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The **Veterans Florida Business Training Grant** is available to Florida businesses seeking to train and hire military veterans. The program helps businesses meet workforce demands in a competitive environment by facilitating access to training and education in high-demand fields for veterans through matching training grants up to \$8,000 per veteran employee trained.

## **Eligibility**

Applications for the Florida Veterans Business Training grant are open to all Florida businesses seeking to hire and train veterans.

- Grant funds are used to match 50% of the training costs, up to \$8,000 per veteran.
- Training options for the grant include outside training providers, on-the job training, and inhouse training such as instructor wages, curriculum development, course materials, and facility usage.
- Pay an average annual wage that is at least 115 percent of the state, metropolitan statistical area (MSA), or the local average wages. For a project located in a rural city, rural community (county), a designated brownfield area, or a manufacturing project paying at least 100 percent of the prevailing average wage, the wage requirement may be waived in special circumstances;
- Businesses can be awarded a maximum of \$100,000 annually.

## **Application Process**

- Interested businesses can request an application for the grant on the Veterans Florida website at <a href="http://www.veteransflorida.org/grant/">http://www.veteransflorida.org/grant/</a>
- Veterans Florida will guide businesses through the application process as well as assist with reporting requirements and obtaining grant reimbursements.
- Requesting an application does not guarantee you will receive an application or be approved for grant funds. Contact Veterans Florida at (850) 898-1442 or <a href="wheeler@veteransflorida.org">wheeler@veteransflorida.org</a> with any questions about the application process.

## **Approval Process**

• Businesses can be reimbursed for training new, full-time hires after the application has been reviewed, approved, and the business receives notification that they are a Veterans Florida Certified Employer. The grant does not cover veteran employees already on staff.

## **Award**

- Veterans Florida Employer Certifications last for one year, and can be renewed annually.
  Reimbursements are made throughout the year upon notification to Veteran's Florida of a veteran's hire and completion of training.
- Businesses which are awarded funding can recruit veteran applicants by posting job openings on the Florida Veterans website.