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ON-CALL COHORT BASED HEALTHCARE TRAINING PROGRAMS SOLICITATION OF INTEREST

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
June 25, 2013

1. Q: Please advise if it is a requirement that a School has to be Accredited by the Department of Education in order to be eligible to participate in this SOI?

A: The school's accreditation must be with one of the Department of Education approved accrediting bodies as listed on www.ed.gov. If a school is accredited by one of these agencies, but the school's name does not show up on the website, the school may submit proof of their accreditation with their proposal(s).

2. Q: If a school is B.P.P.E. approved as well as approved by the California Department of Health (CDPH) would they be entitled to participate in this SOI?

A: No, the school must be accredited with one of the Department of Education approved accrediting bodies as listed on www.ed.gov. Those schools that are not accredited by one of these agencies may still be eligible to access HPOG Bridge to Employment training funds through the Individual Training Account (ITA) process.

3. Q: what the total amount of the grant you are soliciting bids for is?

A: Per Section 3.6.1 (Section 1: Basic Information), the respondent will propose the total training cost of the program from implementation to completion, there is no total amount associated with this SOI.

7/1/13 Questions from Respondents Orientation

4. Q: Are the Navigator providers responsible for the entered employment performance metric of the participants served?

A: Yes

5. Q: Are you expecting a dollar amount associated with the proposed training?

A: Yes, SDWP is requesting the respondents to tell us the cost associated with executing the training program.

6. Q: Who will perform screening of the participants? The navigators, the school, or both? Who verifies the students are appropriate for the program?

A: Eligibility and enrollment into the Bridge to Employment Program is performed by the Navigator agencies. The suitability and assessment could be determined by both the Navigators and the training providers in partnership. The training providers should include any prerequisites in their proposals so navigators can make appropriate referrals.

7. Q: What does "Credential Attainment rate" mean?

A: For occupations that require a state license, the performance expectation is that 90% of the students in the program will attain this credential. If there is no state license required – for example, Medical Assistant – then a completion certificate/employer recognized certificate would suffice. This measure is defined as "Of those who successfully complete their training program, the number who attain a credential."

8. Q: Are there supportive services to pay for the credential exams?

A: Yes, and the program can pay for exams for multiple credentials for participants.

9. Q: How long is training expected to last?

A: As long as it takes to complete the proposed program. All training needs to occur during the contract period.

10. Q: Do training programs have to be accredited by Title IV of the Dept. of Education?

A: Training programs must be on the accreditation list on the ed.gov website, listed in the SOI:
http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg2.html#U.S

11. Q: Why is SDWP releasing the SOI now in program year 4 of the Bridge to Employment Program? Is the program running into deficiencies that it is trying to address through this SOI?

A: This program design is modeled after a program in Seattle in which two models of training are utilized, the Individual Training Account Model and a cohort based classroom training model. SDWP wants to try something new with the cohort model, which can also encourage peer-to-peer learning. There are no current program deficiencies. Since this program is a demonstration project, SDWP see this as an opportunity to try new models.

12. Q: Don't the participants get soft skills through the navigator agencies?

A: Yes, the navigator agencies address soft skills. The SOI is for certificated vocational training. This is an opportunity to do something different to see if it helps TANF Recipients and Other Low-Income Individuals successfully complete their training programs and move up their career pathway.

13. Q: How were the occupations eligible for funding chosen?

A: SDWP vetted the demand for the occupations on the list. Occupations with bundled credentials are shown to be in demand, where the individual occupation might not be.

14. Q: What is the Department of Health and Human Services definition of the Administrative Cost Category?

A: Answer pending.

7/1/13 Questions Via Email

15. Q: If a training provider is accredited by Western Association of Schools and Colleges but not for Community and Junior Colleges/ Senior Colleges and Universities would the agency be eligible to apply?

A: As is stated in the SOI in section 1.0, the training provider must be accredited by one of the federally recognized agencies as listed on the ed.gov website: http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg2.html#U.S.

The ed.gov websites lists regional bodies that it recognizes, which are also acceptable for purposes of this SOI, these bodies are listed here: http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg6.html

Further the website lists federally recognized healthcare accreditations which are acceptable for purposes of this SOI: http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg7.html#health

7/10/13 Follow up to the Respondent's Orientation

16. Q: The definition of administrative costs for the Health Professions Opportunity Grant was requested.

A: The following is the definition for general administrative expenses in 2 CFR 230, Appendix A, Section C (Indirect Costs):

General administration and general expenses. The expenses under this heading are those that have been incurred for the overall general executive and administrative offices of the organization and other expenses of a general nature which do not relate solely to any major function of the organization. This category shall also include its allocable share of fringe benefit costs, operation and maintenance expense,

depreciation and use allowances, and interest costs. Examples of this category include central offices, such as the director's office, the office of finance, business services, budget and planning, personnel, safety and risk management, general counsel, management information systems, and library costs.

7/10/13 Questions Via Email

17. Q: Please confirm the due date for the Request for Qualifications form for the Cohort Based Healthcare Training Program grant. On your website the due date is listed as no later than Friday, July 26th, 2013, and on the Solicitation of Interest form the due date is listed as Monday, July 15th, 2013.

A: The due date for the Request for Qualifications, (RFQUAL) is July 26, 2012. The SOI has been amended to reflect the accurate due date for the RFQUAL.