



**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FUND**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2021**

# Testimonials

*Jonah Bank has applied for over 20 training grants since 2008, including one internship grant from WDTF. We have benefitted greatly from the program and their support. ~ Jonah Bank of Wyoming, Linda S.*

*The WDTF and its grant has been a blessing to our Community!! Our Pharmacy slogan is "keeping the community healthy"!! This grant has positively impacted two individuals so far and we are in the process for another grant now. One of the Interns now has a full-time job, is very happy and appreciative of the experience. Her younger sister, still in high school, also excelled in ways she could never have imagined. Our pharmacy provides the perfect environment for any ambitious person to succeed because of the wide variety of services and skills we provide. Thank you, State of Wyoming, for helping advance our community here in Johnson County. ~ Spamony20 LLC dba Corner Stone Pharmacy, Chadwick S.*

*Dubbe Moulder Architects is very grateful for the grant opportunities provided by WDTF. We have availed ourselves of the Business Training Grants for our principals to attend national conferences where they can attain their required continuing education credits and to send employees for training on new software. We have also received Internship Grants which have been especially beneficial for the livelihood of our architectural firm. Our industry requires intensive on-the-job training and experience in the field in addition to education. Generally, an employee isn't billable for their first three months of employment as they learn our software and drafting standards. Having an Internship Grant, that reimburses our firm for a portion of an intern's wages, makes it financially feasible to hire a student for a 30 week internship. The internship, in turn, sometimes leads to students coming back to us upon*

*graduation to become permanent, full-time employees. In a tight employee market for skilled workers, the Internship Grants distributed by WDTF provide our firm the ability to support and encourage our industry in the University setting and offer valuable real-world experience to students while also giving our firm a substantial recruitment tool. These WDTF grants are a WIN for Wyoming businesses! ~ Dubbe Moulder Architects, Jolene M.*

*Having just completed our Workforce Services Internship Training Grant, with such tremendous results, I felt that sharing our experience would be a nice way to give back. The entire experience from the first questions and paperwork to our last assessment and final report has been such a rewarding experience. This grant with all your assistance and help has enhanced All Balanced Bookkeeping by giving us the tools and financial assistance to train and mentor an intern, who came to us with a very limited bookkeeping background, and now has the skills and knowledge to be a very successful bookkeeper in any field or with any company. It is a monumental undertaking to train, mentor and educate a new employee especially on the financial side. This program enabled us to do a more in-depth training and enhanced mentoring because you have relieved us of the financial burden by providing such exceptional funding. We are so very proud of the fact that our intern has chosen to remain with All Balanced Bookkeeping. Wyoming Department of Workforce Services was so very informative and helpful throughout the entire internship; answering questions, assisting us in every phase of the operation. It was such a pleasure to know that whenever I called with a question you were always so eager to assist. Thank you for providing such an outstanding program with exceptional helpful people! ~ All Balanced Bookkeeping, Tracie J.*

# Overview

The Workforce Development Training Fund (WDTF) is a grant program that provides opportunities 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. Grant options include: Business Training Grants, Pre-Hire Grants, Apprenticeship Grants, Internship Grants, and Pre-Obligation Grants.

The Workforce Development Training Fund grant dollars are funded with interest earned from the State Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. Program administration is funded through a State General Fund appropriation by the Wyoming State Legislature.

This report provides an overview of approved grants in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021.



# Business Training Grants

WDTF offers a web-based grant management system for the Business Training Grants that allows businesses to access the system through a Google platform, offers increased accessibility, ease of use and functionality for Wyoming businesses. This new grant system went live in October of 2019. 349 businesses have created an account in the grant system.

The Global Pandemic continued to impact training opportunities in 2021 and the number of applications being submitted remained low compared to previous years. On-line training became more of the norm for many businesses. WDTF staff reviewed 348 applications, requesting a total of \$583,419. Of those applications, 314 were approved totaling \$531,411.84. Denial of 25 applications occurred due to failure of the business to remain in good standing with the State of Wyoming or because the request did not fit the grant requirements; 6 were rescinded prior to being reviewed and 33 were canceled by the applicant.

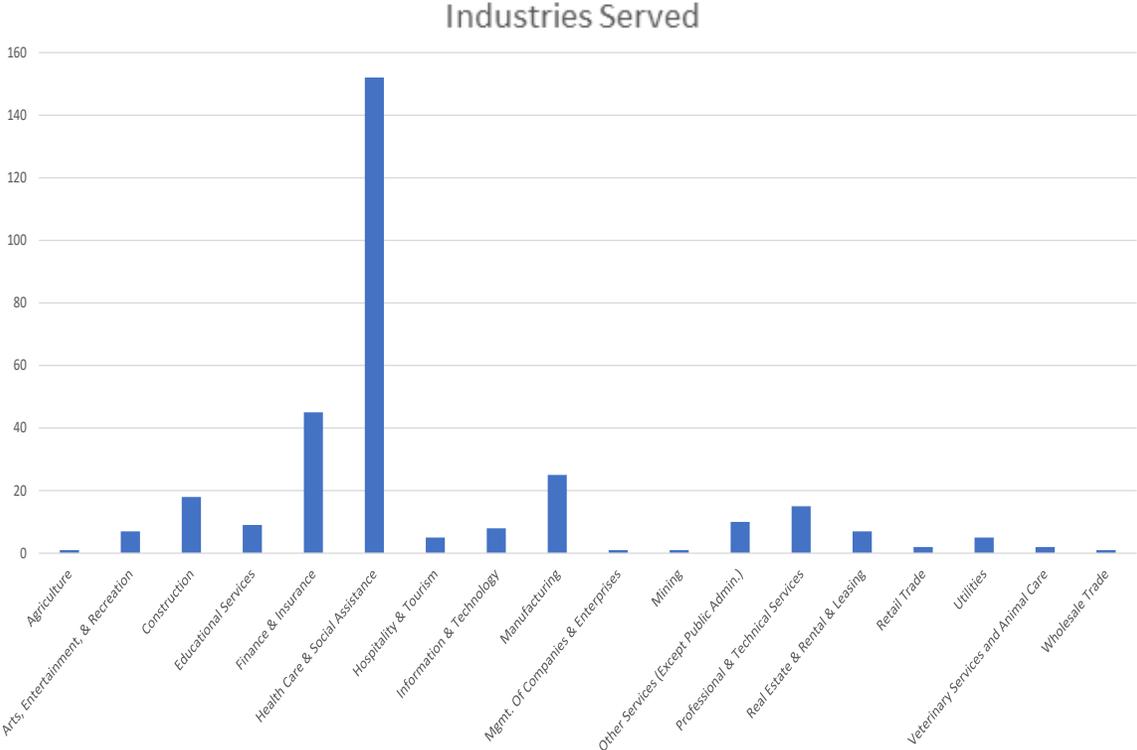
In FY 2021, the Workforce Development Training Fund Business Training Grants supported training for 121



Wyoming employers in 18 industry sectors for a total of 699 employees. Many businesses utilized the Business Training Grants more than once.

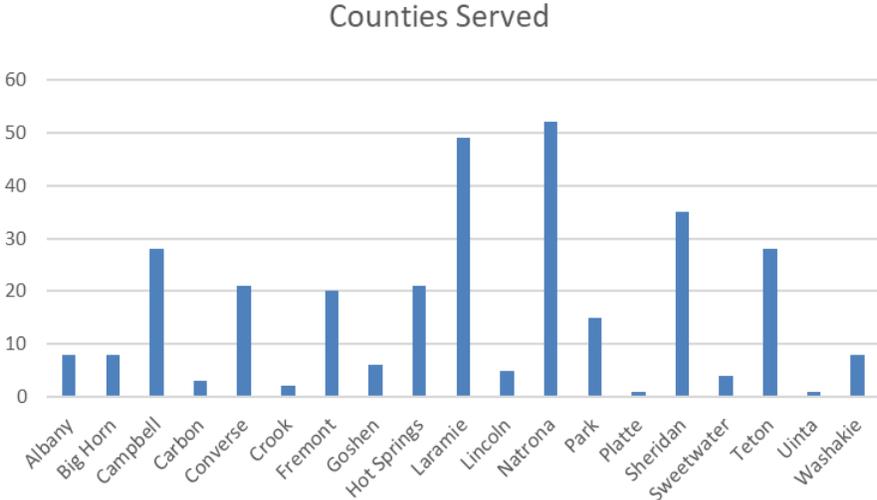
# Business Training Grants

Business Training Grants served 18 different industries:



# Business Training Grants

Business Training Grants were utilized by 19 counties:



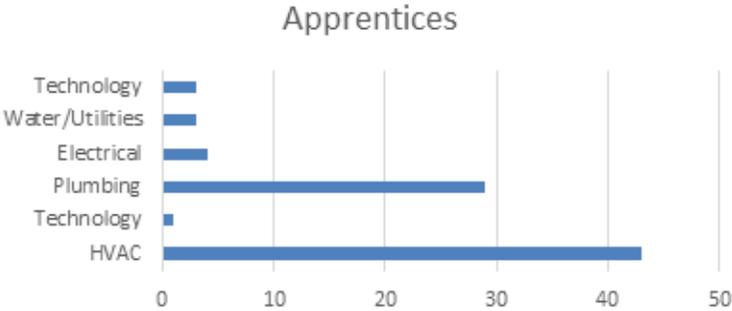
# Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants

In FY 2021, the Workforce Development Training Fund approved 2 applications totaling \$390,887. As a result of this funding, 208 individuals received training to support the healthcare industry.



# Apprenticeship Grants

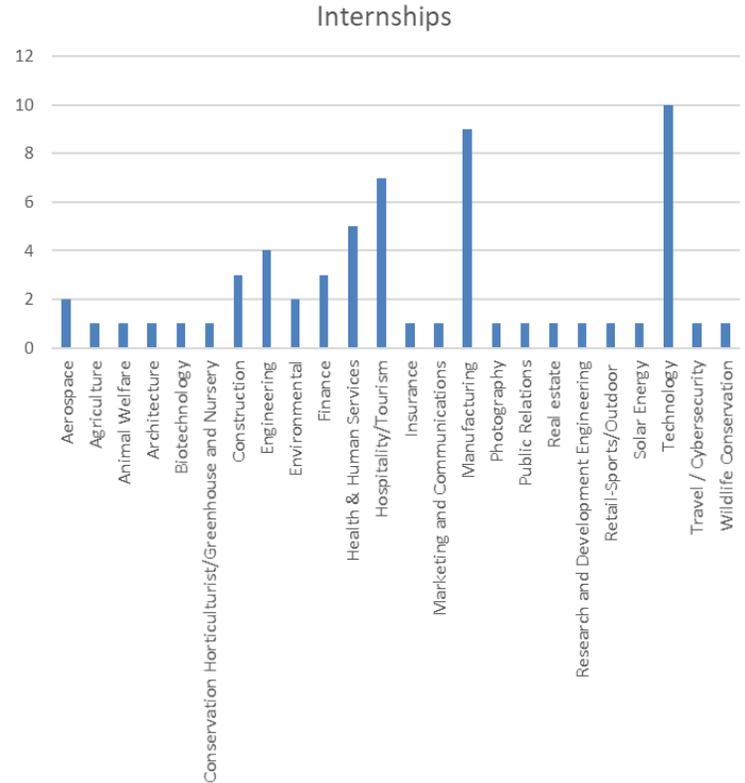
In FY 2021, the Workforce Development Training Fund approved 6 Apprenticeship Grant applications totaling \$154,838. As a result of this training, 83 apprentices received related instruction to support 5 major industries.



# Internship Grants

In FY 2021, the Workforce Development Training Fund approved 60 Internship Grants for a total of \$823,108.60. The Internship Grant provides funding to Wyoming businesses to provide structured learning experiences to individuals to enhance their work skills, knowledge, and abilities. This grant option served 101 interns in 24 different industries.

The Internship Grant was introduced in May of 2020, in the midst of the Global Pandemic. WDTF had the opportunity to create a subset to the grant through the CARES Act for those businesses that were able to address a Public Health or Economic Need for the period of March through December of 2020. Of the 70 internship grants that were awarded during FY20 and FY21, 18 met the CARES Act eligibility requirements which enabled those grants to be funded through a combination of both CARES Act funding and WDTF.



# 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.

