The first of three informational webinars for Interagency Outreach and Training Initiative grants begins on January 30. These question-and-answer sessions will guide applicants from public agencies, nonprofits, or private for-profit organizations through the process of applying for up to $300,000 in funding. Applicants need attend only one of the three sessions, and a recorded session will be archived online at a later date.

As many as three IOTI grants will be awarded this year, granting up to $100,000 per year to successful applicants over a period of three years.

The IOTI grants’ structuring is significantly different in 2019, but Jeff Sheen, the CPD’s associate director of research and training, said the purpose remains the same. “The idea is that training translates to better service at the end of the day,” he said.

The 2019 awards are larger, over a longer period of time. They are also linked to priorities identified by the Center for Persons with Disabilities in a statewide, comprehensive needs assessment. The goal is to improve outcomes in health care, mental health, transition, direct support workforce development, accessibility and other critical needs in the field. In the end, IOTI grants should produce substantial and sustainable improvements in the lives of people with disabilities, especially among those who are underserved in Utah, Sheen said.

IOTI is a collaborative effort between the Utah State University Center for Persons with Disabilities and the Utah Coordinating Council for Persons with Disabilities. Applications are due April 15, and award notifications will take place June 1. Projects begin on July 1, 2019. For more information, visit the IOTI page.