

What is the Road to Careers program about?

Under Governor Moore's leadership, Maryland's Labor and Transportation departments have joined forces to establish the *Road to Careers* grant program, a multi-year \$24M initiative designed to grow the number of highlyskilled workers to support the increasing demand in the transportation sector. Through Road to Careers, grantees will utilize proven service delivery models such as Registered Apprenticeship, Pre-Apprenticeship, and an adult education model called Integrated Education and Training, to prepare jobseekers for careers in highway and capital transit construction occupations, such as skilled trade workers, equipment operators, and welders. With an eye towards equity and leaving no Marylander behind, grantee organizations will also devise creative strategies that deploy a holistic, individualized approach to alleviate any barriers that may hinder a jobseeker's ability to succeed in these careers. This may include help with transportation or childcare costs, referrals for mental health supports, or providing uniforms or the tools needed for employment.

What kind of organizations can apply to receive grant funding?

Through a competitive grant launched on November 21, 2024, Labor has released an initial investment of \$4M of *Road to Careers* dollars. For this inaugural round of grantmaking, awards are capped at \$500,000 and the period of performance is 36 months. The following entities are encouraged to apply:

- Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs)
- Community-based Organizations
- Workforce Training Providers
- Registered Apprenticeship Sponsors
- · Adult Education Providers
- Community Colleges
- Organizations serving immigrants and refugees
- Other entities as deemed allowable by the Maryland Department of Labor.

How do I apply for a Road to Careers grant?

Prospective grant applicants can access application documents at *labor.maryland. gov/employment/roadtocareers.shtml*. For consideration, applications must be submitted electronically to *road2.careers@maryland.gov* by February 28, 2025. Award announcements will be made in May 2025.

Who is eligible to receive training and support through Labor's Road to Careers grantees?

Road to Careers is designed to expand opportunities to Marylanders who want to pursue a career in the skilled trades, but may need some extra support to get started on the path to success. The initiative is meant to support individuals who may face barriers to employment, including but not limited to those who are low-income, justice-involved, English language learners, youth who have aged out of foster care, and more.

Contact Information

For questions or more information on eligibility criteria, expectations or more, contact road2.careers@maryland.gov or visit the Maryland Department of Labor's Road to Careers website.