

funded up to a maximum of \$500,000 that supports an existing Oklahoma business or \$1,000,000 that supports a new business moving to the State.

## **2. Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (CDBG-EDIF)**

The Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (CDBG-EDIF) program provides financing for the development of publicly owned infrastructure to support a business' job creating efforts. The program can provide grant financing to a city, town, or county to a maximum of \$1,000,000 to support new companies to the State, or a maximum of \$500,000 to support the growth of an existing business in Oklahoma. Grant maximums are based upon job creation forecasts, wages to be paid the new employment positions, and other evaluation criteria set out in the CDBG-EDIF application guide available online at [www.okcommerce.gov/Libraries/Documents/2011-CDBG-EDIF-Guidelines-Appl\\_2736.pdf](http://www.okcommerce.gov/Libraries/Documents/2011-CDBG-EDIF-Guidelines-Appl_2736.pdf) or by calling Scott Myers at (405) 815-5356.

## **F. Workforce Assistance**

### **1. Advanced Degree Programs**

For more information, contact Tony Hutchison, Workforce & Economic Development and Strategic Planning & Analysis, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, at (405) 225-9100.

Oklahoma's Higher Education system includes 25 colleges and universities. Associate, bachelor, and advanced degree programs are tailored on an ongoing basis to respond to business and industry needs. In addition, Oklahoma colleges and universities have established numerous alliances and partnerships with business and industry to ensure that Oklahoma graduates are prepared to compete in today's job market. New funds provide universities within Oklahoma's higher education system opportunities to develop programs for workforce training for fast-changing, high paying job fields, to build expertise in targeted knowledge-based industries and to transfer research to the marketplace.

### **2. Job Matching and Job Search Assistance**

For more information, contact the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission at (405) 557-7149.

The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC) provides computerized and customized assistance to serve the needs of employers and job seekers. There is no cost to businesses for screening and referrals of qualified job applicants by job service specialists.

If your business is new to Oklahoma, considering Oklahoma, or expanding in Oklahoma, you will want to contact your nearest Workforce Center for assistance in hiring new people, tax credit programs, assessment, training and education,