

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

TRAINING FUND

Moving Wyoming Businesses Forward



ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

Testimonials

Gillette College has been able to provide Commercial Driver Training to those who lost their jobs in energy related industries. Pre-Hire Grant Funds have provided tuition for students to complete Commercial Driver Class A training, allowing them to sit for their State of Wyoming test. This comprehensive training is extensive and somewhat pricy. Without the assistance of these State Funds, Gillette College would not be able to provide this much needed training to these community members who are in need of re-training and job placement.

~ Carole Shafer, Director, Center for Workforce and Community Education at Gillette College

Starting a new technology company targeting the physics research community is a daunting proposition. Any new company entering this competitive field must be conversant with the latest advances in particle accelerators, synchrotrons and free electron lasers. The cost of bringing new engineers up to speed in these specialized subjects is significant. Luckily, Square One has been able to take advantage of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services' Workforce Development Training Fund. This program provides the critical resources that allow our entry-level engineers to be properly trained and our "old hands" to remain current with the field's rapid breakthroughs. This program has been instrumental in Square One's success thus far and we look forward to working the Department of Workforce Services in the future.

~ Bob Viola, Director of Engineering, Square One Systems Design, Inc.

Trihydro supports and encourages employees to seek out training courses that will enhance their skills and further advance their career. Wyoming's Workforce Development Training Fund helps companies like Trihydro offset the costs associated with training that is not normally provided by the employer. With the State's assistance, employees gain valuable education and skills and Trihydro is able to remain competitive in the industry.

~ Karissa Kersey, Benefits and Compensation Manager, Trihydro, Corporation

The Department of Workforce Service's Pre-Hire Grant has played a vital role in the growth of our school, Array. We are Wyoming's first accelerated institution that emphasizes computer programming and graphic design with the goal of filling high-demand technology jobs that currently exist all around the state. As a private school, one of our largest challenges is providing tuition assistance for our students. The Pre-Hire grant has allowed us to significantly reduce the cost of our program and has opened the door for more prospective students to consider attending. Without the Pre-Hire grant, we would not be in the position that we are today and our mission to help diversify Wyoming's economy and provide the workforce with new talent would be a much more significant hurdle and not the accelerated growth we are experiencing today.

~ Eric Trowbridge, Headmaster & Executive Director, Array, Inc.

Overview

The Workforce Development Training Fund provides an opportunity for Wyoming citizens and businesses to invest in increasing the skills of the workforce. The goal of the fund is to not only grow the skills of workers, but strengthen businesses operating in the state to create a more economically viable Wyoming. The fund is also an important tool used by economic development entities to entice new businesses to relocate, build and grow in Wyoming

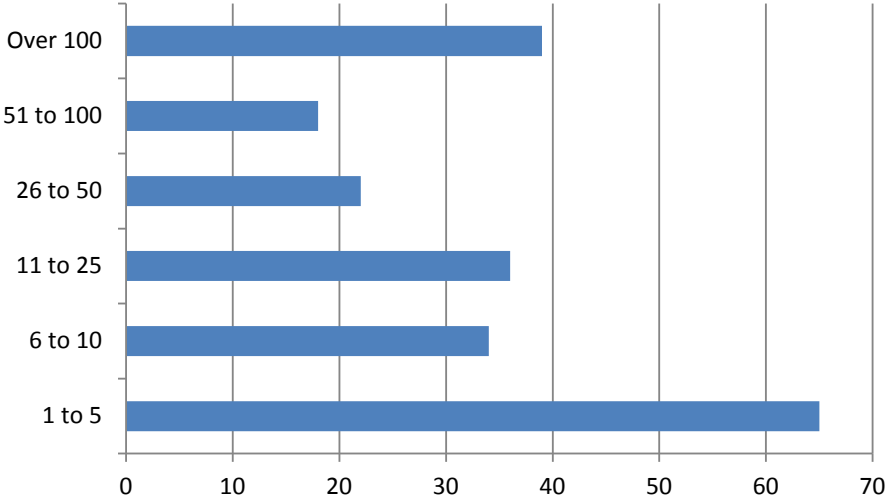
The Workforce Development Training Fund is funded through interest earned from the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and through an appropriation of State General Funds by the Wyoming State Legislature. The Workforce Development Training Fund operating budget for the 2014-2015 biennium was \$6,911,479.58 to include Fiscal Year 2016. The 2016-2017 biennium for Fiscal Year 2017 was \$3,780,092.00. This report provides an overview of expenditures for both Fiscal Year 2016 and 2017.



Business Training Grants

In FY 2016, the Workforce Development Training Fund reviewed 704 Business Training Grant applications requesting \$1,425,247.28. Of those applications 495 were approved totaling \$983,417.06. During that time period, 191 applications were denied due to failure to remain in good standing with the State of Wyoming or because the request did not fit the grant requirements. Additionally, 18 requests were cancelled by the applicant. A total of 214 businesses applied for funding for 1,269 employees at an average grant amount of \$774.95 per trainee. Many of these businesses utilized the Workforce Development Training Fund repeatedly. These businesses consist of 143 private businesses, 60 not-for-profit organizations, and 11 county hospitals across the state. As seen below, the Workforce Development Training Fund is utilized primarily by small business in Wyoming.

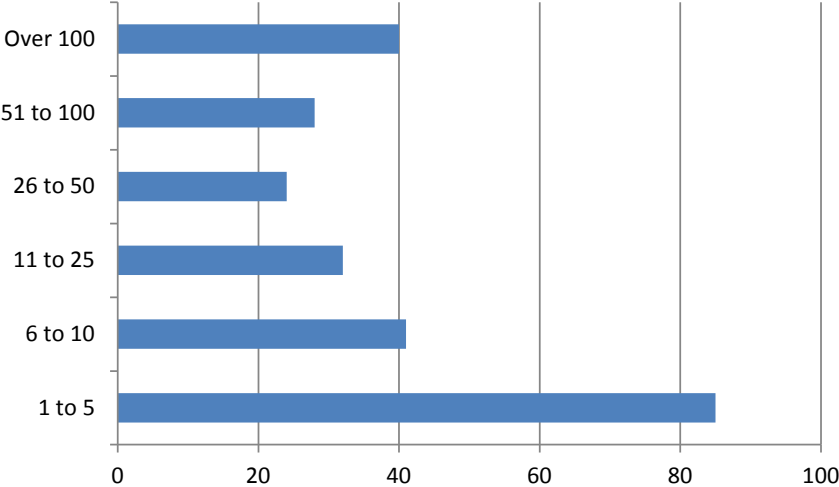
Size of Business 2016



Business Training Grants

In FY 2017, the Workforce Development Training Fund reviewed 916 Business Training Grant applications requesting \$1,729,688.20. Of those applications 731 were approved totaling \$1,320,733.41. During that time period, 176 applications were denied due to failure to remain in good standing with the State of Wyoming or because the request did not fit the grant requirements. Additionally, 5 requests were cancelled by the applicant. A total of 250 businesses applied for funding for 1,201 employees at an average grant amount of \$919.18 per trainee. Many of these businesses utilized the Workforce Development Training Fund repeatedly. These businesses consist of 163 private businesses, 76 not-for-profit organizations, and 11 county hospitals across the state. As seen below, the Workforce Development Training Fund is utilized primarily by small business in Wyoming.

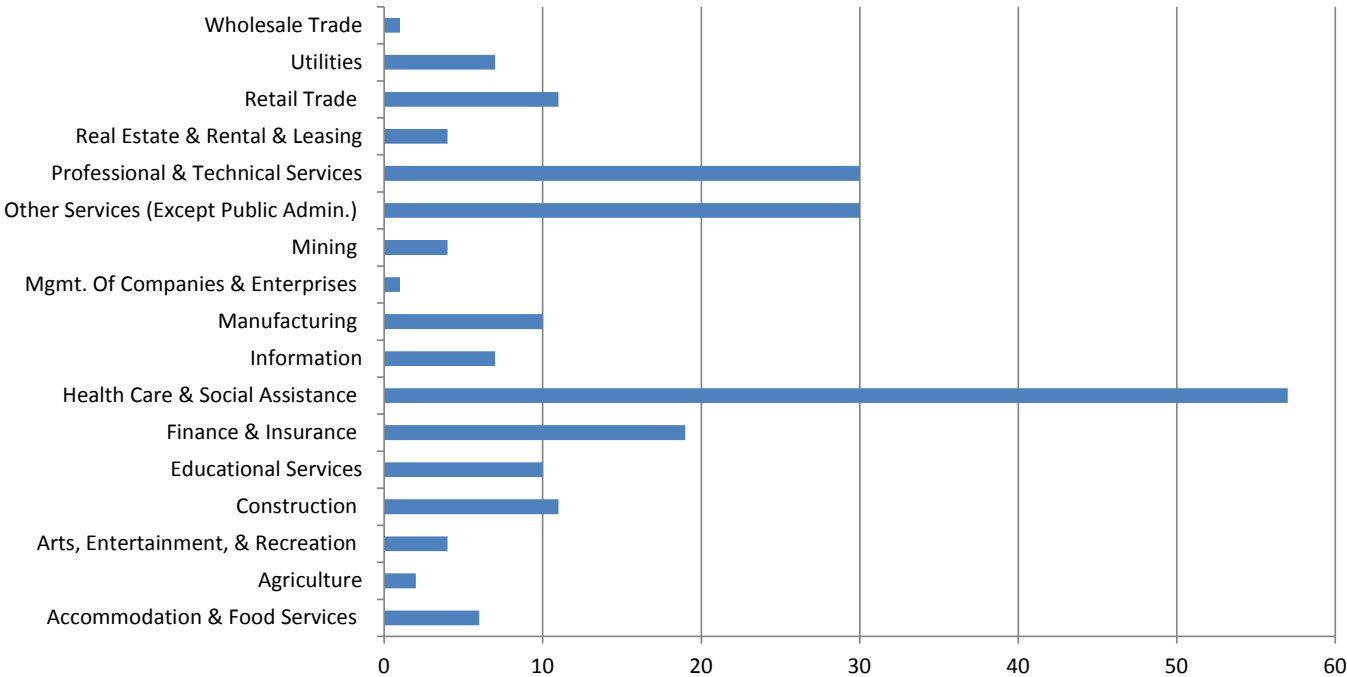
Size of Business 2017



Business Training Grants

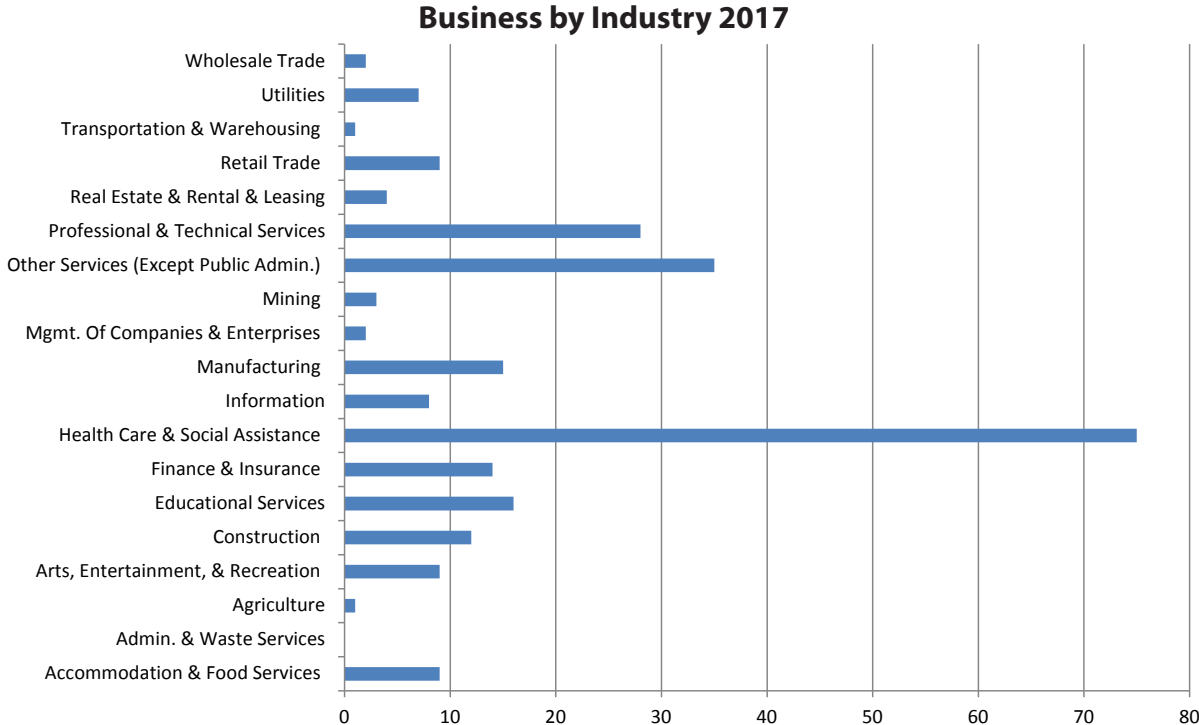
In FY 2016, the Workforce Development Training Fund Business Training Grants supported training for 214 Wyoming employers in 17 industry sectors.

Business by Industry 2016



Business Training Grants

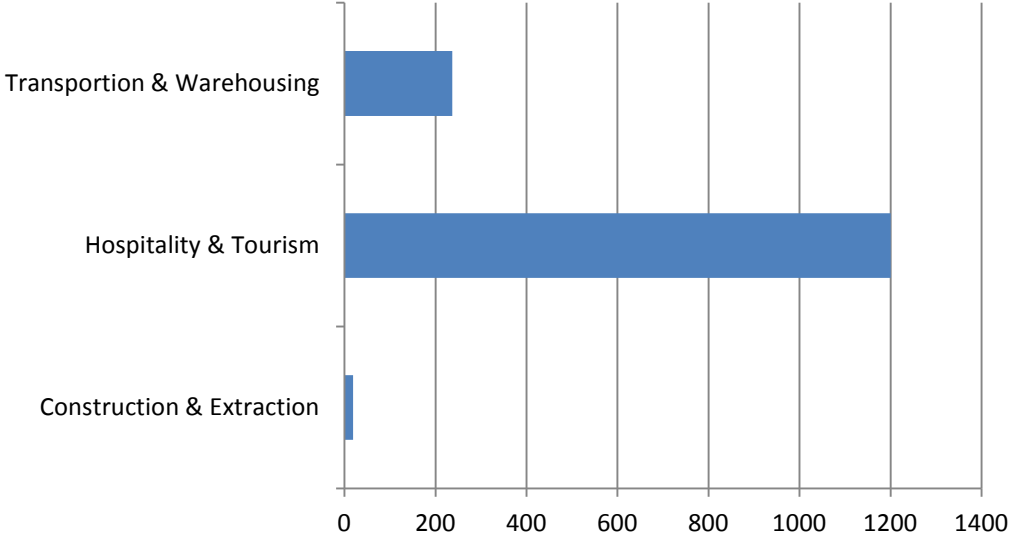
In FY 2017, the Workforce Development Training Fund Business Training Grants supported training for 250 Wyoming employers in 18 industry sectors.



Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants

In FY 2016, the Workforce Development Training Fund approved six applications totaling \$689,021. As a result of this funding, 1,456 individuals received training at an average cost of \$473.23 to support three major industries.

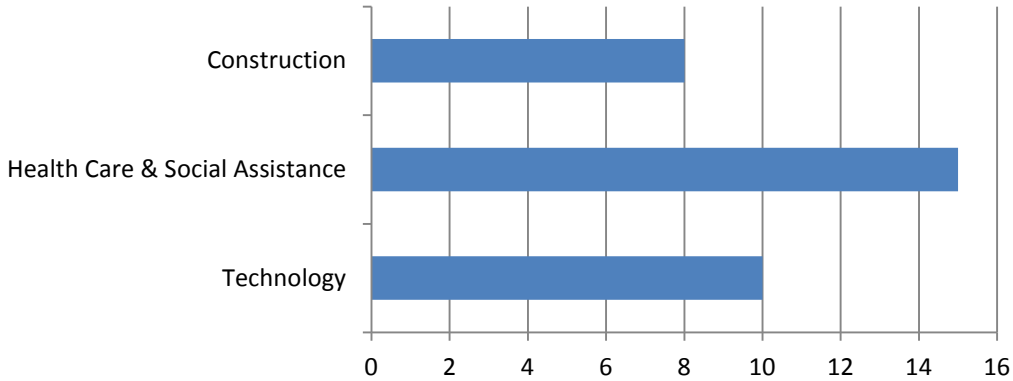
Trainees by Industry 2016



Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants

In FY 2017, the Workforce Development Training Fund approved three applications totaling \$213,885.80. As a result of this funding, 33 individuals received training at an average cost of \$6,481.39 to support three major industries.

Trainees by Industry 2017



Pre-Obligation Training Grants

In Fiscal Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017, no Pre-Obligation grants were awarded.



Benchmarks

The Workforce Development Training Fund was established to:

- Foster economic development in Wyoming;
- Strengthen Wyoming businesses;
- Support Wyoming employers and workers;
- Provide training beyond what would normally occur;
- Encourage employers to invest in training their workers;
- Be accountable and yield measurable benefits;
- Support keeping Wyoming workers in the state;
- Promote wage progression for workers.



Partnerships

The Workforce Development Training Fund is proud to partner with Wyoming's community colleges, economic development entities, private training entities, Wyoming businesses, and the department's workforce centers across the state.



Workforce Development Training Fund

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Cheyenne, WY 82002

