Questions and Answers from Virtual Bidder’s Conference on March 2, 2022
The below questions are the written questions submitted via chat during the Virtual Bidder’s Conference. Questions have been grouped by topic and only edited for typos and grammar to ensure clarity. All italics and words in parentheses have been added for clarity. Questions are in **Bold**. Answers are set by bullet under the question.

**Questions about Partnership:**

- **Can fiscally sponsored organizations apply?**
  - Yes, fiscally sponsored and partner organizations can be organizations/entities other than non-profits, this could include government, business, non-profit, and faith-based organizations and educational institutions.

- **If our organization does not provide all of the 14 WIOA youth program elements do we need a formal MOU with those partners? Can you provide the link to the 14 elements?**
  - Yes. All participants must have access to the full range of WIOA services – this RFP encourages partnership in order to leverage multiple organizations’ expertise and programming offerings.
  - Within the question regarding “Comprehensive Partnership Plan”, applicants may list referral partners.
  - If an applicant is applying as a “Consortium”, those consortium applicants must have formal partnerships and/or Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with partner organizations.
  - Informal partners are allowable within the Comprehensive Partnership Plan, as referral sources.
  - [14 WIOA Youth Program Elements](#)

**Questions about Program Design:**

- **Are those categories “or” or “And” (referring to in-school or out of school)**
  - If one organization is planning to apply for both funding streams, the program model can be the same. Each proposal will have to identify how that program model best fits that funding stream and population of young people.

- **Can one program serve both in school and out of school youth?**
  - Can serve both but would need to submit a proposal for both programs.

- **For out of school youth are those in a high school reengagement program OSY or ISY?**
  - Out of school youth (OSY)

- **Will youth without documentation be eligible for this program?**
  - No. WIOA is a federal funding source and “legally entitled to work” is defined as having appropriate citizenship and/or immigration documentation so undocumented youth would not be eligible to be served by these funds.
Do students (in-school or out of school) have to be “Legal” to work in US to participate in this program? Or, is that for students receiving some sort of compensation?
  o Yes. Any participant that is enrolled in WIOA, regardless of which services they may access, must be legal to work in US.
  ▪ For e.g. acceptable documents that are named in I-9 forms include citizens, nationals, lawfully admitted resident aliens, refugees, asylees, parolees, and other immigrants authorized by the Attorney General to work in the United States.

Is this new funding for this RFP or is this a renewal process?
  o This is new funding for pilot and innovative programs

(In reference to the “WIOA Program Requirements/Core Activities” section of the RFP) To clarify, each proposal has to provide these items?
  o Yes. Each application must address how all participants will receive/have access to the required elements and connection to the one or more of the CORE Program activities outlined in the section.

Can we provide services online during pandemic?
  o Yes, hybrid (virtual and in person) models can be provided.

Is the pilot programming looking to increase program capacity or provide services for underserved communities?
  o Yes, both the RFP is designed to center racial equity and improve job quality for underrepresented youth within both elements the WDC encourages organizations to build capacity and serve priority populations.

Could participants of the programs be refugees but not just youth?
  o The following requirements for youth are In school youth ages 14-21 and Out of school youth ages 16-24
  o Targeted Populations
    ▪ BIPOC Opportunity Youth ages 16-24
    ▪ Immigrants and Refugees and/or English Language Learners
    ▪ Homeless Youth
    ▪ Justice Involved Youth
Request for Proposals (RFP) - #21-04, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – Youth Programs

• **Would youth need to be served at a particular location?**
  - As long as youth are served within King County and South King County

• **Is there a list of companies already committed to supporting training, pre-apprenticeships, etc.?**
  - The WDC has a partnership with [WorkSource Washington](#) which has an extensive connection of companies committed to youth workforce.

• **Is there any reason to believe this funding wouldn’t fund an intern position for statewide policy work?**
  - Any services described in the application must follow the guidelines of the RFP. Please see WIOA Assurances and Certifications item 20. *That it does not use federal funds for lobbying purposes. If lobbying has occurred utilizing funds other than federal funds, the subrecipient agrees to file a disclosure report, if applicable.*

• **Are stipends/paid apprenticeships etc allowable budget items? Can we give stipend to participating youth?**
  - Yes. Stipends, paid apprenticeships, or paid internships would be considered incentive categories listed as a budget item

• **Are alternative schools considered out-of-school?**
  - Most alternative schools fall under the traditional K-12 system in that scope youth that attend alternative schools would fall in the in-school category.
  - Open Doors programming and HS21 High School completion programs would be considered out of school.

• **Do you have to serve OSY & ISY students or can you apply to just serve one or the other? Can one program serve both in and out of school youth?**
  - Yes, programs can propose to serve both in-school and out school. However, separate proposals will need to be submitted

• **Does job trainings, apprenticeships and jobs obtained for youths need to be among the high-demand sectors identified by WIOA? Or is it open? Are there certain sectors of focus?**
  - Both. We want to provide pathways for high demand sectors and sectors by participant interest.

**Questions about Program Management and Budget:**

• **Do you know how many years the Pilot is set for?**
  - 13-month pilot to learn about the populations based strategies being served.
Request for Proposals (RFP) - #21-04, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – Youth Programs

- **Is paid job training appropriate for the 20% work experience (in budget)?**
  - Yes, there are several ways to bill for operating expenses in the within the 20% work experience. (i.e. Staff time, on the job training)

- **Is this renewal funding?**
  - Pilot funding

- **Can each organization request up to 190k for in school or is that the total every organization is bidding for?**
  - Yes, 80% of the funds will be for Out of School as part of the federal requirement, 20% is dedicated for In-School youth

- **To clarify then, the bulk of funding is going to out of school, correct?**
  - Yes, 80% to Out of school youth and 20% to In school youth

- **Are there any other budget guidelines not in the RFP document itself?**
  - No, all budget guidelines are described in the RFP.

**Questions about RFP Process:**

- **How many awards are you planning to give out?**
  - The RFP does not set out a minimum or maximum number of planned awards. Awards will depend on the funding requested, quality of applications, and rating committee recommendations.

- **Can you provide data citations and resources for the RFP?**
  - Data provided has been through local Census Data
  - [Article: Racial Employment Gap](#)

- **Location of the required attachment forms (Planned outcomes and Budget and Cost proposal)?**
  - The required forms are embedded in the proposal to apply. In relation to budget proposal the organization will just provide broad budget information.

- **Are applicants committed to LOI indicating whether single agency or consortium? Or leeway to change after the LOI?**
  - No, once LOI is submitted there is no commitment from the organization.

- **Will reporting requirements (i.e. types of demographics) be made available before the application was due?**
  - Reporting requirements will be made for award recipients.
Questions and Answers Week of 3.14.2022

- What is the funding ceiling to serve "In School Youth" as a consortium with a partnering organization? What is the funding ceiling to serve "Out of School Youth" as a lone entity?

  Available funding broken down into two categories (WIOA definitions)
  - In-School Youth $190,000
  - Out-of-School Youth $760,000
  - WDC breaks down WIOA Youth funding by 80/20 split
  - “Estimated” funding levels because allocations come from Dept of Labor in spring

Up to $950,000 is available for the program period of June 1, 2022, until June 30, 2023

The WDC recognizes that smaller community-based organizations with distinct expertise in working with individuals who are farthest from opportunity may not have the capacity to manage funding and data collection. In these instances, the WDC encourages potential bidders to consider joining or forming a consortium to partner with organizations in the community that can provide administrative and/or fiscal capacity. Applicants may apply for in-school or out-of-school

Two types of applicants within those:

**Sole Organization:**
- Two or more organizations – must identify fiscal agent and lead org (do not need to be the same)
- Must apply for a minimum of $250,000.
- Consortium applicants can apply for the “up-to” amount for the specified category
- Required to have formal partnerships and/or Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with partner organizations

**Partnership/Consortium:**
- Applicant is both fiscal agent and lead organization
- Must apply for a minimum of $100,000
- Can apply for a maximum of $300,000

- Can you tell me where I can find the Planned Outcomes form and the Budget and Cost Proposal form? I can’t seem to locate it on the website.

  - The forms are embedded in the online application towards completion of the application. Planned outcomes form will be on page 9 and Budget Cost proposal form is on page 11 of the online application
I tried to follow the link on state policy on data security and participant privacy (http://media.wpc.wa.gov/media/WPC/adm/policy/1021.pdf) in the Data Management section of the RFP, but am getting an error. I’ve tried two different web browsers. Is there another link?

Here is the correct link
https://storemultisites.blob.core.windows.net/media/WPC/adm/policy/1021-1-1.pdf

For the 14 WIOA Program Elements, do we need to show how we’ll deliver each and every 14, or do we speak the ones we cover?

It is an WIOA requirement that participants have access to all 14 elements. The WDC highly encourages collaboration and partnerships to be able to provide access to the 14 elements. The organization should be able to demonstrate authentic collaboration to deliver the 14 elements.