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Scott Walker, Governor  
Raymond Allen, Secretary

February 26, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great honor that I provide the full support of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to Wisconsin's application for the New Skills for Youth grant. Wisconsin has a rich collaborative history with strong partnerships to prepare youth with in-demand skills to succeed in careers and in post-secondary education and training.

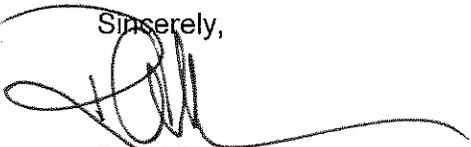
To this end, DWD is pleased to support this grant application in collaboration with our partners at the Wisconsin Technical College, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Wisconsin Manufacture's and Commerce.

The Department can support implementation of this initiative through the enhanced Labor Market Information (LMI), which we rolled out in early 2016. These new tools will help DWD and its workforce partners determine high-skilled, high-demand industry sectors for the creation of career pathways for our students.

Additionally, the Governor has addressed the training needs of employers in Wisconsin by providing the Department with the ability and support to create a bridge program between our Youth Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship programs. Furthermore, the Governor's investment in workforce training grants through his Wisconsin Fast Forward initiative has engaged both education and employers to work together to create training opportunities for the junior and seniors in our high schools, based on employer demand.

I ask that you give Wisconsin's application for this grant your full consideration. If you have any further questions or are in need of any additional information from my office, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ray Allen  
Secretary