(LINCOLN) – The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) Vocational & Life Skills program grant application for the period of July 2016 – June 2018 is now available.

The annual allocation of $3.5 million, made possible by the passage of LB 907, is available each year of the two-year grant period subject to appropriation.

Nebraska’s criminal justice system cannot provide the best possible reentry services and planning without the support of and partnership with community providers. This solicitation is a continuation of the work being done inside NDCS facilities, which creates a bridge for the individual to successfully return to the community. These programs aid the agency in increasing public safety; effectively reducing recidivism; providing meaningful vocational and life skills training; and facilitate successful reentry as individuals return to their communities.

Applicants are limited to community based organizations; community colleges; federally recognized or state recognized Indian tribes; or non-profit organizations that provide vocational and life skills programming and services to adults who are incarcerated, who have been incarcerated within the prior eighteen months, or who are serving a period of supervision on probation or parole.

Applicants must submit their applications, with all required supporting documentation, to Kevin Hand at kevin.hand@nebraska.gov no later than April 15th, 2016.