

Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) grant definitions

Applicant: Individuals or entities completing and submitting a grant application form or proposal.

Application: An application may be any written or electronic document that applicants complete to apply for funds. At times, "application" and "proposal" may be used interchangeably.

Apprenticeship committee: In Minnesota, the Apprenticeship Advisory Board and the Department of Labor and Industry play key roles in overseeing apprenticeship programs. The board is responsible for assisting in effectuating the purposes of the chapter, establishing standards for apprentice training and providing guidance about apprenticeship agreements controversies. The department oversees the Division of Apprenticeship, which includes the state apprenticeship agency and the Apprenticeship Division. These committees work together to ensure that apprenticeship programs are registered, meet federal and state standards and provide quality training and on-the-job learning opportunities for apprentices.

Authorized representative: The individual responsible for monitoring the grantee's performance and with the authority to accept services outlined in the grant contract agreement.

Award: Confirmation of funding received from the grantor after the application is submitted. This may be a letter confirming the amount of funding or a fully executed grant agreement from the grantor.

Community-based organization (CBO): A public or private nonprofit organization of demonstrated effectiveness that represents a community or segments of a community and provides educational, economic, employment or related services to individuals in the community.

Competitive grant: A grant in which the grantor solicits a request for proposals (RFP) from eligible applicants, reviews the applications and convenes a grant review committee to recommend grant awards.

Conflict of interest (COI): A conflict of interest (actual, perceived or potential) occurs when a person or organization has actual or apparent duty or loyalty to more than one organization and the competing duties or loyalties may result in actions that are averse to one or both parties.

Department of Labor and Industry (DLI): A branch of state government enforcing Minnesota's labor and industry rules and regulations.

Direct costs: Eligible grant expenses that can be itemized and tracked with receipts and other documentation.

Eligibility: Describes the parameters that must be met to apply for the grant. These parameters are specified within the RFP.

Eligible expenses: Expenses that are allowable and reimbursable under a particular grant-funded program.

Employer association: An employer association is a membership organization that aims to promote and protect the interests of its members, who are typically engaged in similar commercial activities. These associations serve as a collective voice for their members, advocating for favorable policies, sharing information and providing networking opportunities.

They can range from local chambers of commerce to national trade associations, each focusing on specific industries or business sectors.

Grant: For DLI grants, “grant” refers to the transfer of cash to a recipient to support a public purpose authorized by law.

Grant budget: A projected spending plan for all anticipated expenditures related to the grant.

Grant budget narrative: A projected spending plan for all anticipated expenditures related to the grant.

Grant contract agreement: A written or electronic document defining a legal relationship between the recipient (grantee) and a granting agency (DLI) when the principal purpose of the relationship is to transfer money, property, services or anything of value to the recipient to support a public purpose authorized by law.

Grant monitoring meeting: All grants over \$50,000 must include a grant monitoring meeting. The meeting that takes place during the grant period of performance and involves both state granting agency staff members and key grantee staff. The purpose of the meeting is to review and ensure progress against the grant’s goals, to address any problems or issues before the end of the grant period and to build rapport between the state agency and the grantee.

Grant participant (participant): An individual who is enrolled in a grantee’s funded programming.

Grantee: The entity that receives grant funding.

Grantor: The entity that awards the grant funding.

Indirect costs: Indirect costs are costs incurred for a common/shared purpose benefitting more than one objective for the grantee. The costs are not easily assignable to a specific objective. Indirect cost examples include salaries for executive director, front desk receptionist, square footage of space occupied by indirect staff or general office supplies available to all employees.

Period of performance (POP): The total amount of time for which a grantor promises to fund a grant and authorizes a grantee to conduct a project. The time from the date a contract is fully executed, until the date a contract expires.

Principal (of an organization): A public official, a board member, or staff (paid or volunteer) with the authority to access funds provided by this grant opportunity or to determine how those funds are used.

Quarterly progress report (QPR): A summary of grant activities and outcomes for a given period. A progress report may have narrative, statistical and financial elements. Information requested in a grant progress report may include progress on grant-funded activities, outcomes, successes, challenges and lessons learned.

Request For proposal (RFP): The announcement distributed by a funding agency to potential grantees to notify them that funding is available. The RFP defines a grant opportunity, its parameters, goals and how to apply for funding.

Reimbursement payment request form (RPR): The title of the state's invoicing form. This is used to submit grantee expenses for reimbursement.

Signatory employer: An employer who establishes a plan under a collective bargaining agreement and is responsible for its administration. This employer is obligated to comply with the rights and obligations outlined in the collective bargaining agreement, which may include clauses regulating the rights of new employers. Additionally, the signatory employer may also be responsible for terminating the participation of other participating employers in the plan upon written notice.

Statewide integrated financial tools (SWIFT): The online financial, procurement and reporting system used by the state of Minnesota. Grantees need to be a part of this system to receive payments.

Work plan: A detailed description that identifies desired project or program activities, timelines and outcomes. This is generally required as part of the grant application.