

# CARES ACT FAQ'S



Updated August 27, 2020 (Updated items in red)

## FAQ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Doug Tobin

[TobinD@CareerSourceTampaBay.com](mailto:TobinD@CareerSourceTampaBay.com) / (813) 397-2054

### Rapid Response Recovery, R<sup>3</sup> program Frequently Asked Questions

~CareerSource Tampa Bay's (CSTB) Implementation of the CARES ACT Funding~  
~Up to \$21.5 million in training to be distributed in Hillsborough County~

#### FAQ CONTENTS

- Page 1 PROGRAM OVERVIEW
- Page 2 HOW DO JOB SEEKERS QUALIFY FOR SHORT-TERM TRAINING?
- Page 2 HOW TO JOB SEEKERS QUALIFY FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING?
- Page 3 HOW DO BUSINESSES QUALIFY AND FAQ FROM BUSINESSES?
- Page 4 FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM
- Page 5 ABOUT CAREERSOURCE TAMPA BAY

#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

##### **What is the name of the program?**

Rapid Response Recovery, R3

##### **How long will this program last?**

The current agreement runs from June 1, 2020 until **December 30, 2020**.

##### **What is the goal of the program for those unemployed?**

To help give workers adversely affected by COVID-19 retraining to improve their skills to make them more marketable among key industry sectors in Hillsborough county.

This will also allow CSTB to continue to create a skilled workforce, in the areas of most need, that will give Hillsborough County and the Tampa Bay region a distinct advantage in business retention, expansion and attraction.

Job Seekers can apply to participate in two programs:

1. Short term Training
2. On-the-Job Training

## HOW DO INDIVIDUALS QUALIFY FOR SHORT-TERM TRAINING?

### **What are the qualifications to participate in the program?**

Hillsborough County resident, economically injured due to COVID 19, 18-years of age or older, and must be a U.S. Citizen or authorized to work. Documentation will be required to verify eligibility criteria.

### **How many people can CSTB sign up for the Short-Term Occupations Skills Training? And how much is the educational benefit?**

Up to 1,000 individuals can take advantage of this program, training scholarships will provide up to \$5,000 educational assistance.

### **What type of Short-Term Occupational Skills Certification and Training will be provided?**

Short-term occupational skills certification and training will be provided in a variety of occupational areas. All certification and training programs shall have a maximum training period of not more than (120) days and must be completed by **December 30, 2020**. CSTB will provide a list of approved short-term training programs. Only one training program can be selected.

### **Where can I apply as a job seeker for the Rapid Response Recovery, R<sup>3</sup> program?**

<https://careeredgecstb.com/jobseekerapp/?pname=jobseekerapp>

### **Where do I find a list of Short-Term Occupational Skills Certification programs and schools available for this program?**

Participants interested in this service may use the CSTB approved training provider list maintained by the CSTB as a guideline of available training providers. Training providers that are not on this list will be considered on a case-by-case basis. CSTB compiled a preliminary list from their *Approved Training Provider List* and this can be found this link below: <https://www.careersourcetampabay.com/cares-act/>

### **What can I use the funding for?**

Training scholarship funding includes tuition assistance, instructional costs, books, materials, and class uniforms/supplies.

## HOW DO JOB SEEKERS QUALIFY FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING?

### **What type of On-the-Job training will be provided?**

Paid work-based learning employment opportunities will be provided to Hillsborough County residents in all demand, targeted occupational areas.

### **How long can I receive On-the-Job Training?**

On-the-Job Training, paid work-based learning training period of not be less than thirty (30) days but not more than ninety (90) days. All work-based learning must be completed by **December 30, 2020**.

### **Are there any wage requirements for On-the-Job Training?**

Eligible positions must meet Florida minimum wage requirements and employee worksite location must be in Hillsborough County.

### **Where can I apply as a job seeker for the Rapid Response Recovery, R<sup>3</sup> program?**

<https://careeredgecstb.com/jobseekerapp/?pname=jobseekerapp>

### **HOW DO BUSINESSES QUALIFY?**

See the frequently asked questions from businesses by clicking on this link:

<https://www.careersourcetampabay.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/FAQ-from-Employer-Webinars-Final-8.4.20.pdf>

### **Why would I want to take part in the program as a business owner or manager?**

- **No Cost to the Business:** Businesses receive financial support to cover one hundred percent (100%) of wages paid to eligible direct placement participants over the participants' training period. Businesses can receive this support in the form of direct wages or wage reimbursements, and
- **Retention Incentive:** Businesses can receive an incentive of **\$2,500** if they retain direct placement participants at the end of the participants' training period and must be completed by December 30, 2020.
- **Trained Workers:** Employers can benefit from trained employees in a targeted occupation. The program will directly pay or reimburse 100-percent of the first \$12,000 of employee salary up to the first 90 days.
- **See Future Employees Work Ethic:** You can get the benefit of seeing a new employee in your work environment with little investment to you, the employer.

### **Will the employer be required to pay back the funding received under the program?**

- Eligible businesses will not be required to pay back any funding received under the work-based training services received through the R3 program. Employers receive the benefit of assisting with cost of bringing on their employee and training needed. Job seekers impacted by Covid-19 receive skill training directly related to employment and re-employment.

### **What are the qualifications for the Business Community?**

Eligible businesses must meet the following criteria which goes into effect August 20, 2020:

- Eligible positions must meet Florida minimum wage requirements
- Employee job site must be located in Hillsborough County, but employer can be located outside of Hillsborough County.
- The program is open to any employer with a Hillsborough County worksite.
- Employers can be for-profit, not-for-profit businesses and public-governmental agencies.

### **How do I participate as a business for the Rapid Response Recovery, R<sup>3</sup> program?**

Click on this link to fill out the application.

<https://careeredgecstb.com/employerapp/?pname=employerapp>

### **What industries can be helped by the program?**

The funding will allow CSTB to help high priority industries like such as:

- Transportation and Trades
- Manufacturing and Logistics
- Hospitality, Tourism and Retail
- Finance and Professional Services
- Information Technology
- Healthcare and Life Sciences

It will also give CSTB the ability to access the workforce from adversely affected industries to either place directly into employment or offer short term training.

### **Is there any Retention Incentive for businesses?**

Eligible Hillsborough County businesses can qualify for an incentive if they retain the OJT employee for a period 90 days, they are then eligible for a retention incentive of \$2,500 per employee.

## **FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM**

### **How much money is eligible to be distributed for Training in Hillsborough County?**

Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved a \$21.5 million-dollar agreement on Thursday, June 4, 2020 to assist residents experiencing employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19 related business closures.

**Short Term Occupational Skills Certification & Training** Up to \$5,000,000 is available

**On-the-job training:** Up to \$16,500,000 is available

**Management and Administration:** Up to \$3,470,000

**Program Preparation and Launch:** Up to \$30,000

### **Where does the funding come from?**

The funding comes from the federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The agreement for this allotment will be managed by CareerSource Tampa Bay (CSTB) working closely with the BOCC.

### **How will CSTB spend the monies?**

The CARES Act monies will be used in Hillsborough County to support the Rapid Response Recovery (R<sup>3</sup>) Program – a wide-ranging program supporting both life safety and economic development. This portion of the funding will be used to quickly start workforce training programs.

### **What will be included in the management and administration of the program?**

See pages 35-38 of the Scope of Work as approved by CSTB Executive Committee Board.

<https://www.careersourcetampabay.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/EC-06-18-2020-Executive-Committee-Meeting-Agenda-Packet-3.pdf>

### **About CareerSource Tampa Bay**

CareerSource Tampa Bay programs and initiatives are fully supported by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture as part of awards totaling \$19,293,411.

CareerSource Tampa Bay works with businesses and candidates to leverage their training, retraining, and competitive opportunities in the workforce. CareerSource Tampa Bay provided 240,269 services to 36,960 active Wagner-Peyser individuals during program year 2018-2019. CareerSource Tampa Bay, with our five career centers is the single largest source of job candidates in the region from entry-level to executive-level candidates.

Businesses can access CareerSource's wide range of services that include recruiting, training for new and existing employees, targeted hiring events, and retention support strategies. All resources and services are provided at no cost to both businesses and job candidates. Programs funded through CareerSource Tampa Bay are equal opportunity programs with auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons using TTY/TTD equipment use Florida Relay Service 711. A proud partner of the American Job Center network to learn more, visit [www.careersourcetampabay.com](http://www.careersourcetampabay.com).