

(1) Abstract

OVERVIEW	
Lead Applicant/Organization Name: Safal Partners	
If applying as a consortia applicant:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Applicant of Consortia: Safal Partners • Consortium members: National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP), Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA), FASTPORT, California Workforce Association (CWA), North Carolina Association of Workforce Boards (NCAWDB), Missouri State Workforce Development Board, Missouri Office of Workforce Development, National Disability Institute Consulting (NDIC), Iowa Workforce Development (IWD), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Coalition of Adult Basic Education (COABE), Anthem Inc, East Bay Economic Development Alliance (EBEDA), American Council on Education (ACE) 	
Type of Organization applicant is applying for: Consortia (led by Safal Partners, a professional consulting organization)	
Identified RA TA Center of Excellence applicant is applying to create and support: Strategic Partnerships and System Alignment Center	
Lead Applicant City and State: Houston, TX	
Project Title: RA TA Strategic Partnerships and System Alignment Center of Excellence	
Funding Amount Requested: \$6,995,940.00	
RA TA Center of Excellence: Strategic Partnerships and System Alignment	
List all RA TA Center Required Partners:	
National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP)	National workforce association
California Workforce Association (CWA)	State workforce system
North Carolina Association of Workforce Boards (NCAWB)	State workforce system
Missouri State Workforce Development Board	State workforce system
Missouri Office of Workforce Development	State workforce system
Iowa Workforce Development (IWD)	State workforce system
South Central Iowa Workforce Development Board	Local workforce development board
Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)	State workforce system
Maine DOL Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	State workforce system
List RA TA Center Optional Partners, as applicable:	
American Council on Education	National post-secondary educational association
Council on Adult Basic Education	National post-secondary educational association
Council of College and Military Educators (CCME)	National post-secondary educational association
National Disability Institute Consulting (NDIC)	National RA/DEI research and alignment organization
Trident University	College
Indian Hills Community College	College
Apprenticeship North Carolina	State apprenticeship system administered through the North Carolina Community College System
Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA)	US DOL National Industry Intermediary, National RAP Sponsor
FASTPORT	US DOL National Industry Intermediary, National RAP Sponsor
Anthem Inc.	Industry
Nestle's Project Opportunity Alliance	Industry
Transportation Intermediaries Association (TIA)	Industry
Hampton Roads Alliance	Industry/Economic Development
East Bay Economic Development Alliance (California)	Economic Development
Hiring Our Heroes	Workforce Development
SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES	
<p>The Safal Partner-led COE is an E3 consortia of national and state employment, education, and economic development leaders taking an evidence-based approach to scaling the adoption of proven best practices; these practices are in alignment of registered apprenticeship (RA) with workforce and education systems. Consortia partners from five targeted states (California, Iowa, Missouri, North Carolina, and Texas) will employ a Strategic Doing™ approach to its work with OA and SAA leaders, DOL RA TA Centers of Excellence, and other federal and state</p>	

<p>agencies. Activities will include analyzing data, developing policy recommendations, producing technical assistance (TA) materials, delivering training, building sustainable partnerships, and nationally scaling work by expanding state engagement. This will accelerate long-term system alignment and integrated service delivery.</p>		
RA TA CENTER PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES		
<p>Outcome Measure #1: Increase understanding about RA in the workforce system (e.g., American Job Centers, Business Service Representatives, Workforce Development Boards, YouthBuild), leading to doubled workforce system participation in RAPs.</p> <p>Outcome Measure #2: Support an integrated service delivery approach and the development of resources to increase the leveraging of WIOA and other federal funding across workforce programs by 20% nationally (e.g., co-enrollment).</p> <p>Outcome Measure #3: Increase employer, education and training providers, intermediaries, and workforce systems partnership building and connectivity across workforce programs through the development of at least 100 new partnerships.</p> <p>Outcome Measure #4: Improve alignment between state education, workforce system, and RA system, with the goal of informing 10 new policies/programs at the federal and state level in order to support RAP integration and alignment.</p>		
<p>Additional Outcomes aligned with DOL Outcome #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase understanding of RAP in the workforce system, thus increasing participation in RAP by 100% across the nation over the next 4 years. • Increase by 100% the number of LWDBs who are screening job seekers for RAPs within the Center's 5 targeted states. • Increase by 30% the number of LWDBs who are screening job seekers for RAPs at a national level. 	<p><i>Partner Support</i> OA/SAA, Safal Partners, All Required and Optional Partners, Industry Intermediaries</p>	<p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 new TA tools • 20 webinars (or other training materials) • 5 Concept Papers/Policy Recommendations or OA approval re: transition from school to RAP • Training for LWDB case managers that will increase the screening of all jobseekers as potential apprentices for RAPs
<p>Additional Outcomes aligned with DOL Outcome #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase scaling of integrated service delivery approach and leveraging of WIOA and other funds by 20% of LWDBs nationally. • At least 80 LWDBs have Business Services Representatives (BSRs) assisting a minimum of three employers annually within the 5 targeted states by utilizing RAP development or apprenticeship enrollment assistance. • At least 60 LWDBs have BSRs, assisting at least three employers annually at a national level. 	<p><i>Partner Support</i> OA/SAA, Safal Partners, All Required and Optional Partners, Industry Intermediaries</p>	<p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for LWDB staff/BSRs, ATRs regarding co-enrollment • Minimum of 1,260 employers to be served by BSRs on RAP development or RAP co-enrollment nationally
<p>Additional Outcomes aligned with DOL Outcome #3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E3 leadership team determines peer-to-peer mentors and begins mentoring with other identified LWDBs, OA/SAA, states, or others requesting TA through the COE webpage and coaching calls. 	<p><i>Partner Support</i> Safal Partners, All Optional Partners, State and local WDBs, OA/SAA</p>	<p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five to ten states to be integrated into consortia work through peer-to-peer mentoring
<p>Additional Outcomes aligned with DOL Outcome #4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 12 states to review policy recommendations and advance at the state legislative level. • Increase specific integration of RAP as part of states' unified or combined (WIOA) plans by 20% over four years nationally. 	<p><i>Partner Support</i> Safal Partners, State and local WDBs, OA/SAA</p>	<p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten policy or program recommendations are provided for use at the local, state, or federal level re: alignment of state education, workforce system, and RA system to support RAPs
PUBLIC CONTACT INFORMATION		
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