

Immigrant Pathways Q&A Compilation
Immigrant Career Pathways Grants: Bridging Language and Employment and
Workforce Training Programs

General Questions

Question: What do you consider makes a compelling proposal?

Answer: A complete application that thoroughly addresses either option A or B and emphasizes strong outcomes, supported by contextualized data.

Question: Is the target population the same for both options A and B?

Answer: Both categories must serve low-income residents of Boston. For option A, the preference is to prioritize immigrant residents. For option B, immigration status is not necessary.

Question: Do the organizations handle their own student recruitment?

Answer: Yes. OWD expects that applicants will handle their own student recruitment or clearly explain if another partner has that duty.

Question: What if this opportunity might provide a chance to branch out from our prior services? Would we then need to document metrics (but show we have success in a related area)?

Answer: This opportunity will not prioritize pilot program funding. OWD is aiming to support existing programming in the field.

Question: Does the organization have to follow the candidate who applies and gets into the training?

Answer: OWD expects applicants to track participant-level data through to their proposed outcomes.

Question: Can you remind us if there are office hours or ways we can ask you more follow-up questions?

Answer: All questions can be answered via email. Please reach out to tatiana.joyce@boston.gov and be sure to reference “Immigrant Career Pathways” either in your subject line or body of your email.

Questions for Option A

Question: For Track A, can the program serve both aspiring entrepreneurs and immigrants who already operate informally or have an early-stage business?

Answer: Yes.

Question: For Option A, what if ESOL programming prepares participants for high-demand jobs outside of the priority industries (childcare, construction, small business)?

Answer: Applicants may apply with programs outside of the priority industries listed in the RFGA. Please note that they may not be considered as competitive as the applications within the priority industries.

Question: For Track A, could we propose a program combining contextualized ESOL with entrepreneurship and small-business-development training for this population? Would outcomes such as business formation, formalization, increased revenue, and self-employment satisfy the program's employment requirements?"

Answer: Yes.

Question: For Option A, do you have some sort of parameter requirements? Understanding that developing a business can take a while. Are you looking for particular certifications?

Answer: OWD is open-minded regarding the curriculum and key program success indicators for option A. We encourage applicants to provide a clear outline of their program and if certifications are self-generated, to provide an explanation for why those milestones represent success within the program.

Question: For option A, could we propose a program combining contextualized ESOL with entrepreneurship and small-business-development training for this population? Would outcomes such as business formation, formalization, increased revenue, and self-employment satisfy the program's employment requirements?

Answer: Yes to both questions.

Question: For Option A, what if ESOL programming prepares participants for high-demand jobs outside of the priority industries?

Answer: Applicants are welcome to apply even if their programming does not include a priority industry. Please understand that your proposal may not be selected due to the need to prioritize the aforementioned industries and occupational pathways listed in the Request for Grant Applications.

Questions for Option B

Question: For Option B, are trades other than HVAC, automotive, computer skills, and cooking eligible?

Answer: Applicants are welcome to apply even if their programming does not include a priority industry. Please understand that your proposal may not be selected due to the

need to prioritize the aforementioned industries and occupational pathways listed in the Request for Grant Applications.