

OCTAE Connection Flash Edition

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Department of Labor Young Adult Reentry Partnership Funding Opportunity

The [U.S. Department of Labor](#) (DOL) is pleased to announce the availability of Young Adult Reentry Partnership (YARP) grants. DOL plans to award \$25 million to approximately six organizations to provide education and employment training to young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 who left high school before graduation or are currently or have been involved previously with the juvenile or adult criminal justice system. These YARP grants will support partnerships with community colleges, the criminal justice system, employers, employer associations, unions providing training, or labor-management partnerships. Grants will focus on occupations in industries with high local demand that will offer these young adults living wages. DOL's [Employment and Training Administration](#) seeks applicants serving communities with high rates of poverty and crime and those whose programs offer accelerated learning and work-based learning opportunities, including registered apprenticeships, and exhibit strong employer partnerships.

The solicitation is available [here](#) by selecting the "Related Documents" tab. To be informed about all funding opportunities across the government, we strongly encourage you to sign up for alerts tailored to your interests on [grants.gov](#).

Announcing Winners of the 2020 Catalyzing CTE Through Pay for Success Competition

The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) is pleased to announce that our contractors at [Social Finance](#) and [Jobs for the Future](#) (JFF) have awarded two winners in the third round of the "[2020 Catalyzing CTE Through Pay for Success Competition](#)" – the [School District of Palm Beach County](#) in Florida and [Education Service Center Region 19](#) (ESC R-19) in El Paso, Texas. With guidance from Social Finance and JFF, both sites will explore how the PFS model could help build career and technical education (CTE) pathways in their respective regions.

The journey that led to this collaboration began in October 2016, when OCTAE awarded Social Finance and JFF a \$2 million contract to explore opportunities for expanding high-quality CTE programming for underserved communities through Pay for Success (PFS) financing.

The organizations held a national competition between January and March 2017 to find potential project partners. In the end, four applicants earned technical assistance to determine whether PFS could help them expand industry-aligned CTE pathways: [Mahoning County Educational Services Center](#) in northeast Ohio; [NAE](#), working with the Dallas Independent School District in Texas;

the [Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District](#) in Texas' Rio Grande Valley; and [South Bay Community Services](#) in San Diego.

Social Finance and JFF helped the awardees complete PFS feasibility studies between June 2017 and November 2018. These studies prompted the organizations to leverage the remaining OCTAE funding to launch a second CTE-focused competition for PFS technical assistance in August 2019 and the third and final competition in August 2020.

As the latest award recipients, the School District of Palm Beach County and ESC R-19 and their project partners will explore how PFS could help launch CTE programs in advanced manufacturing and biomedical sciences, respectively. Both projects plan to engage local employers to better understand the current needs in these industries and to help diverse student populations access new instructional resources designed to help them obtain in-demand STEM jobs and fill vacancies in the community.

The feasibility phase of the project launched in February 2021.

Please check out the [Pay for Success](#) page on OCTAE's Perkins Collaborative Resource Network website for resources and updates on this national initiative.

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