



# Illinois Tollway **DIVERSITY**

*Driving Economic Opportunities*

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## **BUILDING FOR SUCCESS**

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Illinois Tollway  
Bid Credit Training

August 2, 2021

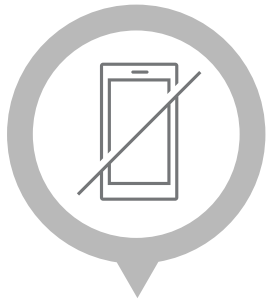


# HOUSEKEEPING RULES

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## Housekeeping Rules

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# WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

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## Illinois Tollway Bid Credit Training

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# Illinois Tollway **DIVERSITY**

*Driving Economic Opportunities*

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*Three Ways to Obtain Bid Credits*  
August 2, 2021

# INCLUSION IS THE FOUNDATION

**Tollway programs and initiatives provide opportunities for diverse businesses and individuals through:**

## **GREATER ACCESS**

opens doors for individuals and firms interested in doing business

**INCREASED PARTICIPATION**  
creates economic opportunities and jobs by setting aspirational goals

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT**  
achieve next level of success through business assistance and training

# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



**ConstructionWorks**

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

*Teaching Trades, Building Careers*



**EARNED CREDIT PROGRAM**

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

*Putting your Best Bid Forward*



**PARTNERING for GROWTH**

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

*Taking your Business to the Next Level*

**Workforce Development**

**Relationship-building**

# CONSTRUCTIONWORKS

## Overview

- ✓ ConstructionWorks creates a pipeline of diverse men and women ready to enter careers in the heavy highway and related construction industry
- ✓ Potential candidates are connected to a network of experienced career and pre-apprenticeship training partners throughout Northern Illinois who offer customized construction industry preparation



# CONSTRUCTIONWORKS

## Overview

The ConstructionWorks program is beneficial for both the candidates and contractors that participate

- ✓ As of June 1, 2021:
  - **838** candidates enrolled in ConstructionWorks
  - **251** candidates employed in the construction industry
  - **39** candidates directly placed on tollway projects
  - Over **\$826,900.00** awarded in bid credits



**ConstructionWorks**

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

*Teaching Trades, Building Careers*



Illinois Tollway  
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# EARNED CREDIT PROGRAM

## Overview

- ✓ Provides opportunities for historically underrepresented segments of the heavy highway construction workforce
- ✓ The Earned Credit Program encourages contractors and subcontractors to hire and retain qualified Earned Credit Program candidates



# EARNED CREDIT PROGRAM

## Overview

- ✓ Candidate eligibility is income-based and determined through income guidelines set by IDES
- ✓ Since 2005 through July 26, 2021:
  - **533** Earned Credit Program candidates have been hired
  - Over **\$10,479,280.00** in bid credits have been awarded
  - **46** active certificate-holding contractors



# PARTNERING FOR GROWTH PROGRAM

## Overview

- ✓ Encourages contractors and consultants to assist small, diverse and veteran-owned businesses in remaining self-sufficient, competitive and profitable
- ✓ Flexible agreements allow firms to gain experience on active contracts (professional services) or work together without a contract (construction services)
- ✓ Tollway can provide assistance with agreements



# PARTNERING FOR GROWTH PROGRAM

## Available Support Services

- ✓ Technical Assistance (TA) can help with documentation process and provides support throughout program involvement
- ✓ Tollway provides assistance through monthly check-ins, kick-off meetings and cohorts



**PARTNERING for GROWTH**

POWERED BY THE ILLINOIS TOLLWAY

*Taking your Business to the Next Level*



Illinois Tollway  
**DIVERSITY**

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# PARTNERING FOR GROWTH PROGRAM

## Accomplishments

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16

Total agreements  
to date



\$883,000

Awarded to date in Tollway  
bid credits



# WHY SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE?

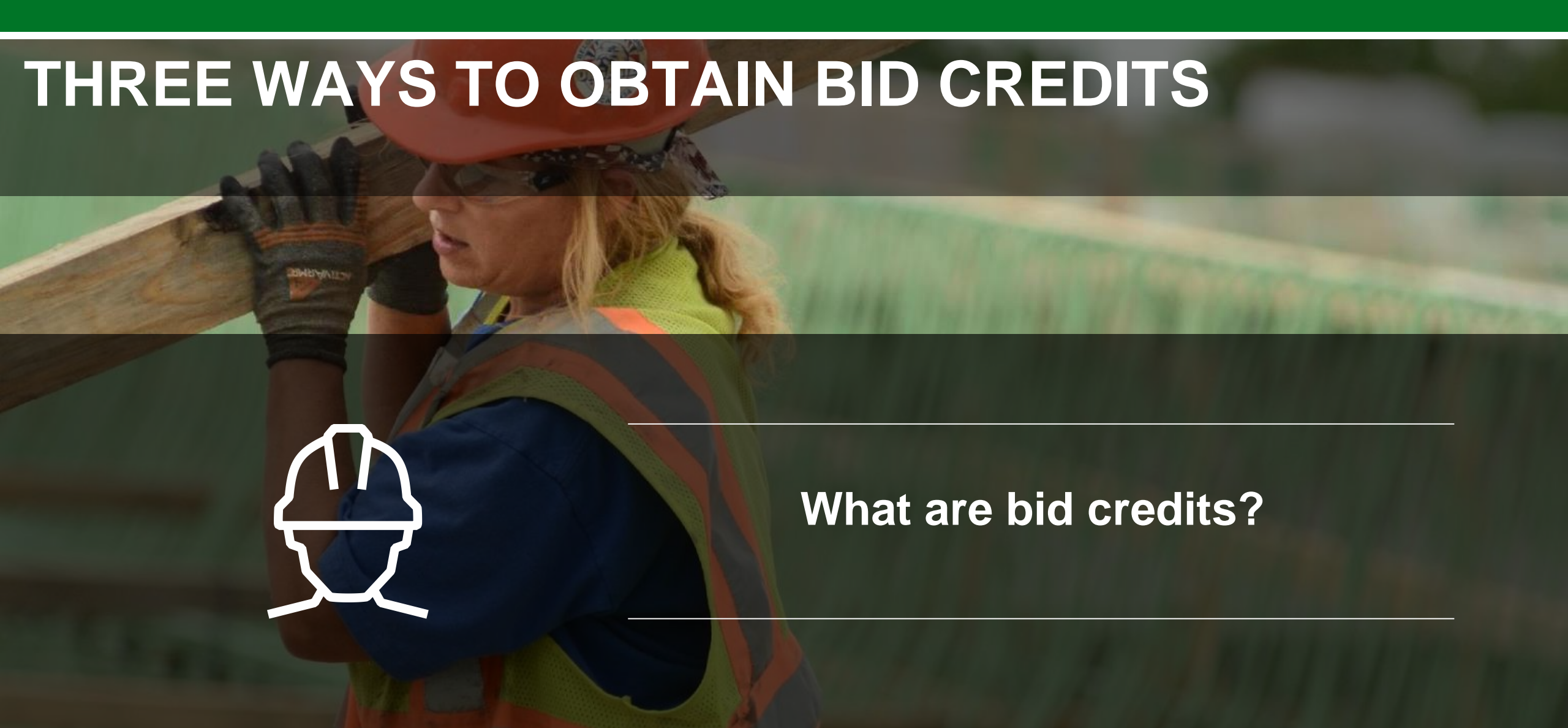
## Benefits

### Partnering for Growth Program

- ✓ Firms participating have the opportunity to earn up to \$100,000 per year in bid credits
- ✓ Help grow businesses in communities that otherwise may be overlooked or underserved

### ConstructionWorks and Earned Credit Program

- ✓ Grows the pool of diverse workers for Tollway projects and helps diversify the construction industry
- ✓ First time Earned Credit Program and ConstructionWorks hires earn additional \$5,000 bid credit bonus after accumulating 160 hours of work



# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



What are bid credits?



# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



Is there a limit to how many  
Construction Works and Earned  
Credit Program candidates can be  
employed by a firm?



# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



Can a firm participate in more than one program at a time and receive bid credits?

# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



How do I know how many bid credits I have at any given time?

# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



Do bid credits expire?

# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



How do I hire candidates in  
the Earned Credit and  
ConstructionWorks  
programs?

# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



Can you combine Partnering for Growth program bid credits with ConstructionWorks or Earned Credit Program bid credits?

# THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN BID CREDITS



Is there a limit to the amount of bid credits I can earn?

# ILLINOIS TOLLWAY DIVERSITY PROGRAM CONTACTS

## CONSTRUCTIONWORKS PROGRAM



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## EARNED CREDIT PROGRAM



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## PARTNERING FOR GROWTH PROGRAM



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# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



# DIVERSITY AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

## Programs

- ConstructionWorks
- Diversity Webinar Series
- Earned Credit Program
- Partnering for Growth Program
- ROCIP
- Small Business Initiative
- Technical Assistance Program

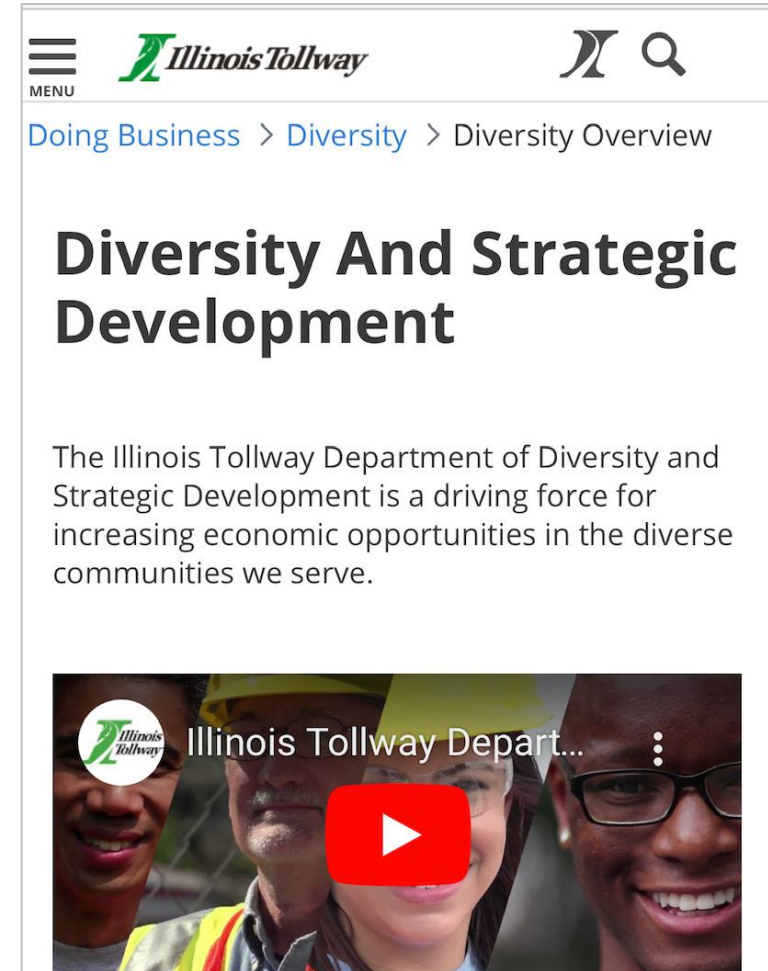
## Initiatives

- Virtual outreach sessions
- Training webinars
- Contracting opportunity emails

## Register for Tollway Diversity alerts!

- [lponce@getipass.com](mailto:lponce@getipass.com)

Visit [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) to get started



The screenshot shows the Illinois Tollway website's Diversity and Strategic Development page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Illinois Tollway logo, a search icon, and a menu icon. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads "Doing Business > Diversity > Diversity Overview". The main heading is "Diversity And Strategic Development". Below the heading, there is a paragraph of text: "The Illinois Tollway Department of Diversity and Strategic Development is a driving force for increasing economic opportunities in the diverse communities we serve." At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a video player with a red play button and a thumbnail image showing a diverse group of people wearing hard hats and safety vests, with the Illinois Tollway logo in the top left corner of the video frame.



THANK YOU