provided to DIR-DAS in the reporting process. For people with disabilities, due to the sensitive nature in dealing with disabilities and the collection of this type of information, an individual can validate their eligibility through a completed self-reporting form. The grantee should be able to show their linkage and affiliations with health agencies that have sent over potential participants to the program.

Formerly enrolled school – Is this referencing a high school, or can it be any K-12 school attended to determine eligibility?

Eligibility can be met through attending any TK-12 school. To lookup whether a school is deemed a Title 1 school, utilize [ed-data.com website to lookup](http://ed-data.com) the school and its status as Title I as determined by the CA Department of Education.

“That a certain number of guaranteed spots indicated within the RAP’s MOU were fulfilled”.

Our grant is to place eligible students into the 6-month fire academy which is the pre-apprenticeship training. There are a total of four academies scheduled during the upcoming two-year cycle. We wanted to confirm the above statement references the guaranteed spots within the pre-apprenticeship training 6-month period, correct?

No. Any Registered Pre-Apprenticeship will have an MOU with a Registered Apprenticeship Program and in that MOU there may be a guaranteed number of spots for pre-apprentices to be placed in the RAP. This is referring to that number of pre-apprentices that graduate into guaranteed placements in the Registered Apprenticeship Program, and that being fulfilled.

Is it a requirement that our apprenticeship program is registered with DAS to be eligible for this grant?

Yes. For the Apprenticeship Implementation Grant, the applicant must be either one of the following:

- A DAS RAP that targets opportunity youth
- Community Based Organizations (CBOs) non-profit or eligible workforce/educational organization with a MOU with a DAS RAP for recruitment of and supportive services for opportunity youth apprentices

Is a center that is operated by a government agency eligible to apply for the planning grant? And is there a match/leverage requirement? Please advise.

Based on the description, it sounds like this organization is a community based organization, in which case it would be eligible.

No, there is not a match/leverage requirement.

Is my organization required to collaborate with an existing CBO DAS Registered Pre-Apprenticeship or Registered Apprenticeship program in order to apply for an Apprenticeship Planning Grant?

For applicants seeking to start a new program, the proposal will need to identify an occupation and employer/employer group who wants to hire apprentices, along with a letter of interest or support from an employer or multiple employers.

For applicants seeking to partner with a DAS Registered Apprenticeship Program, the proposal will need to identify the DAS registered program and occupation and need a letter of support to validate that interest to partner.

We are a pre-apprenticeship planning grantee and intend to use the full two-year performance period, ending in June 2026, for the planning process.

If we apply for and receive a COYA Round 2 award, would we be required to truncate our Round 1 performance period? Specifically, would we need to begin implementing our pre-apprenticeship program at the start of the Round 2 performance period, even if we still have a year remaining on our Round 1 planning grant?

There is not flexibility on the start date or performance period due to the timelines of spending authority. Therefore, if you were to be awarded a COYA Round 2 Grant, the performance period would need to commence around June 2025 and complete by June 30, 2027. Ideally there would not be overlap in the active contracts, although it is possible as long as all the reported expenses and participants served are clearly and fully distinct across the 2 contracts.

COYA Round 1 Planning Grantees who have completed their deliverables, will be prioritized for funding in the Implementation categories. Therefore, as a Round 1 Pre-Apprenticeship Planning Grantee, you must have already registered your program to be eligible to apply for an Implementation Grant.

An organization received a pre-apprenticeship planning grant in round 1, and they got the program registered. If they wanted to apply for the pre-apprenticeship implementation grant for round 2, do they need to complete the metrics and spend down all funds from the planning grant by June 2025 in order to be eligible for the implementation grant?

Ideally there would not be overlap in the active contracts, although it is possible as long as all the reported expenses and participants served are clearly and fully distinct across the 2 contracts.

Are 4-year colleges/universities eligible to apply for this funding?

Unfortunately, no, not unless they are an already Registered Apprenticeship Program sponsors.

Is securing a planning grant a prerequisite to submitting a proposal for an implementation grant?

No.

What is the maximum we can apply for the Planning Grant for Pre-Apprenticeship?

- a. **Minimum of students?**
- b. **Expected outcome**
- c. **Grant Years – 2 years?**

There is no planning grant for Pre-apprenticeship for this round of the COYA Grant.

If we enroll 42 pre-apprentices (minimum required), is there a minimum requirement for how many of those students then go on to our apprenticeship program? We have found that there are always some students who don't complete our programs.

At the grant midpoint, one year into the grant performance period, the Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation grantee for the Pre-Apprenticeship program should demonstrate at least one or both of the following:

- That the certain number of guaranteed spots indicated within the RAP's MOU were fulfilled
- That sixty percent (60%) pre-apprentices have been placed in a DAS registered apprenticeship program

In the RFA/SFP, it states that “applicants to this funding must already be a DAS Registered Apprenticeship Program or be a CBO or workforce/educational partner that has a formal MOU with a RAP.” To the degree that we have been issued a DAS Registered File Number to our DAS Registered Program Name, have approved and vetted registration with the Department of Labor, and are anticipating being added to the DIR’s apprenticeship database, are these criteria sufficient to indicate that we are already a DAS Registered Program in our COYA grant application?

A DAS Registered Apprenticeship Program means that you are fully registered with DAS, and not partly through the process of registration.

For the Apprenticeship Planning grant opportunity, when the SFP says “OR to create a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) with an existing DAS RAP that formalizes the relationship between the eligible entity and the RAP, which must include at least the recruitment of opportunity youth into the apprenticeship and also offers supportive services for opportunity youth during the apprenticeship.”, are these supportive services intended to be funded and provided through the Planning Grant?

If the intent of the apprenticeship planning grant is to develop a partnership with an existing RAP for sourcing and supportive services of/for opportunity youth, then the final deliverable is the formal MOU which specifies exactly how the eligible entity is helping to recruit opportunity youth and providing supportive services to opportunity youth apprentices during their apprenticeship. The planning grant can include both the costs of developing that partnership and also some of the initial supportive services actually provided.

Is this a requirement for the RAP partner to commit to provide these supportive services in the future with funds outside the Planning grant budget?

No, that is not a DAS requirement.

For the Apprenticeship Planning grant opportunity, when the SFP says “Administrative overhead are limited to 10% of the grant award - this includes costs such as administration and executive team salaries.”, does this place a limit of 10% on indirect costs plus the direct administrative and executive time and materials required to manage the grant?

Yes

For the Apprenticeship Planning grant opportunity, when the SFP Program Evaluation section says “10 points for entities that have NOT received a CAI”, is this just for CAI grants related to the same proposed industry/occupations, or any CAI grants received?

It is referring to CAI Grants for the same occupation. Funding priority will be given to primary applicants that have not already directly received a CA Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI) Grant for the occupation for which they are applying in the COYA Grant Program.

Reviewing the Proposal Evaluation in the RFA for the COYA grant, I see that entities that have received a CAI grant are penalized, or are not eligible for a portion of the points in that particular section. Is this any CAI grant, or a CAI grant for the same occupation as the COYA application?

It is referring to CAI Grants for the same occupation. Funding priority will be given to primary applicants that have not already directly received a CA Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI) Grant for the occupation for which they are applying in the COYA Grant Program.

We currently have a youth apprenticeship program registered with DAS, which follows a three-year, time-based model. Through this grant, we hope to create additional opportunities for the same occupations using a competency-based model and make those a registered apprenticeship. Would this initiative fall under the Apprenticeship Planning Grant or the Apprenticeship Implementation Grant?

Since you have a registered program with DAS already, this would be an Implementation grant.

In section 4.4 Target Population, one of the eligibility criteria is “currently or formerly enrolled in a Title I school.” What is a Title I school? Is it possible there’s a typo here? A Title II funded school, like a local adult education provider, would make more sense.

Currently or formerly enrolled in a Title 1 school – To lookup whether a school is deemed a Title 1 school, utilize [ed-data.com website to lookup](https://ed-data.com) the school and its status as Title I as determined by the CA Department of Education. A participant does not need to have graduated from the Title 1 school; however, attendance can be proven by a diploma, a transcript, or an official letter from the school stating attendance.

In section 5.4 Braiding, there’s an expectation to leverage AIF. If the applicant (and its project partners) have not received AIF, how can we satisfy this requirement?

This only applies to potential grantees that do receive AIF funding. It is not a requirement to have received AIF funding. This section is just outlining that it is possible to braid AIF and COYA funding.

Can an applicant submit more than one application and potentially receive more than one award? For example, can an applicant submit an Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP) proposal for the fire trades AND submit a Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant (COYA-PI) proposal for advanced manufacturing?

Yes

Does a program need to be DAS-approved at the time of the application or by the time the grant would start?

The program must be registered as of February 26, 2025 when the SFP was opened.

The only exception to this is for COYA Round 1 Apprenticeship Planning Grantees that have submitted their final draft of standards to the DAS Program Planning and Review team by February 26, 2025 will be considered for Implementation Grants.

Is an intent to apply required or just recommended?

Recommended. Not required.

Page 3 of the SFP lists sectors such as healthcare, education, advanced manufacturing, information technology, public sector, transportation and more. Can a program connected with the Hospitality industry apply?

Yes

Page 1 of the SFP states that the funding amount for an Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP) is up to \$500,000. Is there a minimum amount that must be requested?

No

The SFP states that in no circumstances can funds be used for food and beverage cost. However, in the case of a culinary apprenticeship program in which food is a necessary and reasonable learning material cost in delivering technical training and hands-on practice. Therefore, are food purchases allowable if they only benefit awarded activities?

Yes

For an Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP), are costs for minor renovation of instruction space allowed to be funded through COYA funds?

No

For an Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP), is instruction space rent considered a direct program cost?

A space used for instructional purposes would be considered a direct program cost; however, rent for office space is an indirect cost.

Is there a minimum amount of time a Pre-Apprenticeship program has been registered by DAS for them to be eligible to apply for a Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant (COYA-PI)?

No

Please confirm that a CBO applying for an Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP) can have the objective of formalizing an MOU with an existing RAP and does not have to create a RAP.

That is correct, an Apprenticeship Planning Grant can be used to develop a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) with an existing DAS registered RAP that formalizes the relationship, which must include at least the recruitment of opportunity youth into the apprenticeship and offers supportive services for opportunity youth during the apprenticeship.

For applicants seeking to partner with a DAS Registered Apprenticeship Program, the proposal will need to identify the DAS registered program and occupation and need a letter of support to validate that interest to partner.

On page 10 of the COYA PI program, it states that the program length cannot exceed six months. Our program is at least one year, sometimes two. The Juniors and Seniors in high school take one to two classes per semester and then do the OJT volunteering over each summer and are placed in a local ECE facility. Why is there the six month limit and are there exceptions to the rule?

There are no exceptions to the pre-apprentice implementation grant requirement. Although since you are describing OJT, that is only associated with an apprenticeship program, since Pre-Apprenticeships do not have OJT. Therefore if this is an apprenticeship program, then you should be considering an Apprenticeship Implementation Grant.

Can the same team apply to both an Apprenticeship Planning (COYA-AP) and Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation (COYA-PI) grants?

Yes, as long as you meet all the requirements for each, and you will need to submit 2 separate applications.

Does the COYA-AP (Apprenticeship Planning) include any Pre-Apprenticeship planning grants?

No.

Is there any flexibility in cap at 10% room for overhead?

No. Administrative overhead costs are limited to 10% of the grant award - this includes costs such as administration and executive team salaries.

For the planning track, is there an expectation that we are piloting the program by the end of the grant period?

If the intent of the apprenticeship planning grant is to develop a new RAP serving opportunity youth, then the final deliverable is the registration of the program with DAS. Ideally, the new program's design should integrate related and supplemental instruction with a linkage to higher education system such that apprentices can build their education portfolio while going through an apprenticeship.

If the intent of the apprenticeship planning grant is a partnership with an existing RAP for sourcing and supportive services of/for opportunity youth, then the final deliverable is the formal MOU which specifies exactly how the eligible entity is helping to recruit opportunity youth and providing supportive services to opportunity youth apprentices during their apprenticeship.

In all cases, the final deliverable should also include a program implementation and funding sustainability plan.

For the implementation track, is co-enrollment allowed as part of a braided funding strategy for an existing RAP if there is a plan to expand services and/or recruitment pathways to new opportunity youth?

We are uncertain of what "Co-enrollment" means in this context. However, apprentices can only be served under one COYA Grant at a time.

What should our organization do if we are incorporated outside California and do not currently have a state tax ID?

Organizations based outside of California are not eligible for the COYA Grant.

Are fiscally sponsored groups eligible to apply for the DIR COYA Grant?

The primary applicant must be one of the eligible entity types.

What are the minimum and maximum number of hours of classroom-based training a registered apprentice must complete?

The recommended minimum is 144 hours of Related Supplemental Instruction (RSI).

What are the minimum and maximum number of hours of on-the-job training a registered apprentice must complete?

A new apprenticeship program should be designed to be a minimum of 2,000 hours of on-the-job- training (OJT), although in a competency based program, an apprentice could complete those competencies in as little as 1,000 hours.

What is the required minimum wage for apprentices?

DAS recommends designing apprenticeship programs to meet the [ETP New Hire wages](#) as outlined annually and by county.

Can you provide information/link to all other similar standards for Registered Apprenticeship programs?

DAS does not have portal for registered apprenticeship standards.

For Deliverables section, under 5.2 - “That the certain number of guaranteed spots indicated within the RAP’s MOU were fulfilled” - can this be a percentage based on your pre-apprentice cohort? Ex: 50% of pre-apprentices have a guaranteed spot indicated within the RAP Program.

No, it is based on a number of apprentices per cohort, class, term, semester, month or year.

i.e. 5 pre-apprentices will be granted priority into the RAP every semester.

For Section 4, Eligible Applicants, “COYA Round 1 grantees applying for a new grant category or with new occupations must be in good standing with their current COYA grant to be considered for additional COYA grant funding. All applicants and associated registered apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs must be in good standing with DAS to be considered for funding” - Can you define “good standing” regarding our current grant, how will this be verified?

Grantees must be up to date with all reporting and demonstrating progress towards outcomes, which is based on contracted deliverables and reporting. In addition, the registered program must be in good standing and not be suspended or in the de-registration or cancellation process with DAS, or have outstanding evaluation findings that have not been resolved.

For Deliverables section, under 5.2 - “That the certain number of guaranteed spots indicated within the RAP’s MOU were fulfilled” - can you provide a template of or example of an MOU? We currently have a Linkage Agreement with a RAP, is this the same document or different?

The linkage agreement with the RAP is the same as a Memorandum of Understanding.

On the portal in the attachments section, Exhibit E = Budget narrative and Exhibit F = Budget summary, however in their templates the exhibits are switched (Exhibit E = Budget Summary and Exhibit F = Budget Narrative). Can you confirm which is which?

We apologize for the oversight. Exhibit E and Exhibit F were mislabeled. The download templates should be correct as of this webinar.

We would like to know if indirect cost rates approved by California Department of Education are acceptable and can be included as part of a program budget.

The indirect cost rates for CA Department of Education are not relevant to DAS and DIR. Administrative overhead costs are limited to 10% of the grant award - this includes costs such as administration and executive team salaries

If we are not yet DAS registered and are applying for the Planning Grant, do we have to have a DAS Registered Partner to apply?

No, but for applicants seeking to start a new program, the proposal will need to identify an occupation and employer/employer group who wants to hire apprentices, along with a letter of interest or support from an employer or multiple employers.

Are the industry sector employers we are working with required to be DAS registered?

In order to register a new apprenticeship program, you must have at least one employer committed to supporting the program. If you are applying for an Apprenticeship Planning Grant and seeking to start a new program, the proposal will need to identify an occupation and employer/employer group who wants to hire apprentices, along with a letter of interest or support from an employer or multiple employers.

Is there a publicly available list of DAS Registered Partner Organizations?

Unfortunately, we do not have that resource at the moment.

Are we required to have a Match or is this optional?

Matching funds are optional and not required, but can be reported in the budget and proposal narrative.

Should our budget reflect 500K across one calendar year or two?

The budget is for the entire length of the grant.

If we are not yet DAS registered, does the Braided Funding apply to our application for Planning Grant?

Yes, Funding priority will be given to primary applicants that have not already directly received a CA Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI) Grant for the occupation for which they are applying in the COYA Grant Program, and that included planning grants.

Are we unable to apply if none of our partners for this proposed program are in partnership with any DAS-registered program?

This will depend upon the grant category, but overall you must be either partnering with a DAS registered program or become a DAS registered program through the grant.

We submitted a signed STD 204 form with our Round 1 proposal last year, do we need to sign it again with a current date?

Yes, we ask that you submit the most up to date STD 204.

Supportive Services are listed as an allowable cost. Are those funds intended to be used on supportive services for Apprentices once the program is launched?

Yes, supportive services are for the apprentices while they are going through the program.

Is an organization eligible to apply for an Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP) if that organization already has a registered RAP? What if the paperwork has been submitted, and you are just waiting on the final registration?

If you are not yet registered, then you are eligible to apply for a planning grant. If you are already registered, then you can apply for the Implementation Grant.

An organization recently registered a new RAP. A curriculum and program framework have been developed, and students are ready to apply, but the program could benefit from more planning. Is the organization eligible to apply for either an Apprenticeship Planning (COYA-AP) or an Implementation Grant (COYA-AI)? If so, how do they decide which direction is best?

The planning grants are designed for the planning of new unregistered programs. The implementation grant is for programs that are registered and actively running cohorts.

An organization has a pre-apprenticeship program but is not yet officially registered. The paperwork has been submitted for DAS registration as an R-PAP. Can the organization apply for a Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant (COYA-PI)? If the applicant is not a DAS Registered Program, the instructions say you must have a registered partner and include their Program Name & DAS File Number. Can the organization partner with its own registered Apprenticeship Program?

For Pre-Apprenticeships any program you partner with MUST already be DAS registered.

An organization has submitted paperwork to register both a pre-apprenticeship and apprentice program but does not have a Program Name & DAS File number. What are the submission options?

If your programs are not yet registered, then you are eligible to apply for a planning grant.

What are the final deliverables for the Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant (COYA-PI)? The guidelines mention a mid-point deliverable after one year but does not mention a final deliverable.

At the grant midpoint, one year into the grant performance period, the PreApprenticeship Implementation grantee for the Pre-Apprenticeship program should demonstrate at least one or both of the following:

- That the certain number of guaranteed spots indicated within the RAP's MOU were fulfilled
- That sixty percent (60%) pre-apprentices have been placed in a DAS registered apprenticeship program

If the grantee fails to meet one or both of the above conditions, the second half of the grant awarded may be withheld.

The final deliverable is serving the participants as contracted.

Can applicants to the Apprenticeship Planning (COYA-AP) Grant use funds for implementation activities and apprentice placement?

Yes, if during the 2 year performance period, when the planning grantee registers the apprenticeship program, as expected, and gets to the stage of implementation, then the funding can be used towards that implementation on costs such as supportive services and instructional costs for apprentices.

Can an organization submit more than one application to COYA? I.e. one to Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-AP) and one to Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant (COYA-PI)? Can they be for the same target occupation?

Yes, an organization can submit more than one application but must meet all the eligibility criteria for each.

As Business Developers, apprentices will be trained to provide unique business services for new or early-stage startups, and business expansion for emerging-stage businesses.

Reason/purpose: As Business Developers apprentices will be trained to utilize a mixture of business consulting techniques to assist business owners of all sizes in obtaining access to capital, as well as obtain more sales through new, innovative, and exciting marketing and promotions.

May we have a new apprenticeship program for this?

Yes

Is a stipend for apprenticeship participants an allowable expense?

Reason/purpose: I would like to pay participants a stipend for completing our one (1) year program. And if so, is there an amount limit on the stipend I may pay per apprentice/participant?

Stipends are only allowed for the Pre-apprentice Implementation Grant. The Program length cannot exceed 6 months.

I would like to be able to offer a wider range of employment opportunities for my pre-apprenticeship participants.

May we pay outside apprenticeship instructors as consultants from different fields of business?

Yes

Do I need to submit an MOU saying I'm working with (RAP) or (RP-A) along with my application to qualify or apply for the implementation grant?

The applicant to this grant category must be either one of the following:

- A DAS RAP that targets opportunity youth

- Community Based Organizations (CBOs) non-profit or eligible workforce/educational organization with a MOU with a DAS RAP for recruitment of and supportive services for opportunity youth apprentices

Reason/purpose: I would like to reach out to them in the hopes of working with them.

May I please have a list or a link to some pre-existing DAS Registered apprenticeships located in or near the South Los Angeles area.

Please visit our website and to search for programs by industry
<https://www.dir.ca.gov/databases/das/descOfAppr.html>

I see you are recording this session. How will be sent the slides and recordings?

Questions, the video recording, and powerpoint slides will be available on the DAS website

Are local workforce boards able to apply for COYA funding?

Given the above outlined experience, **eligible entity types** include:

- Non-profit Community-Based Organizations
- Workforce Development Boards
- Unions
- Local Education Agencies
 - Community Colleges
 - County offices of education
 - TK-12
 - Adult Education
 - Regional Occupational Programs
 - Regional consortia of community college districts
- Apprenticeship Intermediaries
- Apprenticeship program sponsors

Can the MOU be in draft format at time of application?

No.

What is an opportunity youth? is this program restricted to that category only or is it open to any youth?

Only opportunity youth as outlined in the SFP

To clarify. Pre-apprenticeship programs must already be approved with DAS at the time of the application. So this is a growth application grant for an existing Pre-Apprenticeship. Is this correct?

Yes

Definition of opportunity youth, please?

The target population to be served in this grant are opportunity youth, which includes individuals from **16 to 24 years of age** who are at risk of disconnection or are disconnected from the education system or employment, unhoused, in the child welfare, juvenile justice, or criminal legal systems, living in concentrated poverty, or are facing barriers to labor market participation. Opportunity youth include those that face chronic opportunity educational achievement gaps, attend schools in communities of concentrated poverty, or attend high schools with a negative school climate.

All grantees will need to demonstrate that participants are within the eligible age range and obtain proof that a participant meets one of the following criteria:

- Current or former foster youth
- Currently or formerly Pell-eligible
- Currently or formerly WIOA Youth or Adult eligible
- Currently or formerly enrolled in a Title I school
- Residing in a high poverty census tract
- Formerly incarcerated
- Youth parent
- Person with disability

Regarding the COYA Planning, can you clarify if there is a specific recruitment target for youth in the apprenticeship, what types of supportive services are expected, and if there is a minimum or maximum allocation per participant for these services?

This funding must be used either to develop either:

- a new Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) serving opportunity youth **OR**
- a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) with an existing DAS registered RAP that formalizes the relationship, which must include at least the recruitment of opportunity youth into the apprenticeship and offers supportive services for opportunity youth during the apprenticeship.

Supportive services are only provided to participants once the organization has achieved the above and actually have participants to serve.

What are some examples of supportive services

- Supportive Services:
 - Transportation
 - Equipment and tools including laptops, tablets and software along with other industry connected tools
 - Internet connection services
 - Emergency housing
 - Mental Health Services
 - Mentoring
 - Coaching including life coaching, interview coaching

- Work clothing
- Legal support for participants
- Staffing for case management

For the CORD team, how can we view the entire application without filling in the responses? The portal currently seems to require all fields in a section to be filled in prior to moving on to the next section.

There is a PDF version available on CORD

Can a local CAL JAC Union apply for funding to support a Fire Explorer or cadet program?

Yes

For the planning grant, if we state how we will use the funding to plan toward implementation, is that ok? Some of the areas in the state lack some of the apprenticeship infrastructure needed, so can planning dollars be used to build/facilitate that infrastructure? For instance - there is a need to production associates but none of the local ed agencies offer the training. Can the planning grant be used to help build this component, therefore priming and building the foundational infrastructure of a registered apprenticeship?

This planning grant is intended to help create new apprenticeship programs and help those mission-driven organizations that already have experience working with opportunity youth to bridge their training and employment programs into the registered apprenticeship system. The objective is to connect opportunity youth into earn and learn opportunities as quickly as possible.

Is the Pre-Apprenticeship Planning Grant (COYA-PP) component open for application right now? Or only the Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grant (COYA-PI).

The Pre-Apprentice Planning Grant will not be offered for this round of COYA.

Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation Grants are being offered for this round.

In Cord there is a question that says “Occupants registered with DAS” what does that mean? is that the number of apprentices that the Apprenticeship program will take into their program?

This is Occupations registered with DAS.

Can a community college apply for a planning grant for COYA apprenticeship for one occupation (like Teacher Education) and use the funding for also building-in pathways for pre-apprenticeships for opportunity youth from related industry sectors (but not directly tied to that occupation)?

You cannot use Apprenticeship funds for a pre-apprenticeship.

What if we are a 501c3 fiscally sponsored organization? Are we eligible to apply?

Given the above outlined experience, **eligible entity types** include:

- Non-profit Community-Based Organizations
- Workforce Development Boards
- Unions
- Local Education Agencies
 - Community Colleges
 - County offices of education
 - TK-12
 - Adult Education
 - Regional Occupational Programs
 - Regional consortia of community college districts
- Apprenticeship Intermediaries
- Apprenticeship program sponsors

Where is the PDF with the questions, I do not see it in CORD?

Section 2.2 Application Process

I work for a WorkSource Center that is operated by a government agency. Are we eligible to apply for the COYA planning grant?

Given the above outlined experience, **eligible entity types** include:

- Non-profit Community-Based Organizations
- Workforce Development Boards
- Unions
- Local Education Agencies
 - Community Colleges
 - County offices of education
 - TK-12
 - Adult Education
 - Regional Occupational Programs
 - Regional consortia of community college districts
- Apprenticeship Intermediaries
- Apprenticeship program sponsors

We are a non-profit organization but the apprenticeship program provider we are considering working with is a for profit organization. Is that allowable?

Yes

What is educational stipend? Give an example.

Educational Stipend: Up to \$6,000 of the per participant funding can be used as an educational stipend to pre-apprentices. Applicants must articulate their plan with the educational stipend, which can be up to \$6,000 per pre-apprentice; however, 100% of this funding must go to the pre-apprentices. The pre-apprenticeship program must

articulate how the stipend will be fairly distributed over the duration of pre-apprenticeship program and align with completion.

Does the Implementation \$10K per person include all program cost.

Yes.

If you are in the process for filing standards with DAS can we do implementation?

No, that would be a planning grant. Implementation is for fully registered programs.

So, did I hear that right - this round in terms of planning, is not for the planning of pre-apprenticeship? Only planning for apprenticeships?

Yes.

If we feel we are not ready for this round, will this COYA or AIF be offered again next year?

That will be determined by budget allocations, which are to be determined.

Apprenticeship Planning grant: What happens if your objective is to create an MOU with an employer but the MOU is not achieved?

For the Apprenticeship Planning Grant, all applicants seeking to start a new program will need to identify an occupation and employer/employer group who wants to hire apprentices, along with a letter of interest or support from an employer or multiple employers. Proposals do not need to fully completed MOU, however proposals will require a letter of interest or support from an employer.

CORD is not allowing me to create multiple applications. Are we allowed to only submit one application per application type?

Yes.

Can we have one planning grant with two strategies, i.e. two sectors, two apprenticeships in one planning grant application?

Yes. You can have two different sectors and/or occupations within one planning grant application.

For the planning grant, do we need to have a letter of support from a business entity? We want to apply to help us plan for developing our own apprenticeship program, but since we are an unknown entity, we are having trouble getting a response from the business community.

Yes, for the Apprenticeship Planning Grant, all applicants seeking to start a new program will need to identify an occupation and employer/employer group who wants to hire apprentices, along with a letter of interest or support from an employer or multiple employers.