
Frequently Asked Questions

What's the purpose?

The Ohio General Assembly appropriated Jobs Challenge program funds to the Ohio Board of Regents and the EnterpriseOhio Network (statewide system of community colleges) to accomplish three objectives:

- To ensure employers access to affordable non-credit training and related services
- To improve the competitiveness of Ohio businesses through non-credit employee training
- To attract, develop, and retain companies strategically important to Ohio's economy

Which companies are eligible?

- **Manufacturing employers**, especially smaller manufacturing companies with less than 100 employees, and other manufacturing-related companies on which manufacturers depend, that require training and assessments to enhance competitiveness, retain workers, expand operations, develop new business, relocate or expand operations in Ohio, or a combination of these business goals.
- **Non manufacturing employers** experiencing a shortage of Information Technology workers and needing training and assessment services to address that shortage. **Information Technology Training**, not necessarily manufacturing organizations, who need information technology (computer) training. This may include banks and other service organizations.
- **Health services employers** of all sizes and types, which employ a significant number of Ohio's workforce and are key to a high quality of life in the state. Employers may be for-profit, non-profit or not-for-profit organizations. To qualify for financial support of specified job training and related services provided by an EnterpriseOhio Network campus, a Category III employer must require employee training or related services to improve the organization's quality, customer service, productivity, competitive ability or operational excellence.

Which companies are not eligible?

Government agencies and non-profit organizations (except health services) are not eligible for the grant.

How much money is available?

The State of Ohio allocated \$2.8 million FY 2005-06. Grant applications for FY 2005 will be awarded after July 1, 2005. Grant awards may not exceed \$650.00 per employee and \$50,000 per application. An eligible company and its service provider may receive a maximum of \$100,000 in program funds assistance during a two-year period.

What do the funds cover?

The grant program will support up to 75% of the total documented costs of training and related services for companies with less than 100 employees. For companies with 100 or more employees, the grant will cover up to 50% of training costs. Grant monies may be used for training, consultants, vendor training, curriculum development, assessment services, supplies and materials, and travel expenses. Types of training covered under the grant include management, supervisory, safety, technical, computer and others.

What is the application process?

A six-page application to the Ohio Board of Regents is required. Approval time upon receipt of the applications has historically been less than one week. Program or course evaluations are required, as well as a completion and final report. The final report must contain impact measurement data (i.e., improved efficiency, reduced scrap, improved quality, increased competitiveness, etc.) or performance change indicators. Your local community college can assist you with completing the grant application, final report, and submission of the grant application online.

