Public Notice The State Training and Employment Program (STEP) Request for Grant Applications for State Fiscal Year 2018

The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Employment and Training Services requests grant applications for training projects in priority industries under the State Training and Employment Program (STEP). The STEP is funded by a percentage of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and is appropriated to the Division by the Alaska State Legislature.

The purpose of the STEP is to enhance the quality and accessibility of in-state training and employment services for Alaska residents to help meet the workforce needs of employers in the state. STEP seeks to increase resident employment in industries where a high number of nonresidents are working, reduce future unemployment claims, and foster economic growth in all regions by meeting employers demand for a skilled workforce.

Organizations with training projects that will upgrade the skills of the local workforce with the latest national and state certifications and competencies in demand by employers in the priority industries are encouraged to apply. Training participants must meet the eligibility requirements of the STEP.

The attached Request for Grant Applications (RGA) includes additional detailed information regarding this solicitation.

Two teleconferences will be held to answer questions about the STEP program, this RGA, and the application process.

RGA and Application Overview Date: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Conference Telephone: 1-888-354-0094 Conference ID: 7345413 EGrAMS Application Questions Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Conference Telephone: 1-888-354-0094 Conference ID: 7345413

The deadline for submission of grant applications is **Friday, April 14, 2017 by 5:00 p.m**. Funding of STEP grant awards is limited by the availability of funds each fiscal year and subject to appropriation by the Alaska State Legislature.

Questions about this solicitation should be directed to: Julie Frizzell, Program Coordinator julie.frizzell@alaska.gov (907) 269-4590