

2020 WRG – RR Expansion

Addendum to WRG NCB Implementation and Procedures Manual

In early June, Governor Holcomb announced the launch of Indiana’s “[Rapid Recovery for a Better Future](#)” initiative. As part of Indiana’s Rapid Recovery efforts to assist Hoosiers in returning to employment from the COVID-19 pandemic, recent federal funding through the CARES Act injects \$50 million into Indiana’s efforts to scale up short-term education and training opportunities.

The additional funding provided to Indiana through the CARES Act enables Indiana to temporarily expand upon the **Workforce Ready Grant** to support an additional 10,000 Hoosiers with their career training goals. In order to reach more Hoosiers efficiently and effectively, some **temporary** changes have been made to the WRG program:

- Increasing the funding cap from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for eligible programs
- Allowing Hoosiers with two- and four-year degrees who have been impacted by COVID-19 to qualify for the grant
- Expanding the list of qualifying training programs and certifications

With these new changes and allowances, the following amendments have **temporarily** been made to WRG’s non-credit bearing implementation and procedures eligibility criteria for the timeframe of *June 15, 2020 through December 30, 2020*:

- **Program participants may qualify for up to \$10,000 in grant funding.**
- Program participants may have a high school diploma or equivalent **AND may have a two- or four-year degree.**
- **In addition to occupations ranking 5 flames on INDemand, programs training to one of the following occupations are now eligible for consideration:**

Information Security Analyst	Dental Assistants	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	Computer User Support Specialist	Industry Machinery Mechanics
Heavy and Tractor-trailer Truck Drivers	Web Developer	Machinists	Pharmacy Technicians	First Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
Nursing Assistants	Rehabilitation Counselors	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	Community Health Workers	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers
Phlebotomists	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	Carpenters	Production Workers, All Others	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers
Construction Laborers				

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- **WRG - RR Expansion changes and allowances are temporary and only valid during June 15, 2020 through December 30, 2020.**
- WRG –RR Expansion funding must be expended by **December 30, 2020**.
- Courses approved under the WRG – RR Expansion **MUST conclude by December 30, 2020**. This includes courses that were approved prior to WRG – RR Expansion but received a tuition increase*.
- **Final invoices must be submitted no later than January 30, 2021 to ensure payment.**
- All authorized training providers MUST adhere to the [Workforce Ready Grant Non-Credit Bearing Implementation and Procedures Manual](#) with the exceptions outlined within the WRG –RR Expansion Addendum.
- After December 30, 2020, the WRG NCB program will continue to operate via state funding dollars, and expectations will return to standard operating procedures as stated in the [Workforce Ready Grant Non-Credit Bearing Implementation and Procedures Manual](#).
 - Only WRG NCB authorized training programs that meet the statewide 5 flame requirement will remain active; all other programs will sunset no later than December 30, 2020
 - The individual funding cap will return to \$5,000
 - Only persons with a high school diploma but without a post-secondary degree will be able to access the WRG program

*New cohorts may begin December 31, 2020 at the reduced tuition cap.