

WDS Information Bulletin № 16-02

RFI to Provide Industry Sector-Based Workforce Services to the Long-Term Unemployed, Recipients of Unemployment Insurance, and Returning Veterans

Questions and Answers

Q1: *Los Angeles Valley College is throughout the proposal. Can you please clarify their role?*

Los Angeles Valley College will serve as the training provider for this program.

Q2: *What services will LA Valley College provide?*

LA Valley College will provide training in biotechnology/bioscience and advanced manufacturing.

Q3: *Will the training provided by LA Valley College be offered at no cost to the AJCCs?*

Yes, the training to be provided by LA Valley College will be directly funded by the grant.

Q4: *Will LAVC provide the work readiness skills?*

No. The Selected WSC will have to identify and describe how it will incorporate training for work readiness skills into its program design.

Q5: *It appears AJCC funds are set aside for work experience and OJTs. Can funds be used to hire staff?*

Yes.

Q6: *Are the[re] two sectors: (1) advanced manufacturing and (2) biotechnology/bioscience?*

Yes.

Q7: *Is there a third sector?*

This RFI is not incorporating a third sector.

Q8: *Are we safe to conclude that transportation/logistics is not one of the targeted sectors although it is mentioned in the RFI?*

Yes, transportation/logistics is not one of the targeted sectors for this RFI.

Q9: *As the RFI is written, we understand two WSC/AJCCs will be awarded. Will one of the selected WSC/AJCCs be assigned one sector with 90 participants and the other sector be assigned to the second WSC, with again 90 participants? Or are two agencies selected per one sector and they both share the 90 participants, 45/45?*

Each selected WSC will be responsible for serving 90 participants per sector. The City anticipates selecting one WSC per sector, for a total of 180 participants to be served under this grant.

Q10: *As for funding, will the WSC allocated total ceiling of \$175,000 cover all aspects of training, supportive services and placement?*

The \$175,000 projected funding should cover “enhanced workforce services.” As previously noted, training will be funded directly by the grant.

Q11: *Are additional training funds available?*

Yes. The grant will fund LA Valley College to provide training in the two sectors.

Q12: *Are there plans for the \$650,000?*

Yes.

Q13: *In responding to the RFI we would like to come up with a plan that can include all available resources. If the \$650,000 funds will be available for training or other employment services for enrolled participants it would be very helpful for us to know. If this funding has been contracted to LACCD or LAVC (page 2, paragraph 5 identifies LAVC as the primary training partner) it would be helpful to know. When discussing this program with our Employer Customers, it would be ideal to let them know what training our referred job candidates are going to receive. We are asking (page 5 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS, B. g.) our employers to commit, in writing, to hiring these referred, trained job candidates. With these resources [we] can provide a plan that connects its enrolled participants to these resources.*

Please refer to the questions and answers above.

Q14: *As Los Angeles Valley College is the primary training provider (page 2, paragraph 5), could you please provide us a knowledgeable contact at LAVC who can advise us of the EWDD/LAVC agreed training to be provided?*

Proposers will be evaluated on factors including demonstrated ability and experience in providing services for sector-based training and placement programs. Proposers submitting a program design for this RFI will be expected to research the available training programs at LAVC.

Q15: *The RFI designates three sectors and then goes on to talk about two of them - are you soliciting bidders [for] transportation/logistics?*

This RFI is soliciting bidders for two sectors – biotechnology/bioscience and advanced manufacturing. See also answers to Q6 and Q7.

Q16: *Attachment 3 asks for First Industry Sector and Second Industry Sector; are you expecting bidders to propose to serve two sectors? May Transportation/logistics be the second sector?*

No. WSCs should submit one application per sector. As previously noted, EWDD is seeking solicitations only for biotech/biosciences and advanced manufacturing.

Q17: Can we assume that the training being provided by LAVC is at no cost to the grant recipient?

Yes.

Q18: Is the City paying LAVC's training costs?

Yes

Q19: The role of LA Valley College is unclear. Are there specific training programs that you are referring to? For example LAVC has a variety of training related to biotechnology of various lengths.

This question was answered previously.

Q20: Will an evaluation score sheet be provided?

No.

Q21: Are additional attachments allowed such as resumes, job descriptions, product descriptions, etc.?

No.

Q22: Should the RFI response form be submitted prior to the proposal due date? The form indicates interest in submitting a proposal, but the proposal requirements state that it should be included in the proposal response itself.

The RFI response form should be submitted with the entire proposal package.

Q23: Please clarify and/or provide examples of the types of resources you'd like included in our response to question B.c. on page 4 of the WDS Information Bulletin.

Your response should include any additional resources, including in-kind services provided by partner agencies that will be used to provide services to participants.

Q24: Does the \$175,000 budget include ITAs for those in training at LA Valley College?

This question was answered previously.

Q25: The contract period specifies 18 months. However, the budget form only covers 12 months. Should we replicate the budget for the additional 6 months to show total budgeted cost?

Yes, please show a budget covering the entire 18 months of the contract.

Q26: Do you want us to include a narrative that details the information included on the budget sheets?

Yes

Q27: *Is this funding for all three sectors? The first part of the RFP mentions all three but then further down it talks of funding two WSC in biotech and advanced manufacturing sectors. Can we also propose serving transportation/logistics?*

Please see responses to Q6, Q7, and Q8.

Q28: *Can we target all three sectors (or two if this funding is only targeting two sectors) in serving 90 clients, or do we have to pick just one sector to target?*

Please see responses to Q6, Q7, Q8, and Q9 .

Q29: *Should we reach out and coordinate with Valley College now or wait until after funding is awarded to clarify project design and client service flow?*

Please see the response to Q14.

Q30: *Is Valley College separately funded for this project, or is funding expected to come from this award to support their training services?*

Please see responses to Q11, Q17, Q18, and Q24.

Q31: *On page 2 of the WDS Information Bulletin No 16-02, under “Available Funding, Designated Industry Sectors”, it mentions that the Los Angeles region will deliver industry sector job training and job placement assistance in THREE sectors “biotechnology/biosciences, advanced manufacturing, and transportation/logistics”. However, later in the bulletin on page 3, “Number of WCS’s to be Awarded Funds”, it states that EWDD wishes to identify two WSC/AJCC to provide an array of workforce services in only TWO sectors “advanced manufacturing and biotechnology/bioscience”. Is it correct to assume that the City is only interested in receiving proposals for two sectors “Advanced Manufacturing” and “Biotechnology/Bioscience?”*

Please see responses to Q6, Q7, and Q8.