

116L.562 YOUTH-AT-WORK GRANT PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner shall award grants to eligible organizations for the purpose of providing workforce development and training opportunities or preemployment services and mentorship opportunities to economically disadvantaged or at-risk youth ages 14 to 24.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section:

(1) "eligible organization" or "eligible applicant" means a local government unit, nonprofit organization, community action agency, or a public school district;

(2) "at-risk youth" means youth classified as at-risk under section 116L.56, subdivision 2; and

(3) "economically disadvantaged" means youth who are economically disadvantaged as defined in the rules and regulations of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Subd. 3. **Competitive grant awards.** (a) In awarding competitive grants, priority shall be given to programs that:

(1) provide students with information about education and training requirements for careers in high-growth, in-demand occupations;

(2) serve youth from communities of color who are underrepresented in the workforce; or

(3) serve youth with disabilities.

(b) Eligible organizations must have demonstrated effectiveness in administering youth programs and must leverage nonstate or private sector funds.

(c) New eligible applicants must be youth-serving organizations with significant capacity and demonstrable youth development experience and outcomes to operate an eligible project.

(d) If a program is not operated by a local unit of government or a workforce development board, the grant recipient must coordinate the program with the local workforce development board.

Subd. 4. **Reports.** Each grant recipient shall report to the commissioner in a format to be determined by commissioner.

History: 2016 c 189 art 12 s 9; 2023 c 53 art 15 s 24; 1Sp2025 c 6 art 4 s 11,12