

**WYOMING WORKS!** is legislation intended to help address immediate and anticipated demand for a skilled workforce to fill technical and trades occupations in Wyoming. The current lack of qualified individuals in these positions, compounded by limited capacity in existing education and training programs, has created a sense of urgency in the state **that would be addressed through this program.** The **WYOMING WORKS!** legislation has two primary components:

- Technical and Trades program expansion/start-up funding for the community colleges
- Scholarship program designed to encourage students to participate in identified credential programs (certificate programs for trades)

Other key elements of the bill:

- Appropriates \$10M to the Wyoming Works Program Account – monies from this account are directed to the Wyoming Community College Commission (WCCC) to fund college program grants and students grants (private gifts and grants are also allowed into the account) on a competitive basis.
- The program is not designed to be an entitlement program for the colleges
- The WCCC must report to the Legislature by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year the colleges, programs, industries and total number of students served by the program.

### COLLEGE PROGRAM EXPANSION/ START UP GRANTS

Community colleges will apply for grants to the WCCC, **applications must meet the criteria identified by the WCCC in rules, including regional economic workforce needs**

Priority should be given to programs that are developed and delivered through **partnerships/consortiums so the colleges may leverage and share resources .**

Priority should be given to programs that **assist Wyoming residents, non-Hathaway high school graduates, adults (25 and over) who have not yet earned a credential, high school drop-outs, or employees who want more training (or re-training).**

The WCCC will **promulgate rules** for the administration of the grants per legislative intent, but programs must be tied to regional workforce needs.

The bill allows for **private industry matching.**

### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A **maximum** of \$2,250 per school year, per student will be available to help with the cost of attendance of an approved credential program.

**Scholarships shall only be awarded to students enrolled in approved credential programs.** The WCCC shall establish and maintain a list of all approved credential programs.

**Program is designed to target:** Wyoming residents, non-Hathaway high school graduates, adults (25 and over) who have not yet earned a credential, high school drop-outs, or employees who want more training ( or re-training).

The grant may only be offered as **last-dollar funding to the students.**

The WCCC will **promulgate rules** for the administration of the student grants per legislative intent.

