TONY CARROLL
Chairman
Amory

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Fulton

MICHAEL C. ROZIER, JR
Hattiesburg

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Meridian

GREG SMITH
Gulfport

HUNTER L. FORDICE
Vice-Chairman
Vicksburg

TYLER NORMAN
Meridian

O.L. SIMS
Hattiesburg

MADISON H. SMITH
Tupelo

NORRIS LEE CARSON, JR.
Carthage

MISSISSIPPI
State Board of Contractors

**To:** Public community and junior colleges; Mississippi State Institutions of Higher Learning with construction technology programs; the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation; public high schools that participate in the Foundation's School-to-Work Program; and construction educational trusts approved by the Mississippi State Board of Contractors.

**Subject:** FY2027 Construction Education Fund (CEF) Grant Program — Notice of Funding Opportunity

Miss. Code Ann. § 31-3-14 establishes the Construction Education Fund and authorizes the Mississippi State Board of Contractors ("MSBOC" or the "Board") to distribute monies from the Fund to eligible institutions to offer construction education and construction craft training that meet the needs of Mississippi's construction industry.

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 31-3-14(2), at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the funds distributed each year must be used for construction craft training. Applicants may request funds only for construction education and craft training curricula and program development, faculty development, safety equipment used for training, equipment, student scholarships, student assistantships, and continuing education programs related to construction education and craft training. Awarded funds shall not be commingled with the normal operating funds of the recipient institution, regardless of the source of such funds.

The enclosed FY2027 CEF Grant Application Packet contains the eligibility requirements, evaluation criteria, allowable and unallowable costs, and all forms and certifications required under the grant administration policy. Applicants must submit:

1. Completed Applicant Information (Section A)
2. Project Narrative (Section B)
3. Project Timeline (Section C)
4. Detailed Budget and Budget Justification (Section D)
5. Organizational Information and Evidence of Capacity (Section E)
6. Performance Measures (Section F)
7. Funding Priorities (Section G)
8. Required Certifications and Signature (Section H)

Complete applications, including all required attachments, must be received by MSBOC no later than **December 31, 2026.** Instructions for the number of copies and/or electronic submission are provided on the cover page of the enclosed application packet. Applications that are incomplete or received after the deadline may be rejected.

All applications will first be reviewed by MSBOC staff for completeness and eligibility, then scored by the Board's Review Committee using the evaluation criteria described in the enclosed packet. Scores are advisory only; the Board retains sole authority to approve, deny, modify, or partially fund any application. Applicants will be notified in writing of the Board's decision after the April board meeting but no later than June 30th.

If you have questions about the application process, eligibility, or the Grant Administration Policy, please contact MSBOC Office Coordinator Lacey Stokes, lacey@msboc.us or at the telephone number below.

Thank you for your continued partnership in advancing construction education and workforce development in Mississippi.