



## REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA)

# **Defense Community Economic Development Fund**

*Administered by the Technical College System of Georgia's  
Office of Workforce Development*

RFA Release Date: February 16, 2021

Application Submission Deadline: April 16, 2021



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## I. Introduction

Through the Defense Community Economic Development Fund, the Technical College System of Georgia's Office of Workforce Development (OWD) is offering grants to eligible "military communities" (see Section V Eligible Applicants) seeking to enhance the workforce development support provided to military personnel and/or their spouses at local military installations. Grant funds can be utilized to support new programming or to expand existing programming. The following sections detail the components of a successful application to this RFA. Beyond the initial review at OWD, strong applications containing all required elements will be submitted to the Governor's Defense Initiative for final review. All applications should be submitted to Kimberly Morris at [KMorris@tcsgeu](mailto:KMorris@tcsgeu) by April 16, 2021, and award notices will be provided no later than May 30, 2021.

## II. Background

With the passage of House Bill 470, codified at O.C.G.A. § 50-7-120 et seq. (hereinafter the "DCEDF"), the Georgia General Assembly has once again expressed its strong support for Georgia's military communities. The DCEDF provides funding opportunities to forward-thinking military communities to bolster their efforts to serve local military personnel and/or their spouses by strengthening the relationship between the military community and the military installation (as those terms are defined in Section V below), furthering the military installation's economic investment into the military community, and/or assisting in efforts to defend the viability of a military installation from a federal review. Georgia's strong economy has created a robust job market, and efforts to facilitate the recapitalization of Georgia's talent pool with military personnel and/or their spouses will serve to boost Georgia's economic competitiveness. Strong proposals will outline workforce development grant activities that boost the economic competitiveness of the community and region.

## III. Application Form

The *Application Form* contains several required elements aimed at gaining a clear understanding of proposed grant activities. These elements should be addressed in a manner that clearly details the proposed grant activities and anticipated impacts.

Furthermore, the proposals should detail plans to serve military personnel transitioning to the civilian workforce, and/or the employment of military spouses. Successful proposals will detail how the proposed grant activities will enhance the civilian employment prospects of those served.

Military personnel have a unique experience and skillset that is of great value in the private sector, and strong applications will focus on assisting transitioning personnel with leveraging those experiences and skills to unlock strong employment options. Grant activities targeting military spouses should detail how these individuals will be supported in their efforts to find employment,



receive training and education that lead to employment or career advancement, or similar workforce development activities.

This grant funding opportunity requires assurances that grant funds will not be utilized to contract with, compensate, or reimburse a registered lobbyist.

#### **IV. Budget Form**

The *Budget Form* should detail how funds will be expended toward the program goals, as outlined in the *Application Form*. For applications requesting funding for current programming, the *Budget Form* should detail how additional funds would enable the expansion of current programming, how the life of current programming would be extended, and/or how additional military personnel and/or their spouses would be served.

The *Budget Form* must also detail matching funds from the applying military community. To qualify for funding, the applicant must demonstrate a match of at least 50% of the grant amount requested (e.g., an application requesting \$60,000 in grant funding would need to clearly demonstrate a local match of \$30,000, for a total of \$90,000 to be used for grant activities). The match can be funding designated and spent by the partner as part of this project. The match may also be in-kind and can be the value of the food provided by the partner for project meetings, value of donated meeting space, printing and supply expenses, or other goods and services provided by a partner. Program support staff time contributed to the planning, meeting logistics, and research aspects of this project is also an allowable match.

Funds awarded must be fully utilized by June 30, 2022. The maximum award amount is \$60,000 and the recommended grant request is \$15,000 – \$60,000.

#### **V. Eligible Applicants**

All Georgia military communities are invited to submit an application. Under the DCEDF, “military community” is any municipality or county that has within its jurisdiction a military installation or any other municipality or county that after reasonable review OWD determines is economically impacted to a similar degree by the presence of a nearby military installation. A “military installation” is any facility owned and operated by the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, or Coast Guard that shelters military equipment and personnel and facilitates training and operations for such organizations. Eligible counties and municipalities desiring to take a regional approach may apply on behalf of multiple counties or municipalities.