

Objective Strategic Session (OSS)

Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO)
PPO-CWX-006-WETO

October 10, 2024 (2 PM ET)

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The mission of ConnectWerx is to **Engage, Match,** and **Collaborate** across the US Industrial and Academic base to help the Department of Energy (DOE) address **energy, environmental** and **nuclear** challenges through transformative science and technology solutions.



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Take part in **opportunities** through virtual events

- CWX & DOE Objective Strategic Sessions (OSS/Webinars)
 - Learn about PIA opportunities facilitated by CWX.
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 - Q & A
- CWX & DOE Office Hours
 - Ask direct question to DOE and CWX.
 - Note: review application prior.



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Wind Energy Technologies Office STEM & Workforce Development

Laura Hastings
STEM & Workforce Development Lead

Daniel A. Duron
STEM & Workforce Development Contractor



Program Overview

Activity Summary:

WETO is looking to support education and training programs that offer (a) apprenticeship readiness programs, (b) registered apprenticeship programs, or (c) maritime/mariner programs, with particular attention to programs that support underserved communities. Recipients of this funding can include local or state governments, Tribes, workforce boards, institutions of higher education (especially Minority Serving Institutions), organized labor, industry, or other education and training providers that further education and training programs as they relate to the deployment of offshore wind in the United States. Successful applicants will have hiring commitments from employer partners. These awards will build upon existing training infrastructure and consider regional variability.

Overall Activity Objectives (life of Activity):

- Address the immediate and anticipated workforce needs of the domestic offshore wind industry through the deployment of trainings.
- Broaden paths to high quality offshore wind jobs.
- Deliver holistic supportive services to training participants.

Office: Office of Technology Transitions,
Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO)
Funding Amount: \$1.9 million

Application Open: October 1, 2024
Full Application Deadline: December 13,
2024 at 5:00 p.m. ET

Link to apply: [PPO-CWX-006-WETO: Offshore Wind Workforce Readiness – Connectwerx](#)



Background

- The United States will need to use a variety of clean energy resources to meet the Biden-Harris Administration's climate goals.
- **Wind energy—both offshore and land-based—has an especially important role to play in decarbonizing the grid and achieving a robust U.S. clean energy economy.**
- To achieve a fully decarbonized power sector by 2035, the pace of wind energy deployment must significantly increase by the end of the decade.



Impacts of Workforce on Offshore Wind Industry

Economic Growth and Job Creation

- Offshore wind energy is projected to generate thousands of well-paying jobs across multiple sectors, including construction, manufacturing, and maintenance. This investment creates long-term employment opportunities, especially in coastal regions.

Facilitating the Clean Energy Transition:

- Achieving renewable energy goals and reducing greenhouse gas emissions require a skilled workforce to build and maintain offshore wind farms. Investing in workforce development ensures we have the talent needed to scale these projects rapidly.

Supporting Equity and Access in Workforce Development:

- By focusing on equity in workforce development, we ensure that the benefits of the offshore wind boom are shared across all communities, particularly those that have been historically marginalized in traditional energy industries.

Strengthening U.S. Competitiveness in Clean Energy:

- The U.S. has the potential to be a global leader in offshore wind, with the opportunity to export both energy and technical expertise to other nations.
- By investing in the workforce now, we build a foundation for long-term leadership in the clean energy economy, allowing the U.S. to compete with Europe and Asia in offshore wind innovation and deployment.

Timeline

Key Dates	
Applications Open:	<i>October 1, 2024</i>
Informational Webinar:	<i>October 10, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. ET</i>
Office Hours Session 1:	<i>November 24, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. ET</i>
Office Hours Session 2:	<i>As Needed</i>
Full Application Deadline:	<i>December 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. ET</i>
Expected Date for Selection Notification:	<i>Early Spring 2025</i>
Expected Timeframe for Agreement Negotiations:	<i>Spring 2025</i>
Activities Begin	<i>Early Summer 2025</i>

Prime Recipients

1. Local or state governments;
2. Indian tribes;
3. Workforce boards;
4. Institutions of higher education (especially Minority Serving Institutions);
5. Organized labor, including union training programs;
6. Apprenticeship readiness programs
7. Trade schools;
8. Manufacturing associations;
9. Industry;
10. Community based organizations; or
11. Other education and training providers that further education and training programs as they relate to the deployment of offshore wind.

Project Partners and Subrecipients

1. Employer partners, including, but not limited to, manufacturers energy service providers; skilled trades organizations; or vessel operators
2. Other workforce development and career training institutions (i.e., a college could apply with a union as a subrecipient or partner, or a union could apply with a college subrecipient or partner).
3. Workforce system institutions (e.g., workforce development boards).
4. Community-based organizations.
5. State, local, and territorial governmental entities, including local education agencies and high schools.
6. Indian tribes.
7. Four-year colleges and universities. Applicants are highly encouraged to partner with Tribal colleges and universities and other Minority-Serving Institutions.
8. Federally funded research and development centers, both DOE-sponsored and non-DOE-sponsored.

Application Requirements

File Title	Max Pages	File Type
Project Narrative (Template)	7	MS Word, PDF, PPT
Budget Workbook (Template)		Excel, PDF
Letters of Support		
Note: At least one letter from an employer partner and at least one letter from community partner is required.	10	MS Word, PDF

Application Requirements

WETO Project Narrative Application (Template)

Overview/Summary of Application (No more than 1 page)

1. Provide a simple, plain language, description of your project proposal, including your total proposal budget. What problem is it seeking to address? What key considerations inform the scope and approach of this project?

Project Proposal (1-3 pages)

1. List the goals of the project and describe how the project intends to train for roles that are (a) in demand, (b) connected to domestic offshore wind energy, and (c) have markers of quality jobs in line with [U.S. Department of Labor's "Good Jobs Principles"](#).
2. Explain how the training directly relates to (a) apprenticeship readiness programs, (b) registered apprenticeship programs, or (c) maritime/mariner programs, with particular attention to programs that support underserved communities.
3. Describe how the training will deliver industry-recognized credentials (if any), job placement, and contribute to employee retention for the employer partners.
4. Include program enrollment strategies and goals. Include metrics (or other mechanisms to demonstrate success) for each goal.
5. Include job placement strategies and goals. Include metrics (or other mechanisms to demonstrate success) for each goal.
6. Demonstrate how the proposed project will use effective workforce development strategies.
7. Describe how support services will be offered, what community-based partners will be participating, and how program participants will be connected with support services.
8. Describe the impact of the proposed project. What gaps will be filled/problems will be solved if it were implemented?
9. Provide letters of support and participation from community-based organizations re: support services.
10. Provide letters of support and employment commitment from employer partners.

Experience and Ability to Deliver on Project Objectives (1-2 pages)

1. Provide a summary of your organization's experience delivering on projects of similar scope or addressing a similar technical subject.
2. Provide a summary of qualifications and relevant expertise of the project team and/or partners who will support project implementation.
3. Describe the facilities and equipment that exist and how they will support the project.
4. For multi-organizational projects, describe the roles, responsibilities, and work to be performed by each organization and how communications will be maintained among project partners.
5. Upload letters of support and commitment from employer and other program partners in the optional field at the end of the application. These letters do not count towards page or word limits.

Project Activity / Milestone	Cost Quantity (firm fixed cost)	Timeline of Expenditure	Description and Justification
Milestone 1: [Milestone]	\$0.00	[Month - Year] - [Month - Year]	[Description of activities and relevance for meeting opportunity's goals]
Milestone 2: [Milestone]	\$0.00	[Month - Year] - [Month - Year]	[Description of activities and relevance for meeting opportunity's goals]
Milestone 3: [Milestone]	\$0.00	[Month - Year] - [Month - Year]	[Description of activities and relevance for meeting opportunity's goals]
Milestone 4: [Milestone]	\$0.00	[Month - Year] - [Month - Year]	[Description of activities and relevance for meeting opportunity's goals]
[Non-milestone-based activity]	\$0.00	[Month - Year] - [Month - Year]	[Description of activities and relevance for meeting opportunity's goals]
[Misc.]	\$0.00	[Month - Year] - [Month - Year]	[Description of activities and relevance for meeting opportunity's goals]
Total	\$0.00		

Project Activity/Milestone	Cost Quantity (firm fixed cost)	Timeline of Expenditure	Description and Justification
Milestone 1: Initial Scoping	\$150,000.00	April 2024 - May 2024	2.5 Forrestal LLC salaries, procuring novel datasets to scope projects, and travel costs to lab facilities
Milestone 2: Convenings	\$500,000.00	June 2024 - August 2024	Hosting 10 convenings over 3 months in various community settings. Venues, food, childcare, and other associated costs
Milestone 3: Technology Experiments	\$975,000.00	July 2024 - September 2024	Costs of technology creation and validation and high-powered Lab facilities. Equipment and associated analysis time for 8 technologies
Milestone 4: Project Closeout	\$125,000.00	September 2024 - December 2024	Report writing and publication of findings associated with milestones 2 and 3
Ongoing support activities	\$125,000.00	April 2024 - December 2024	Hiring logistics support and technical consultants for life of project
Misc.	\$15,000.00	December 2024	Associated closeout costs and travel to DOE HQ for presentations
Total	#####		

Review Criteria

1. Uses best practices in workforce development (40%)

1.A. Trains for in-demand jobs and explicitly attends to job quality and job access (15%)

The project proposes to train for roles that are (A) in demand, (B) connected to domestic offshore wind energy, and (C) have markers of quality jobs, in line with [U.S. Department of Labor’s “Good Job Principles”](#).

1.B. Includes employer partners and job placement (15%)

The project is likely to deliver training that leads to industry-recognized credentials, job placement, and employee retention.

1.C. Employs effective workforce development strategies (10%)

The project utilizes effective workforce development strategies and demonstrates that the project can implement declared workforce development strategies effectively.

- Applicant lists focal job titles or career pathways, with ties to offshore wind industry.
- Applicant commits to addressing high job quality and accessibility (e.g., expected wages, benefits, opportunity for career advancement).

- Applicant includes 1+ Letter(s) of Commitment from employer partner(s).
- Applicant includes program enrollment goals as well as job placement goals.

- Applicant allocates appropriate resources to support their strategy in the Budget Workbook, and/or clearly describes any non-DOE resources that will support program deployment.
- Applicant outlines their plan to implement existing resources to achieve job placement goals outlined in section.

2. Serves Offshore Wind Industry (20%)

This project directly impacts the offshore wind industry.

- Applicant demonstrates knowledge of the domestic offshore wind industry and articulates how their training will meet the needs of industry.
- Applicant clearly describes experience working with industry partners to provide hands-on training that benefits workers.
- Applicant describes employee partner’s involvement in offshore wind industry and how any partners will be incorporated into the project.

Review Criteria (cont.)

3. Provides participant benefits (20%)

The project proposes to create specific and meaningful benefits to program participants commensurate with the project scope. Supportive services are provided to program participants

- Applicant demonstrates partnerships to administer supportive services.
- Applicant includes 1+ Letter(s) of Commitment from such organization.
- Applicant describes plan to provide supportive services to program participants including, but not limited to, transportation stipends, childcare, meals, or other needs, particularly those unique to the local community.
- To the greatest extent possible, scope of work will take place in and serve a recognized Energy Justice community, as identified by the

4. Includes a robust project management approach, team, and budget (20%)

The applicant proposes an effective use of existing resources and reasonable budget to complete the project, and includes sustainability plans as applicable.

- Applicant suggests an overall budget and budget breakdown commensurate with the project’s workplan, leaving minimal ambiguity about how the project will pay for proposed activities.
- Applicant’s Project Proposal includes a workplan, including goals and milestones.

Application Process

Step 1:
Download Project Narrative
and Budget Workbook

Step 2:
Submit application under
“How to Apply”

How to Apply

Complete the submission form and upload the appropriate project information and supporting documentation in the application link below for PPO-CWX-006-WETO.

Submissions are due no later than Friday, December 13, 2024 at 5 PM ET

Submissions must include the following files as indicated in the below chart using the required templates.

File Title	Max Pages	File Type
Project Narrative (Template) ←	7	MS Word, PDF, PPT
Budget Workbook (Template) ←		Excel, PDF
Letters of Support		
Note: At least one letter from an employer partner and at least one letter from community partner is required.	10	MS Word, PDF

Submission Requirements

Responses shall be submitted by the date and time specified above. [Click here](#) to apply. ←

Files shall be submitted in Microsoft Office or Adobe Acrobat format, and not be larger than 5MB each. ZIP files and other application formats are not acceptable. All files shall be print-capable, without a password.

Filenames must contain the appropriate extension and shall not contain special characters'. Appropriate files extensions are:

Application / File	Valid Extensions
Portable Document Files (Adobe Acrobat PDF)	.pdf
Microsoft Word (MS Word)	.doc / .docx
Microsoft Power Point (MS PPT)	.ppt / .pptx
Microsoft Excel	.xls

Late submissions will not be accepted. Submissions can be made in advance of the deadline and updated (or files replaced) up to the deadline.

Questions?

Reach out to us at info@connectwerx.org

[PPO-CWX-006-WETO: Offshore Wind Workforce
Readiness – Connectwerx](#)

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