ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
APPLICATION ABSTRACT

RFA Specification No.: 10-332
RFA Specification Title: Responsive Training Fund
Amount Requested: ________________

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West Los Angeles College (West), Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS), St. John’s Well Child Clinic (St. John’s), and Service Employees International Union Health Care Workers Development Program (HCWDP), and the Worker Education & Resources Center (WERC) propose the Medical Assistant for the New Healthcare Paradigm Preparation Program (MAPP).

We will use lessons learned from a current prototype to set in place the MAPP—a responsive training program that encompasses the full Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) medical assistant program through EWD RTF funding that can become a model for other regions of the state in the upgrading of current lower-wage health clinic personnel to fulfill the role of medical assistants—a key position in the changing health care environment due to federal health care reform legislation.

Health care employers redesigning their processes, moving to a patient centered medical home model in response to federal health care reform legislation. This model uses medical assistants as key members of a physician-led healthcare team and has been shown to significantly improve health outcomes while reducing costs. Medical assistants play a major role in the chief features of this model, which emphasize preventative care, patient education and self-management of chronic diseases, the integration of specialty and primary care, and electronic medical records. To accomplish these, public and non-profit safety-net health clinics and the SEIU HCWDP have approached West to discuss how an effective, workplace-based model for preparing qualified incumbent workers to become medical assistants can be developed and successful.

MAPP will accomplish the following objectives:
1. train between 30 and 50 incumbent workers to be medical assistants
2. develop a curricular and instructional methodology approach built on the apprenticeship model where incumbent workers are identified, assessed, provided contextualized basic skills instruction, and enter and complete a 1062 hour medical assistant training program while employed resulting in employment as medical assistants for successful program completers.
3. at least 90% of those who successfully complete will be employed as medical assistants
4. at least 75% of those will be employed as medical assistants 3, 6, and 12 months after initial employment
5. ensure that the training content is closely aligned with the job duties of medical assistants in the respective health care environments