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**Fiscal Year 2025 Going PRO Talent Fund Employer-led Collaborative (ELC) Application and Award Process**

An Employer-led Collaborative (ELC) brings together multiple employers (a minimum of two), education and training institutions, workforce development organizations, and other applicable partners such as economic development organizations to formulate training and education solutions to fill identified talent gaps. Successful ELCs solve a common or shared workforce problem with supported training that leverages the power of collaboration; also increasing the competitiveness of employer partners, while creating, training, and filling “in-demand jobs.”

1. ELCs have a separate application and scoring criteria than the independent application.
2. Training may be for current and new employees, including new U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Registered Apprentices.
3. Employer partners can be from across the state.
4. Employers may have no more than one (1) independent and one (1) ELC award per fiscal year, based on employer location, and may reapply if previous application was not successful. No more than $500,000 may be awarded to any individual employer site (for independent and ELC combined).
5. The intent of an ELC is for multiple, separate employers to apply. A company with more than one site location may apply but must collaborate with additional outside employer partners.
6. ELC applications are for classroom or customized training only, not wage reimbursement, with an exception for employers holding shared On-the-Job (OJT) USDOL Registered Apprentice training standards.
7. ELC training must be shared by a minimum of two employers. In the case where shared training has a different provider; strong rationale on the common training need, proposed training, training standards, common curriculum, shared objectives and competencies must be explained. In addition, compelling evidence of collaborative intent must be explained in the “Statement of Collaboration” section of the application.
8. Training Plan minimum combined total request amount for the ELC application is $1,000. A participating partner or employer’s individual request may be less than $1,000 as long as the total amount of the ELC application in which they are participating is at least $1,000.
9. ELCs can be formed among multiple MWAs, also knows as a Joint MWA ELC. Joint MWA ELCs are a collaborative effort between two or more MWAs with an expectation of shared responsibility.
10. To ensure ongoing collaboration and coordination of services, Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs) must share the application with the local Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Business Development Manager prior to submitting.

The process to apply for an ELC award will be available through the Work-Based Learning Online Management System (WBLOMS). A link to the portal is on the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Workforce Development (LEO-WD) Talent Fund website at [michigan.gov/talentfund](http://www.michigan.gov/talentfund).

1. The ELC application period opens March 24, 2025.
2. ELC applications are accepted until available funds are exhausted. A final deadline will be communicated when the ELC window is nearly closed.
3. ELC applications will not be considered for an award until all participating employers have cleared any outstanding Treasury obligations. Once all outstanding obligations have been cleared, the ELC will then be considered for an award based on the date the obligation(s) were cleared.

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| **FY25 Going PRO Talent Fund ELC Scoring Criteria** | **Points** |
| Statement of Collaboration – how business and partners came together, purpose, goals, training need/business case, tie-in to training. | Up to 30 |
| Application includes four or more employer partners. | 3 |
| Application includes one or more employer partners from a High Priority Industry Sector. | 4 |
| Application includes one or more employer partners with training directly applicable to Electric Vehicles (EV), Mobility, or related infrastructure. | 1 |
| Application includes one or more employer partners with training directly applicable to increasing household access to high-speed internet. | 1 |
| Application includes one or more employer partners with training directly applicable to creating or preserving affordable housing units. | 1 |
| Application includes training in partnership with a community college, university, or a 3rd party (as defined).  1) To earn 4 points, a minimum of one course that results in earned college credit.  2) To earn 2 points, a minimum of one non-credit course provided by a community college, university, or 3rd party (as defined).  Note: OJT does not score points and college credit must be conferred by the approved training provider recognized on the Talent Fund Training Plan. | Up to 4 |
| Application includes technical (hard skills) training that results in an industry recognized certification or license within the training period (as defined).  To earn 3 points, a minimum of one training that results in an industry recognized certification or license within the training period (as defined) must be included on the training plan. Credential must be included on the training plan. | 3 |
| Application includes at least one employer who qualifies for a special allowance for minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned, Individual with a Disability (IWD) owned, or a Geographically-Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. | 3 |
| Application includes training for USDOL Registered Apprentices (1st year through completion) leading to the nationally recognized, portable Certificate of Completion.  > 0 and up to 25% of trainees = 2 points  > 25% and up to 50% of all trainees = 4 points  > 50% of all trainees = 6 points | Up to 6 |
| Median wage of trainees is equal to or above Regional Median Wage.  > 0 and up to 50% of all employers = 2 points  > 50% and up to 75% of all employers = 4 points  > 75% of all employers = 8 points | Up to 8 |
| Employers have not received an Independent or ELC award in past two fiscal years (2023 and 2024).  0 and up to 49% of all employers = 0 points  50% and up to 100% of employers = 2 points | 2 |
| Highest amount of funding requested by an employer participating in the ELC.  Up to $20,000: 4 points  $20,001 to $40,000: 3 points  $40,001 to $60,000: 2 points  $60,001 to $80,000: 1 point  $80,001 and above: 0 points | Up to 4 |
| **Total** | **70** |