

Learner Outcomes Tracking System (LOTS)

Skills Development Fund Grants Grantee Portal

February 2024

Agenda

- 1. Creating a Skills Development Fund Project
- 2. Completing a Skills Development Fund Application
- 3. Adding a Business Partner to a Skills Development Fund Application
- 4. Adding and Modifying Employee Participants
- 5. Performing Additional Actions



Skills Development Fund – Getting Started

- 1. Log into the LOTS Grantee Portal
- 2. From the Home page, click the NEW SKILLS DEVELOPMENT button





Skills Development Fund – Grant Application Page

The Skills Development Fund page displays. Project Information bar appears at the top of the page and contains Project ID, Project Name, Project Status and Contract Number (when applicable).

Information on this page appears in three main sections:

- Project Information
- Curricula and Budget
- Other Actions

Note: On the bottom left-hand corner of the screen, select GO HOME to return to the HOME screen.



Skills Development Fund – Business Partners

Under the Project Information section, select the Business Partners icon. The Business Partner page will display.



Use the ADD BUSINESS PARTNER button to add a new Business Partner to the project.

Use the ADD FUNDING SOURCE button to add additional funding source information.

After Business Partners and Sources of Funding have been added to the project, the SEARCH field can be used to search for a specific Business Partner or Source of Funding. View all Business Partners or Sources of Funding tied to the project in their designated table.



Skills Development Fund – Adding a **Business Partner**

Click ADD BUSINESS PARTNER button and the Business Partner page appears.

ADD BUSINESS PARTNER

Complete the General Information, Contact Information, and **Employment Benefit Information** sections.

Click CANCEL to return to the Business Partner page or click SAVE to save the new Business Partner.

Business Partner						ж
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1007	Project Name-SG-2024-	an-27-12-36-36	Project Status Initiation		Funding	
General Information						
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Street.*			Apt, suite, etc.			
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Employment Benefit Information						
indicate which of the following employment benefits the business par	rtner will provide for em	ployees who participate in the proposed train	ing.*			
Workers' Compensation						
Dental insurance						
Cife Insurance						
Uncetion						
□ Holdays						
Sck Days						
Educational Assistance A016/Pendion Plan						
Profit Sharing						
Other						
CANCEL						SAME

Skills Development Fund – Viewing an Existing Business Partner

Upon Saving the information for the new Business Partner, a Job Title alert message displays. Click Done. The Business Partner List page displays, and the newly added Business Partner appears in the list table.



Business Par	tners			
Project ID 1097	Project Name Project Name-SG-2024-Jan-27- 12-36-36	Project Status Initiation	Contract Number Pending	
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ob Titles are incomplete for A Grant Amount ar Fotal Requested Grant Am	AC Refrigeration	Total Number of Upgr	 View Job Title Questionnaire Signature Delete Edit Business Partner Invite Business Partner 	
\$0.00			 Invite Business Partner Allow Edit by Business Partner 	rtner

Skills Development Fund Invite Business Partner

Once the Business Partner has been added, the Business Partner contact will automatically receive an email notification with an invitation to access the Learners Outcomes Tracking System (LOTS) Application Portal and a link to create their credentials.

If the above email expires, under Actions click Invite Business Partner to initiate a second email. Notification of the email invite being sent will appear as a popup on the screen.

Once the Business Partner has registered, they will have access to review and update the required documents related to their participation in the grant.

Search LO_BusinessP	artners SE	ARCH	Τ-
+ ADD BUSINESS PARTN	ER		
Legal Name	Total Number of New Jobs	Total Number of Upgraded Jobs	Actions
AC Refrigeration			1
b Titles are incomplete f	or AC Refrigeration	 View Job Title Questionnaire 	
Frant Amount	and Job Information	 Signature Delete 	
		Total Number of Ungra IX Edit Business Par	ther
Total Requested Grant	Amount Total Number of New Jobs	Invite Business P	artner

Note: The invitation to access LOTS as a Business Partner will be sent once the Business Partner information is SAVED. The Invite Business Partner feature should only be used if the link in the initial email expires.

Skills Development Fund – Adding Job Titles and Editing an Existing Business Partner

Click the three buttons under the Actions column to:

- 1. View Job Title displays the Job Title Information screen where Users can view existing Job Titles or add a new job title for that Business Partner
- 2. Questionnaire view responses from Business Partner for prompted questions
- 3. Signature view Business Partner signature in read-only view
- 4. Delete delete the Business Partner
- 5. Edit Business Partner will display the Business Partner detail page with fields open for editing
- 6. Invite Business Partner send an email to the Business Partner allowing them access to the project
- Allow Edit by Business Partner allows the Business Partner to make edits to the Business Partner information AFTER a signature has been obtained
- View Job Title
 Questionnaire
 Signature
 Delete
 Edit Business Partner
- Invite Business Partner
- Allow Edit by Business Partner

Skills Development Fund-Add Job Title Information

In the Business Partner List, under the Action column, click View Job Title button

The Job Title Information List appears. Click the ADD JOB TITLE button then the Job Title page appears.

ADD JOB TITLE

Complete all required fields on the Job Title page. Click CANCEL to return to the Job Title Information List page or click SAVE to save the Job Title.

Note: If the Job Title does not meet prevailing wage, an error message will appear with the minimum hourly wage. The participant will need to meet prevailing wage to participate in the project

ob Title			
Application ID 1097	Application Name Project Name-SG-2024-Jan-27- 12-36-36	Business Partner Name AC Refrigeration	
ob Title *			
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Manufacturing			
SOC Selection			
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) by SOC Code			
OC Category *		SOC Occupational Title*	
Select a Value	•	Select a Value	
Number of New Jobs*			
Number of Upgraded Jobs *			
Hourly Minimum Wage *			
Hourly Maximum Wage *			
Wage Increase (Percentage) *			
CANCEL			SAV

Skills Development Fund-Job Title Information List

Once the Job Title has been added, the SEARCH field can be used to search for a specific Job Title within the project.

If changes are needed to an existing Job Title, select the three dots under the Action column to Edit, View or Delete a Job Title.

Job Title Ir	nformat	ion					×
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AC Refrigeration Technician	49-9021	5	5	18.00	37.50	1.00	:
							 Edit View Delete

Skills Development Fund-Additional Sources of Funding

Sources of Funding Information allows the user to enter sources of funding (cash, in-kind, grant)

- Select the Funding Type from the dropdown menu
- Select the Business Partner Name from the drop-down menu
- Enter Estimated Funding Amount and Description.

Click CANCEL to return to the Business Partner page or click SAVE to save the Source of Funding.

Source of Fu	nding			
Project ID	Project Name	Project Status	Contract Number	
1097	Project Name-SG-2024-Jan-27-12- 36-36	Initiation	Pending	
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Select a Value				-
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CANCEL				SAVE

Skills Development Fund – Project Summary

Project Summary

Click the Project Summary icon to display the Project Summary page.

Complete the Proposed Project Questions.

Click CANCEL to return to the Skills Development Fund Application page or click SAVE to save the Proposed Project Questions.

Project Summary Project ID Project Name Project Status Contract Numbe 1097 Project Name-SG-2024-Jan-27-12-36-36 Initiation Pending **Proposed Project Questions** Please complete each section thoroughly by providing detailed responses that include relevant supporting information. Comprehensive answers will help evaluators assess the strengths of each proposal A. Project Description: Please provide a description of the business and the training needs that have been identified for which funding has been requested. Also include why the training is needed and how the business and the community will be positively impacted after the training is complete. 0/8000 B. Project Unique Circumstances (not required for new contingency contracts): Please discuss any unique circumstances that should be considered. Include justifications or waiver requests with corresponding explanations for any portion of the project that is outside of the program requirements listed in the Funding Application Overview below. 0/8000 C. Collaboration with Local Workforce Development Board: Please provide a description on the collaboration for this project with the Local Workforce Development Board.* 0/8000 CANCEL SAVE

Skills Development Fund – Collaboration Information

- Click the Collaboration Information icon to add and edit Workforce Board information and Economic Development Entities.
- Click ADD BOARD to add Workforce Board information.
- Click ADD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENTITY to add Economic Development Entity information.

Collaboration In	nformation					Board		0			1
Project ID 1087	Project Name Project Name 55-2024 jan-27-12-36-36	Project Status Initiation	Contract/ Funding	Number			ing Mana	Recipitation of the local sectors of the local sect		for the state of t	
Workforce Board Lis						1097 Pro	oject Name-SG-2024-jan-27-12-36-36	Initiation		Pending	
Rease identify the Local Worldows the development of the proposed	n Development Board (Board) or Boards involved in (project					Name of Board *					
All applicants are required to obtain Development Board (Board) in the upon the completion of training. Th applicants proposal package prior values the Workforce Board For	In the review and comments of the Local Workforce eventhors areas where the traineer will be employed his information must then be submitted with the to TVCS evaluation of the great request. Please an here:					- Select a Yabe First Name *	Last Name *		Ticle*		•
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Click CANCEL to return to the Collaboration Information page or click SAVE to save the Board and Economic Development Entity information

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Once the Board and Economic Development Entity have been added, use the SEARCH field to search for a specific Board or Economic Development Entity tied to the project.

Click Edit or Delete under Action to make any changes to the Board and Economic Development Entity information

Skills Development Fund – Project Signature

Click the Project Signature icon and the Project Signature page appears. Read and review the Acknowledgement and Assurances then provide a Digital Signature.

Click CANCEL to return to the Skills Development Fund Grant Application page or click SAVE to save the Digital Signature.

Note: TWC Staff has the ability to make changes to most parts of the grant application however, Staff cannot answer some questionnaires, nor do they have the capability to add or edit signatures.

Project Signature

Acknowledgement and Assurances

By signing below, the grant applicant hereby acknowledges and assures the following:

The application is being submitted jointly with the Business Partner(s) identified in the Business Partner List in order to request funding for a customized training project under the Skills Development Fund;

The Business Partner(s) is experiencing a shortage of potential employees and/or does not have the incumbent workers it needs with the appropriate level of skills;

The applicant and Business Partner(s) collaborated to determine the skills training needs and to develop the customized curricula to address those needs;

All training will be provided within the applicant's service area or, if the training is outside the applicant's service area and the type of instruction is subject to the requirements in Chapter 4, Subchapter E of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rules, the applicant has met all requirements of the subchapter; and

The applicant will adhere to all reporting requirements, as well as the rules and regulations governing this funding, including, but not limited to Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 20, Chapter 803 (https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtacSext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=40&pt=20&ch=803) (https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LA/htm/LA.303.htm).

Digital Signature

Name *	Title *	Submission Date
Draw Signature Type Signature		
ad DRAW SIGNATURE		
Digital signature confirmation *		
CANCEL		

Skills Development Fund – Training Courses 16

Click the Training Courses icon to open the Training Courses Page.



This page displays the Grant Amount and Job Information (autopopulated), Training Course List and Training Course Questions.

Project ID			Pn	oject Name		Per	opect status			Contract Nun	mber		
1097			Pn	oject Name-SG-2024-ja	n-27-12-36-36	Inte	tiation			Pending			
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6 ADD TRA	NING COURSE												
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Skills Development Fund – Adding a Training Course

Under the Training Course List, click the ADD TRAINING COURSE button to display the Training Course detail page.

Complete all required fields for the training course.

Note the following:

- If the training provider is a vendor, additional information will appear and is required
- To add a course, a course description and at least two course objectives are required. Additional objectives can be added by clicking the Add Objective button.

Click CANCEL to return to the Training Course page or click SAVE to save the Trainee Course.

Project ID	Project Name	Project Status	Contract Number	
1207	Project Name-SG-2024-jan-27-12-36-36	Initiation	Pending	
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College				
) Vendor				
Course Required by Law?*				
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CIP Code				
CIP Title *				
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Training Hours to be Received by Trainees*				
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Total Technics in an				
rotal training Hours*				
3				
Total Direct Program Training Costs *				
Course Customized •				
O Yes				
O No				
How well course be presented?				
Training intended to result in industry recogniz	ed credential/certification?*			
O Na				
Participant Program of Study				
- Select a Malue				
Type of Training*				
- Calence Links -				
- men a baue -				
Course Description*				
Peace provide a level description of the training and 1	The shift issues will been and to also is successfully demonstrate. Describe how the	mate was newly developed or cashomized within the source descri-	plices as appropriate.	
Course Objectives 🖨 *				
	*			
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Skills Development Fund – Viewing and Editing an Existing Training Course

All saved training courses will appear in the Training Course List.

A chart will appear which displays the percentage of each training category.

Use the dots under the Action column within the table to view, edit or delete an existing training course.



Skills Development Fund – Training Course Questions

On the Training Courses page, complete the Training Course Questions.

Click CANCEL to return to the project dashboard or click SAVE to save responses or edits to the Training Course Questions.



Skills Development Fund – Adding Equipment

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Click the Equipment Purchase Detail icon and the Equipment Purchase Detail page will appear.

Under the Equipment Purchase List section, click the NEW EQUIPMENT button and enter the Equipment details

1097	Project Name Project Name-SG-2024-jan	Project Status 27-12-36-36 Initiation	Cost Pend	act Number ng	
quipment Purcha	se ist				
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Equipment Name	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Purchased	Total Cost	Course Action	5
		No items available			

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Cost Per Unit *	Equipment Name *				
Quantity Needed *	Cost Per Unit *				
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Skills Development Fund – Editing Equipment

Edit, View or Delete equipment that has been added to the project by using the dots under the Actions column found in the Equipment Purchase List table within the EQUIPMENT PURCHASE DETAIL page.

Project ID	Project Name	2024 (*** 27.42.26.26	Project Status		Contract Number	
1097	Project Name-SG	-2024-Jan-27-12-36-36	Initiation		Pending	
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Skills Development Fund – Budget Signature

SAVE

Click the Budget Signature icon and the Budget Signature page will appear.

Read and review the Acknowledgement and Assurances then provide a Digital Signature.

Click CANCEL to return to the Skills Development Fund Grant Application page or click SAVE to save the Digital Signature.

Budget Signature				
Project ID	Project Name	Project Status	Contract Number	
1097	Project Name-SG-2024-Jan-27-12-36-36	Initiation	Pending	

Acknowledgement and Assurances

By signing below, the applicant hereby acknowledges and assures the following:

The cost per trainee and cost per hour for the courses in the proposed project have been compared to similar instruction provided at the applicant's institution, other public community, or technical colleges, or TEEX, and all direct training costs contained in this budget have been determined to be reasonable and necessary for the implementation of the proposed project.
All direct training costs under Program Services include only personnel salaries and wages, fringe benefits, tuition, fees, curriculum development, books, training materials, and consumable supplies for the proposed project. Direct training personnel costs included under Program Services do not include any cost for administration of the proposed project.
Any overhead and/or indirect costs included in the college's tuition and fee costs are based on the standard rate established by the college. The costs of any equipment purchases have been appropriately identified in the Budget & Training Request Form - Equipment Request tab. There are no costs for instructor travel (including per diem) included in the proposed budget. There are no costs for trainee wages, travel, or drug tests included in the proposed budget. Any products, including curricula, developed with grant funds will be retained by the college and used in training projects for other businesses. Curricula developed under the grant award will be provided to the Agency electronically, along with a plan on how it will be made available to other colleges. Digital Signature

Name *	Title *	Submission Date
 Draw Signature () Type Signature 		
at DRAW SIGNATURE		
Digital signature confirmation *		
I agree to sign this form digitally		
CANCEL		

Skills Development Fund - Supporting Documentation

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Upload File

Document Type*

File*

--- Select a Value ---

UPLOAD Drop file here

Clicking the Supporting Documentation button displays the Supporting Documentation page. From this page, Users can search for existing supporting documents or add a new supporting document by clicking the UPLOAD FILE button.

	Supporting Documentation				3
Supporting Document	Document List Read-only Grid Q. Marth LTL supporting:DV/universations B-URLOAD PEA	SANCH			T+ 0
	Document Type	Document Name	Uploaded Date and Time	Uploaded By	Actions
			Nis servis available		

Select the Document Type from the dropdown menu and use the UPLOAD button or the "Drop file here" features to add the document to the project. Once added, the document will appear in the Document List table on the Supporting Documentation page. Click the document name to download and view the document.

Click CANCEL to return to the Supporting Documentation page or click SAVE to save the Supporting Document.

Note: Within the document list, use the action buttons to delete a document. Documents added during the application phase can only be deleted before project is moved to Active status.

Skills Development Fund -Review and Submit Project

After entering all the required information, click the REVIEW AND SUBMIT button.

REVIEW AND SUBMIT

This action will navigate the user to the Review and Submit page, where each section can be expanded for a detailed view. Any necessary edits can be made directly on this page.

Final step is to provide a digital signature then click the SUBMIT button.

Grantee will receive an email indicating project has successfully been submitted and the Outreach team member will be notified as well.

Project ID	Project Name	Project Status	Contract Number	
1081	Project Name-SG-2024-Jan-22-11-02- 14	Initiation	Pending	
Project Information				
Business Partners				
BUSINESS PARTNERS				
Business Partner List				
Q Search LO_BusinessPartners	SEARCH			T - 2
+ ADD BUSINESS PARTNER				
Legal Name	Total Number of New Jobs	Total Number of Upgraded	lobs	Actions
Tamara's Hospital	2	13	13	
New Business Partner	1	1		1
TC Business Partner	1	1		1
Grant Amount and Jol Total Requested Grant Amount 15,750.00	D Information Total Number of New Jobs 4	Total Number of Upgraded Jobs	Cost Per Trainee 575	
	Funding			
Additional Sources of				

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Note: An error message will appear in the instance any information for submission is missing or if any information provided does not align with grant requirements.

Skills Development Fund – Accessing and Editing Projects

After successful submission of the application, the Home page will display.

From the Home page, the newly created project will display under the Project List. Click on the name link under the Project Name column to access the project. The project's grant application page appears.

-	Project List							
	Project Name	Grant Type	Primary Business Partner	Status	Created By	L Creation Date	Date Last Changed	Action
	Project Name-Self-Sufficiency-2024-Jan-26-08-23-06	Self Sufficiency Grant		Initiation	theraGrantee	1/26/2024 8:23 AM	1/26/2024 9:33 AM CST	÷

If the project needs to be deleted, click the three dots under the Action column and	Action
select Delete Grant.	I
	× Delete Grant

Skills Development Fund – Steps After Application Submission

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Once the Business Partner has signed and submitted the information in their portal, the Evaluation team will receive a notification and begin their review of that Business Partner. The application cannot be submitted until all Business Partners have been approved.

Once an application is submitted, the project status changes from Initiation to Project Development. At this time, no edits can be made to the application and the Outreach team reviews the project.

If revisions are needed to the application, the Outreach team member will change the status to Pending Revisions and will notify the grantee of the changes that are needed. In Pending Revisions status, all fields open for editing.

Once the grantee and Outreach team member are satisfied with the application, the Outreach team member will move the project to Evaluation status and the project will undergo review by the Evaluation team.

During this phase, grantees may receive a Grantee Request email in which questions may need to be answered or additional information be supplied.

After the project has been approved for funding, the project will move into Contract Development and then Active status. At this time, a Grant Manager and contract number are assigned to the project.

Skills Development Fund – Working with Active Grants

Use the Project List to locate an active grant. Click the project name link under the Project Name column to access the project dashboard.

Notice that an Employee Participant icon now appears.

Notice that a Contract Number now appears in the top project bar. All other icons will display application information in read only.

Project List

Project Name	Grant Type	Primary Business Partner	Status	Created By	↓ Creation Date	Date Last Changed	Action
Project Name-SG-2024-Jan- 27-12-36-36	Skills Development Grant	AC Refrigeration	Project Development	theraGrantee	1/27/2024 12:36 PM	1/29/2024 3:04 PM CST	:



Skills Development Fund – Add Employee Participant

Clicking the Employee Participant icon displays the Employee Participant Information page.

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Click the ADD EMPLOYEE PARTICIPANT button to add a new participant to the project.

The Employee Participant detail page displays. All information for the employee participant should be added. Click SAVE to save the changes and add the participant to the project.

Search I O EmployeeParticipantSSGs	SEARCH
------------------------------------	--------

Note: A Training Information Form (TIF) upload will no longer be required as the Add Employee Participant feature allows the grantee to add trainees to the project and provides immediate feedback if aspects of the trainee's profile do not meet grant requirements (i.e. job title, wage, course). However, a TIF upload can be used an option method to load large amounts of participant data into the system at one time.

Skills Development Fund – Edit Employee Participant

The newly added participant will now appear in the grid under the Employee Participant List. Use the search feature to locate a specific participant or view all participants in the read only grid.

Click on the three dots in the Actions column to edit the participant information or delete the participant from the project.

Employee Pa	rticipant List			
Q Search LO_Emplo	yeeParticipants	SEARCH		T - 2
+ ADD EMPLOYEE P	ARTICIPANT			
First Name	Last Name	SSN	Job Title	Actions
First	Name	xxx-xx-4565	AC Refrigeration Technician	E
	· · ·			🕑 Edit
				× Delete

Skills Development Fund – Add Course for Employee Participant

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Locate the employee participant within the Employee Participant List. Use the actions button to select Edit which displays the Employee Participant detail page.

Scroll to the Course Information section. Click the ADD COURSE button to add a new course to that participant's profile.

The Participant Course detail page displays, and the course information fields are open for edit. Click SAVE to save the course to the participant's profile or click CANCEL to navigate back to the Employee Participant detail screen.

Once a course is added to the participant's profile, it will appear in the read only grid under the Course information section.



Skills Development Fund – Additional Actions for Employee Participant Course

Use the dots under the Actions column to Edit, View, or Delete the course for a specific employee participant.

Note: A warning message does not appear for the Delete option; ensure the correct participant and course have been selected before clicking Delete.

Course Infor	mation					
Course Information						
Q Search LO_Emplo	yeeCourseMaps	SEA	RCH			T- S
+ ADD COURSE						
Course Name	Course Type	Begin Date	End Date	Completed Hours	Total Hours	Actions
AC Refrid	Business Technical	1/2/2024	1/3/2024	8	8	I N
otal Hours of Train	ning 🕜	Final Date of Tra	ining			Edit
8		1/3/2024				View
0						

Skills Development Fund – Closeout

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The day following the last day of the grant, the project status will change to Expired. The grantee will receive an email from the LOTS system letting them know the project has moved to Expired status and they have 60 days to input or update any participant information.

After the 60 days in Expired status, the project will move to Closeout Review and all fields will be read-only. The Grant Manager will conduct a review of the project for closeout.

Once the project has been fully closed in the TWC contracting system, the Grant Manager will change the project status to Closed. Grantees will still have access to the project however, all information will display in read only.

- 1. Job Aid: View the related Job Aid for this course Skills Development Fund Grants
- 2. Related Courses
 - 1. Introduction to LOTS
 - 2. Self-Sufficiency Fund
 - 3. Skills for Small Business

All training documents are available on the <u>TWC LOTS webpage</u>.

Wrap-up