

**2021 Request For Proposal For  
Occupational Skills Training For  
In-School and/or Out-Of School Youth  
BIDDER’S CONFERENCE: Monday, April 12, 2021  
Submitted Questions & Responses**

Question	Response
1. Can the classroom occupational skills/job readiness portion of the training take place virtually; or in a hybrid manner, where students may attend virtually or in person based on their access to technology and internet?	Yes, you can propose either virtual, in person, or hybrid. If you propose in person, we do suggest you have a virtual plan in place in the event covid numbers increase and the state is forced to revert to a virtual plan
2. Please confirm that there is no page limitation on the Narrative section of the proposal.	This is correct, there is no page limitation on the narrative section of the proposal, just be line with what the formatting requirements are.
3. Please confirm that all attachments, including the audit, should be included in both the MS Word and PDF documents, essentially creating one master document in two different formats.	Yes, this is correct.
4. Can a bidder submit a proposal that suggestion a different type of credential?	Yes, what shared in the RFP were examples. We encourage creativity, so bidders may propose other nationally recognized credentials so long as they satisfy WIOA’s requirement for credentials.
5. On the certifications list, CISSP is a bit of a stretch for this age group and level of experience. It is actually one of the most advanced certifications one can obtain. It actually requires at least 5 years of industry experience before even sitting for the exam as well as a manager to bless that. So I am not	Yes, again the credential list supplied in the RFP, were suggestions and thoughts. It was not an exhaustive list. We do serve up to 24 years old and maybe they would receive that service through an ITA, but this was just to get thoughts flowing and look at areas where we want to expand and look at.

<p>sure if you are looking for alternatives to that? The 2<sup>nd</sup> line item it a reference to MLs in general so it's probably not that difficult, but based on our experience with demographic, we are familiar with what they can handle and what would apply to an entry level search.</p>	
<p>6. We have an effective methodology of recruitment. How would we that collaboration be deployed. Unless you are not open to that.</p>	<p>We are very open to that. So when we recruit we work based in the interest of the participant, so it may not necessarily be someone who you recruited. They may have just heard about our program and we do a full comprehensive orientation and then we sit with them to make their plan. At that time a participant may solicit interest in working with computers. We would then have conversation with you before we referred that participant over if they had that level of interest.</p>
<p>7. As far a culinary arts, are you skipping over serve safe food handler?</p>	<p>No not at all. Anything that is a WIOA recognized credential that we have accepted in the past, it is good. Again this list was just a list of ideas and quick places to go. As long as they satisfy WIOA's requirement for credentials. That is why we noted in the RFP and bolded in the Bidders conference presentation, Bidders may propose training for other occupations if they are in in-demand, high growth industries. We are looking for innovative ideas that will keep our participants engaged. We want to keep them engaged but at the end we want them to leave training with a certification that will get them employed.</p>
<p>8. I am looking at the cap of \$3000 per student. If for some reason it ends up being more per student, could the rest be leveraged in some sort of in-kind. How would I mitigate that?</p>	<p>You can bring any funds into the program as leverage. There are restrictions that WIOA places on using leverage to count toward certain mandates. For instance like support services. While they are allowable as an expense, they can't be used against the work experience percentage benchmark that we need to accomplish.</p> <p>You also cannot use private funds. While you can use them for incentives, that you want to bring in and leverage those, as incentives. WIOA can't fund them, that's why they have to be brought in by a third party source (donations, foundations, etc.)</p>
<p>9. In the JFES conference it was mentioned there may be some tech resources available for the JFES population. I wondered if they same</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>resources may be available for the Youth population as well, so I wondered if we should consider that when we are thinking about tech in our budget.</p>	
<p>10. For the in-school youth, sometimes the credential is one of the last things that is earned because of the teaching that goes along with the credential. Are there other performances standards that would help you get to the end result. Ex: marking period grades, to show they are making progress toward graduation? Even some of the smaller benchmarks, like career plans that would lead toward an industry stand credential?</p>	<p>You send us monthly report to show how the participants are doing. Unfortunately, nothing takes the place of the credential. We still have to have that at the end, but always just continual communication with us and the write-ups because anything we receive on the performance for our participants, we enter into our CT Hires Data Base. We keep track of how are participants are doing. Those Monthly reports are really key to know how the participants are doing.</p> <p>For in-school youth there are dual layers for credentials, so we have to see progress made in school and the credential, so it makes it a little tougher to achieve our performance. Any skill -gain, progress, even it's on a semester base, or standardized testing, any advancement they make, having that information, helps us demonstrate performance for DOL.</p>
<p>11. Are we as an agency offering GED training for out of school youth?</p>	<p>In part of the proposal we are looking for that resources to happen in the trainings that people are proposing so if there is a need for that GED training, and you cannot offer that level of training, there has to be an educational component for each submission, but we can have conversation on that. Please make sure your proposal has educational factor in your proposal.</p>
<p>12. In the JFES Conference, they have 10 hours justified GED justified Adult Ed curriculum. So in our proposal we have to carve out a portion of our week for GED training or adult-education training and we would need to provide you with some form of justification for that?</p>	<p>JFES has certain time requirements specific for their programs, so each program won't align exactly with JFES. There may be some overlap in the approach, but we are trying to offer a robust program to the youth that has a comprehensive program for everything they need. But if so some reason you cannot offer that educational component, then we do have a partnership with adult-education and we may be able to offer GED services, but the timing of that may not always align with timing of your training program.</p>
<p>13. Going back to referrals, a lot of the programs we offer require a certain level of proficiency and not a lot of referrals may have that.</p>	<p>That would be something you would need to build into your program because we cannot promise we would be sending all straight A students to one vendor. That is not always the population we service. This is one reason the WIOA program is outlined the way that it is, because we know that this is the</p>

	<p>population that struggles to get attached to employment.</p> <p>Anyone that receives a contract with us, we do not leave you out there to struggle on your own. That is the purpose of those meetings that we have, the purpose of the reports you send us monthly so we are working in collaboration with you to make our participants successful.</p> <p>We are looking for creativity, we are looking for partnerships, we want to be that foundation, that springboard for our young adults, so that when they come into the CareerHub they feel that was the best experience they ever had.</p>
14. I often get returned emails from the WorkPlace Domain. Will you send a confirmation of receipt when proposals are submitted?	<p>Yes. We will also make certain to submit the email addresses of those on this call to our IT department and we will work with them to make certain you do not get blocked. There are certain size limitations we have for submitted documents and depending on the formatting, but if we get the names we will work with It to make certain this does not occur.</p> <p>If it does please alert us right away</p>
15. Do I need to submit more than one copy of documents?	<p>Only electronic submissions as a word documents and a PDF, please follow what is outline in the submission section of the RFP.</p>
16. What is recognized nationally as a credential? Is there somewhere on DOL that says this is what is nationally recognized?	<p>If you select the industry name on DOL typically it will come up with the credential name. The whole idea is that it cannot be an in-house recognition; it has to be portable across state lines.</p>
17. Does the Audit have to be in word?	<p>If the Audit is PDF that is fine.</p>
18. In the JFES Conference I asked ff we wanted to open up a course to others, non WIOA, if we got resources elsewhere to cover that, would we be able to have that class of 5?	<p>Same response as JFES, You would have to prorate for trainer and whatever other cost were there.</p>