

JUSTIFICATION

Grants Solicitation for Assistive Technology Action Center, September 28, 2012 through September 27, 2013

1225-0086

Grant Initiative Abstract: Through this solicitation, the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) will identify an entity to develop and operate the Accessible Technology Action Center (ATAC), a new national resource to facilitate and promote the use of accessible technology in the hiring, employment, retention, and career advancement of individuals with disabilities. The ATAC will strategically (1) develop, coordinate and publicize resources on accessible technology in the workplace; (2) promote effective employer practices and strategies on accessible technology issues in the workplace related to leadership, self-assessment, policies and practices, infrastructure, and continuous improvement; (3) facilitate policy advancement on specific issues facing employers, developers, and the technology industry related to ensuring accessible, usable and interoperable technology in all types of work settings; and (4) translate that policy knowledge into adoption and implementation.

Tasks to be carried out by the Accessible Technology Action Center include, but are not limited to:

- Developing and maintaining a comprehensive web portal with resources related to accessible technology in the workplace, including resources that meet the varied needs of individuals with disabilities, private and public sector employers, and information technology professionals and developers.
- Conducting trainings/webinars on issues related to accessible technology in the workplace, including use of emerging technologies to facilitate employment and creating accessible human resource management systems (e.g., accessible online job application portals).
- Collecting, analyzing, and publicizing exemplary practices related to accessible technology in the workplace through collaboration with public and private sector employers.
- Conducting outreach, establishing, and maintaining strategic partnerships and effective working collaborations with outside entities with the goal of sharing knowledge and promoting the adoption and implementation of policies and effective practices related to accessible technology in the workplace.

Funding of up to \$950,000 will be awarded through a competitive process for a 12-month period of performance (September 28, 2012 through September 27, 2013), with the possibility of up to 4 option years of funding depending on the availability of funds and satisfactory performance.

Information Collection Burden: The DOL expects approximately 10 applications from an equal number of applicants, and the burden per application will be 20 hours with no capital, start-up, maintenance, or operational costs. Fifty percent of the applications are expected to be filed electronically.

10 applications x 20 hours = 200 hours.

The DOL has increased the March 2012 average hourly earnings in the professional and business services industry of \$28.03 by 40 percent (total \$39.24) to monetize this burden. See *The Employment Situation—May 2012*, DOL, Bureau of Labor Statistics, http://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/empst_06012012.pdf at 33.

200 burden hours x \$38.64 per hour = \$7728.

The DOL associates no other burden costs with this information collection.

Total burden: 10 respondents (unduplicated), 10 responses, 200 hours, \$0 other cost burden

Electronic Capability: The grant will be made available on grants.gov.

Assurances of confidentiality: This grant solicitation does not offer applicants assurances of confidentiality.

Special circumstances: This information collection complies with 5 CFR 1320.5.

Supporting Statement B: Statistical Methods: This information collection does not employ statistical methods.