

2024 Innovative Employment Opportunity

Frequently Asked Questions

March 8, 2024

Questions & Answers

Q: Can an applicant apply for 2 (both) grants, one for exploratory and one for Implementation/Expansion at the same time or are applicants only allowed to apply for one grant during this cycle?

A: An applicant may apply to both the exploratory and implementation grant separately, providing they meet the criteria outlined for each.

Q: I have an individual who owns an online store and he is interested in applying for the IEO grant to expand and for marketing. He is not an LLC or a nonprofit organization. Does this limit him from applying? If the individual begins the process of incorporating the business, is that acceptable?

A: It is not an expectation that applicants for the exploratory grant have an LLC or Employment Identification Number (EIN), as this grant is intended for businesses that are not fully developed. Applicants for the implementation/expansion grant would be expected to demonstrate that the business is either active, or about to become active. This would include an EIN and business plan. If an applicant for the implementation/expansion grant does not have an EIN, the application would need to address the plan to gain one.

Q: May grant funds be used to pay the wages of people who are providing supervision and training of employees with disabilities?

A: Grant funds are not permitted for wages of people providing supervision and training of employees with disabilities.]

Q: May grant funds be used to pay the wages of individuals with disabilities whom we hire, if these are new positions created using grant funds?

A: Grant funds are not permitted for wages of individuals with disabilities hired by an enterprise.