



NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABILITY

Office of Youth Programs YOUTH TECH PROGRAM

The District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES) is soliciting grant applications to support the delivery of workforce exploration and experience-based programs that will provide purposeful and developmentally appropriate employment and career exploration opportunities to youth in the information technology fields. Applicants must employ the youth development philosophy in their approach and program design. DOES is seeking innovative proposals for high quality, technology-focused employment programs that will introduce and enhance technical skills, promote Internet savvy, and build computer fluency while simultaneously reinforcing core social-development and employment outcomes for the District's youth. The *Youth Tech Program* strives to:

- Offer District youth an opportunity to develop their work readiness aptitude, soft skills, personal development, and commitment necessary to succeed in today's world of work.
- Provide basic digital literacy skills in areas such as hardware and software programming.
- Provide advanced technology skills training in areas such as hardware installation, networking, coding, cloud computing, applications development, specialized computer maintenance, or the like.
- Build and bridge relationships with technology-based employers to ensure that youth are connected to and supported by the aforesaid technology-based employers in order to obtain and maintain meaningful internships and job placements.
- Engage youth through intensive, innovative technology projects, field work, site visits, and career panels.
- Provide a mechanism through which eligible youth can earn money, gain meaningful work experience, participate in skills training workshops, and be exposed to various careers within the information technology industry.

Applicants will be required to deliver project-based learning components as part of their programming. Project-based learning engages and motivates participants in active learning processes by using real problems, materials, and tasks to produce outcomes as opposed to "make work" activities. In order to create a standardized model of youth employment and allow the outcomes from this programming to be more easily codified, applicants are required to provide skills training to reinforce the goals set for the *Youth Tech Program*.

Eligibility: Applicant's primary vision and program focus must be serving youth within the District of Columbia. Applicant must be in good financial standing with the DC Office of Tax and Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service, as well as follow all appropriate financial reporting standards. Applicant cannot be listed on the federal or District excluded parties' lists.

Length of Awards: The grant period will be for twelve (12) months from the date of execution of a Grant Agreement with DOES. At the discretion of DOES, a maximum of four (4) one-year

option periods may be granted based on performance and the availability of funding. Option periods may consist of a year, a fraction thereof, or multiple successive fractions of a year.

Available Funding for Awards: DOES will accept applications, regardless of budget request amount, to support an array of innovative, technology-driven programs.

Anticipated Number of Awards: DOES anticipates making at least one (1) award and may make multiple awards depending on funding availability. The Request for Applications (RFA) will be released on **Friday, June 7, 2013**. The RFA will be available on the DOES website, www.does.dc.gov, by contacting the DOES Grants Office at doesgrants@dc.gov, and it will also be posted on the District's Grant Clearinghouse website at: <http://opgs.dc.gov/page/opgs-district-grants-clearinghouse>.

For additional information regarding this grant opportunity, please contact Kristina Savoy at Kristina.savoy2@dc.gov or the DOES Grants Office at doesgrants@dc.gov.

The deadline for application submission is Monday, July 8, 2013, at 2:00pm EDT.