Tennessee – ABSTRACT

Tier I Funding Requested: $449,949.00
Entity: Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Tier I Baseline Goals and Activities
Baseline goals under Tier I of this grant will be as follows:
Goal 1: Developing structures that ensure that all RAPs in the State have the features of high- quality apprenticeship.
Goal 2: Build state-wide capacity to increase the number and quality of Registered Apprenticeships through stronger alignment with the education and workforce systems. Activities must demonstrate coordination with secondary education CTE programs, local workforce development programs, and post-secondary educational institutions.
Goal 3: Improve data sharing and data integrity regarding registration activities.
The State must be proactive in addressing gaps in infrastructure to support the growing of new RAPs and expanding existing program. To achieve these goals, the State the State will implement processes for advancing outreach and communications and invest in data validation and case management. Therefore, under this grant, the following strategies will be implemented:

Infrastructure Strategy: Addition of an Apprenticeship Grants Program Manager to assist with implementation, reporting and planning will be implemented. This position will report directly to the State Apprenticeship Director and will have frequent interaction with the WIOA local boards and the U.S. DOL Tennessee Office of Apprenticeship Director. The new position will be responsible for ensuring both new and existing programs remain compliant and within the framework of the state strategy.

Partnership Strategy: By formalizing the partnerships among the seven-state agency in the Tennessee Workforce Development System and outlining specific goals and objectives with secondary education, postsecondary education, and training institutions, the Apprenticeship Office will create a pipeline to Registered Apprenticeship opportunities. Efforts will be focused on target in high-demand professions. These partnerships will be key in developing and distributing outreach material and, training and implementing overall grant strategies.

Data Sharing / Data Integrity Strategy: Implementation of an MOU regarding the sharing of data on RAPs, and registered apprentices that provides the equivalent disaggregated data that is available via RAPIDs as well as participating in regular data validation session as required by U.S. DOL, implementing a data capturing and tracking system in VOS that can be crossed referenced with data in RAPIDs. The state will collaborate with U.S. DOL to communicate available tools to employers.