



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF SEATTLE-KING COUNTY MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 4, 2022
TO: Finance and Administration Committee
FROM: Michael Davie, Director of Programs
SUBJECT: QUEST DWG

SUMMARY:

Washington State received 15 million from Department of Labor to implement Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, and Training (QUEST) Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs). Of the 15 million awarded to Washington, the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County (WDC) has been allocated \$3,189,231 to support employment equity and individual, community, and industry resilience as the region prioritizes economic and employment recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

QUEST DWG will emphasize partnership development, community outreach, business engagement, and comprehensive career and training services. In the implementation of QUEST DWG, the WDC will focus on serving individuals whose employment has been negatively impacted by the pandemic, including individuals from historically marginalized and underserved populations who have been disproportionately impacted.

The WDC will advance efforts to recover from the pandemic and allow the region to create a resilient, skilled workforce in critical, in-demand industry sectors, such as:

- Infrastructure-related sectors, including manufacturing, construction, communications, transportation, distribution and logistics.
- Care Economy sectors such as health, elder and childcare, where worker shortages and resignations were felt acutely during the pandemic.
- Environmental remediation and climate change mitigation-related industries, including in support of environmental justice outcomes.
- Other critical industries such as Transportation and Warehousing, Information and Communication Technology, Leisure/ Hospitality and growth industries where employers offer high-quality jobs and better insulating workers from future pandemic-related economic shocks.

Through QUEST DWG, the WDC will support individuals who have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the social and economic inequities that the pandemic exacerbated, to enter, return to, or advance in high-quality jobs in growth industries with high-quality jobs.

Timeframe: October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2024
Budget: \$3,189,231

Total Served in Career Services:	213
Training Services	20
Work-based Learning	30
Exits to Employment:	138