

ACCELERATOR WEBINAR:

Capitalizing on the Commerce Department's Funding Opportunities to Advance Equitable Access to Economic/Workforce Development



The Accelerator Webinar for Build Back Better Applicants

<Action Required>

Purpose of the Build Back Better Accelerator Webinar

With grant application deadlines quickly approaching, the Accelerator Series will help lead organizations and regional coalitions:

- Assess their region's relative strengths and what is needed to drive equitable regional growth
- Catalyze outside of the box thinking and problem-solving to address specific planning challenges
- Workshop potential strategies, coalition building approaches, and project ideas.

The series will be led by regional economic development experts who will advise on bottleneck issues and help teams move through the continuum of planning suitable to your regional context.

- **Who should participate:** Regional teams, including lead entities, intermediaries, and primary convenors who are actively planning to complete their application by the October 19th deadline. Senior leaders and officials of applying regions are welcome if they want to learn more about the overall application. In addition we recommend that people most responsible for developing and writing the application attend. Participants should be familiar with [EDA's Program Resources](#), including their FAQs and most recent applicant webinar.
- **When:** September 23rd, 3:00 - 4:30pm ET or September 29th, at 12:30 - 2:00pm ET
- **[RSVP Here](#) by September 20th, 2021.** Once you rsvp, you will receive an individual participation link and a brief survey to help us understand your region and application better.
- **Hosted by** America Achieves and HR&A Advisors, with support from CREC, McKinsey & Company, and Shared Prosperity.

PRESENTING PARTNERS

[AMERICA ACHIEVES](#) is a national non-profit organization focused on scaling effective pathways to careers in a changing economy, including those that do not initially require a four-year degree. Such pathways involve employers motivated by hiring needs for high-demand jobs and occupations, stronger K-12 schools focused on their students' economic futures, and innovation-oriented community/technical colleges and other postsecondary institutions. We identify exceptionally promising leaders and innovations and the evidence base on what works. We help build AND grow initiatives that directly impact economic mobility including via the attainment of good. In-demand Jobs. We use these experiences and other research to inform our advising and our recommendations for philanthropy, systems change, and public policy. Leveraging this approach, we bring our unique assets to align education to economic opportunity in ways that work for all, preparing everyone to succeed in the 21st century and building a thriving economy and democracy.

[HR&A ADVISORS](#) is a national leader in economic development planning with four decades of experience helping communities foster economic growth, create jobs, and advance equity. We have a record of success helping our clients make the best case for federal funding and build lasting public/private partnerships to deliver critical infrastructure, innovation economy growth, broadband access, robust talent ecosystems, and livable communities. For HR&A's expert advice, contact buildback@hraadvisors.com.

[MCKINSEY & COMPANY](#) is a global management consulting firm. McKinsey's Economic Development Service Line supports states, cities, regions, and non-profit organizations on economic development strategy and implementation programs to accelerate innovation and drive job creation, growth, and resilience, increasing the economic and social prosperity of citizens and creating employment opportunities for the next generation of job seekers. Topics include sector growth strategy, innovation ecosystems and districts, business attraction, workforce development, equity and inclusion, sustainability, and public-private partnerships. To reach McKinsey's experts, please contact mike_kerlin@mckinsey.com.

SUPPORTING PARTNERS

The **[Center on Rural Innovation \(CORI\)](#)** is a national nonprofit action tank advancing inclusive rural prosperity through digital economy ecosystems that support scalable entrepreneurship and tech job creation. Our comprehensive approach to this work includes building the capacity of rural communities through technical assistance, connecting communities to national caliber resources through our Rural Innovation Network, delivering data-driven tools to provide insights to community leaders, ensuring early-stage investment flows to rural entrepreneurs, and closing the digital divide so all Americans can participate in a 21st century digital economy. Learn more: ruralinnovation.us

The **[Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness \(CREC\)](#)** is an independent not-for-profit that partners with policymakers to research, help formulate, and execute on innovative methods that ensure job creation and long-term regional economic sustainability. Our primary public service goal is to help regions compete. Through our network of partnerships, we continually work to further regional economic competitiveness in global, rural, and metropolitan communities. CREC conducts research, provides technical assistance, offers expert advice, provides training, and offers leadership to practitioners and policymakers in the economic development, workforce development, and higher education field on ways to facilitate the future direction of regional economies.