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**ADDITIONAL SPECIAL PROVISION 1 (ASP 1)  
FOR TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE FOR NEW SOLUTIONS (TrANS)  
PROGRAM EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENTS AND APPRENTICESHIPS**

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The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Section 5204(e) – Surface Transportation Workforce Development Training and Education, provides for 100 percent Federal funding if the core program funds are used for training, education, or workforce development purposes, including “pipeline” activities. The core programs includes: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program, Highway Bridge Program (HBP), Interstate Maintenance (IM), National Highway System (NHS), and Surface Transportation Program (STP). These workforce development activities cover surface transportation workers, including OJT/SS programs for women and minorities as authorized in 23 U.S.C. §140(b).

*TrANS* is an employment program originally established in 1995 in Southeastern Wisconsin. Currently TrANS has expanded to include TrANS program locations to serve contractors in Southeast (Milwaukee and surrounding counties), Southcentral (Dane County and surrounding counties including Rock County), and most Northeastern Wisconsin counties from locations in Keshena, Rhinelander and surrounding far Northern areas. TrANS attempts to meet contractor’s needs in other geographic locations as possible. It is an industry driven plan of services to address the outreach, preparation, placement and retention of women, minorities and non-minorities as laborers and apprentices in the highway skilled trades. These candidate preparation and contractor coordination services are provided by community based organizations. For a list of the TrANS Coordinators contact the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Office at (414) 438-4583 in Milwaukee or (608) 266-6961 in Madison. These services are provided to you at no cost.

***I. BASIC CONCEPTS***

Training reimbursements to employing contractors for new placements, rehires or promotions to apprentice of TrANS Program graduates will be made as follows:

- 1) **On-the-Job Training, Item ASP.1T0G, ASP 1 Graduate.** At the rate of \$5.00 per hour on federal aid projects when TrANS graduates are initially hired, or seasonally rehired, as unskilled laborers or the equivalent.

Eligibility and Duration: To the employing contractor, for up to 2000 hours from the point of initial hire as a TrANS program placement.

Contract Goal: To maintain the intent of the Equal Employment Opportunity program, it is a goal that \_\_\_\_\_ (*number*) TrANS Graduate(s) be utilized on this contract.

- 2) **On-the-Job Training, Item ASP.1T0A, ASP 1 Apprentice.** At the rate of \$5.00 per hour on federal aid projects at the point when an employee who came out of the TrANS Program is subsequently entered into an apprenticeship contract in an underutilized skilled trade (this will include the Skilled Laborer Apprenticeship when that standard is implemented).

Eligibility and Duration: To the employing contractor, for the length of time the TrANS graduate is in apprentice status.

Contract Goal: To maintain the intent of the Equal Employment Opportunity program, it is a goal that \_\_\_\_\_ (*number*) TrANS Apprentice(s) be utilized on this contract.

- 3) The maximum duration of reimbursement is two years as a TrANS graduate plus time in apprentice status.
- 4) If a TrANS program is not available in the contractor's area and another training program is utilized, payment of On-the-Job Training hours may be approved by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) if the training program meets the established acceptance criteria. Only On-the-Job Training Hours accumulated after WisDOT approval will be reimbursed as specified under Items ASP.1T0G and ASP.1T0A. For more information, contact the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Office at the phone numbers listed above.
- 5) WisDOT reserves the right to deny payments under items ASP.1T0G and ASP.1T0A if the contractor either fails to provide training or there is evidence of a lack of good faith in meeting the requirements of this training special provision.

## **I. RATIONALE AND SPECIAL NOTE**

The \$5.00 per hour now being paid for TrANS placements is intended to cover the duration of two years to allow for reaching entry-level laborer status. An additional incentive, the \$5.00 rate, would promote movement into the underutilized skilled trades' apprenticeships and applies until the individual completes their apprenticeship. These incentives benefit TrANS candidates by giving them a better opportunity to enter a skilled trade; benefits contractors who will be assisted in meeting their EEO profiles and goals; and benefits the public who will see the program reinforce larger public-private employment reform in Wisconsin. The pool of TrANS graduates was created for the purpose of addressing underutilization in the skilled trades, an objective that is further reinforced by a parallel retention pilot program, known as the Companywide Reporting. *Whether or not reimbursement is involved, the WisDOT reassures contractors who are in the Companywide Program that TrANS placements still contribute toward fulfilling the new hire goal of 50% women and minorities.* Based on data administered by United States Department of Labor (US DOL), the highway skilled trades remain underutilized for women statewide (less than 6.9%); and for minorities in all counties (% varies by county).

NOTE: *Unless using other advancement strategies, contractors are encouraged to use some or all of this monetary incentive to offset the cut in hourly wages an individual may incur when entering an apprenticeship if the full general laborer hourly rate has been previously paid. No special accounting measures are required.*

## **II. IMPLEMENTATION**

The implementation of ASP 1 is intended to cover only the amount of time it takes for underutilization to be resolved across the trades. This will be measured annually at the county and/or state levels using data administered by WisDWD in relation to goals set by the USDOL-

OFCCP. With appropriate state and federal approvals, we may also do some measurement at the company level.

It is the contractor's responsibility to note on their Certified Payrolls if their employee is a TrANS graduate or a TrANS apprentice. The District EEO Coordinators utilize the information on the Certified Payrolls to track the hours accumulated by TrANS Graduates and TrANS apprentices on WisDOT contracts. Payment under this ASP 1 is made based on the hours recorded off of the Certified Payrolls. Tracking may eventually include improved linkages with the WisDWD apprentice database, information from company and committee level sources.

TrANS is nondiscriminatory by regulation, and is a tool for optional use by contractors to address the underutilization of women and minorities as laborers and apprentices in our industry's skilled trades.

#### **IV. TRANS TRAINING**

As part of the contractor's equal employment opportunity affirmative action program, training shall be provided to employees enrolled in apprenticeship and on-the-job training programs as follows:

The contractor shall provide on-the-job training aimed at developing full journey workers in the type of trade or job classifications involved. In the event the contractor subcontracts a portion of the contract work, the contractor shall determine how many, if any, of the trainees are to be trained by the subcontractor provided, however, that the contractor shall retain the primary responsibility for meeting the training requirements imposed by this special provision. The contractor shall also insure that this training special provision is made applicable to such subcontract.

Training and upgrading of minorities and women toward journey workers status is a primary objective of this training special provision. Accordingly, the contractor shall make every effort to enroll minority trainees and women (e.g., by conducting systematic and direct recruitment through public and private sources likely to yield minority trainees and women trainees); to the extent such persons are available within a reasonable area of recruitment. The contractor will be given an opportunity and will be responsible for demonstrating the steps that they have taken in pursuance thereof, prior to determination as to whether the contractor is in compliance with this training special provision. This training commitment is not intended, and shall not be used, to discriminate against any applicant for training, whether a member of a minority group or not.

No employee shall be employed as a trainee in any classification in which they have successfully completed a training course leading to journey workers status or in which they have been employed as a journey worker. The contractor should satisfy this requirement by including appropriate questions in the employee application or by other suitable means. Regardless of the method used, the contractor's records should document the findings in each case.

#### **V. APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING**

The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) policy is to require full use of all available training and skill improvement opportunities to assure increased participation of minority groups, disadvantaged persons and women in all phases of the highway construction industry. The FHWA On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program requires the State transportation agencies (STAs) to establish apprenticeships and training programs targeted to move women, minorities, and disadvantaged individuals into journey-level positions to ensure that a competent workforce is available to meet highway construction hiring needs, and to address the historical under-representation of members of these groups in highway construction skilled crafts.

The OJT Supportive Services (OJT/SS) Program was established in Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 230) to supplement the OJT program and support STA training programs by providing services to highway construction contractors and assistance to highway construction apprentices and trainees. The primary objectives of OJT/SS are:

- (1) To increase the overall effectiveness of the State highway agencies' approved training programs.
- (2) To seek other ways to increase the training opportunities for women, minorities, and disadvantaged individuals.

The STAs are responsible for establishing procedures, subject to the availability of Surface Transportation and Bridge Funds under 23 U.S.C. §140(b) (Nondiscrimination), for the provision of supportive services with respect to training programs approved under 23 CFR, Part 230(a) (Equal Employment Opportunity on Federal and Federal-aid Construction Contracts – including Supportive Services).

The contractor and subcontractor shall maintain records to demonstrate compliance with these apprenticeship requirements. Reasonable exemptions and modifications to and from any or all of these requirements will be determined by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation-Civil Rights Office. A request for an exemption or modification, with justification, shall be made in writing, addressed to WisDOT Civil Rights Office, 4802 Sheboygan Avenue, P.O. Box 7965, Rm. 451, Madison, WI 53707.