The Compass Workforce Grant provides financial support for young adults from Maine's unbridged islands to help pay for workforce expenses associated with pursuing a certificate or credential that leads to high value employment. [APPLY HERE]

### WHAT’S THE AMOUNT?

Applicants can receive up to $500.

### WHEN IS THE DUE DATE?

The due date for Compass Workforce Grants is rolling. Applications are due on the first of the month and will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

### APPLICATION TIMELINE

Applications will be available by December 1, 2019. Completed applications will be reviewed and decided on within 2-4 weeks.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The application is filled out with Smarter Select. Additionally, an informal informational interview must be done in person, via video conference or over the phone.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You must be a young adult (age 17-26) on one of Maine’s unbridged islands. AND you must meet one or more of the following requirements:

- Live or work on the island for at least a year
- Have a family or community connection to an unbridged Maine island
- Have attended and/or graduated from the island school (if there is one)
- Exceptions and special circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis

### WHAT CAN THE FUNDS BE USED FOR?

Expenses that help the applicant work towards earning a certificate or credential that leads to high value employment. This includes:

- Technical and vocational training programs
- Community College classes
- Short courses
- Online courses
- Apprenticeship programs
- Internship programs
- Materials/supplies (including tools, equipment, uniforms, books)
- Travel and lodging (including bus/train/airfare, mileage reimbursement and/or hotel or lodging costs associated with training programs)
DISTRIBUTING FUNDS

Funds will be distributed directly to the program when possible. Funds that are distributed directly to the recipient will require a completed W-9 form and may have tax implications.

FOLLOW UP

Recipients will be required to provide a reflection—either written or spoken (in person or over the phone)

- What about your project went well?
- What were any challenges or obstacles you faced?
- Budget—were there any changes or surprises?
- What’s next for you?

Recipients are also encouraged (though not required) to provide photos—please send up 1-3 photos associated with your project.

EXAMPLES OF PROGRAMS AND TRAININGS FOR THE COMPASS WORKFORCE GRANT

Maine School of Masonry in Avon, ME
Cianbro Institute in Pittsfield, ME
MidCoast School of Technology Adult Education in Rockland, ME
Early College Career Exploration Pathways and Certificates - UMaine System
Short Term Training Courses - Maine Community College System

EXTERNAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUNDERS

Maine Community Development Foundation
Adult Learner Scholarship Fund
Maine State Grant for Adult Learners

Planning and Financial Literacy Resources
iGrad Financial Literacy Platform
FAME’s Lifetime Learning Kit
MaineSpark Adult Promise Hub