



**INTEGRATED WORKFORCE INFORMATION SYSTEM – EVALUATION REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Updated September 25, 2012**

The following questions related to the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership's (The Partnership's) Integrated Workforce Information System (IWIS) Evaluation Request for Qualifications (RFQ) were submitted via email or asked during a September 18, 2012 bidders call. Questions posed since the September 18th version of the FAQs are listed first.

1. *Please describe the elements or scope of content desired in the "agency resume" which is a required attachment to responses to the RFQ.*

There are no specific formatting or content requirements for the agency resume. It can be something your agency already has, such as a brochure or other firm marketing piece, that demonstrates your firm's overall experience, services offered, past clients/projects, etc. This is your opportunity to provide general information about your firm and your qualifications that may not be captured in the required 4-5 page response to the questions.

2. *Can bidders apply for more than one RFQ/RFP for the Integrated Workforce Information System (IWIS) project? If so, can the same bidder be selected for more than one contracted role?*

Bidders are eligible to respond to both the Evaluation RFQ/RFP and the Systems Requirement Contractor RFQ/RFP, but **cannot** be selected for both. The selected Systems Requirement Contractor will **not** be able to respond to the Systems Development Contractor RFQ/RFP (release date TBD). However, bidders who responded to the Systems Requirement Contractor RFQ/RFP, but were not selected, are eligible to respond to the Systems Development Contractor RFQ/RFP.

3. *My agency is already a vendor of the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (The Partnership) and/or was on the vendor list for one of the predecessor agencies (City of Chicago Department of Family and Support Services; Chicago Workforce Investment Council; Cook County Works; Workforce Board of Northern Cook County). Do I need to complete Form B Vendor Application?*

As a new, consolidated agency, The Partnership is developing an updated, consolidated vendor list. It is recommended that all interested agencies complete the new Vendor Application Form to ensure inclusion on the new vendor list. It will also ensure that The Partnership has updated agency contact information and a current description of your agency's available services.

4. *What is the scope and focus of the national Workforce Innovation Fund evaluation conducted by Abt Associates and how will it relate to the local evaluation?*

Abt Associates has been hired by the US Department of Labor to evaluate the national implementation of the Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF). Nationally, the WIF grants (listing available on the DOL website: http://www.doleta.gov/workforce_innovation/grant_awards.cfm) include a wide variety of programs in three project types:

- New and Untested Ideas
- Promising Ideas

- Adapting Proven Ideas

DOL seeks to build an evidence base for different strategies through the WIF grants. The Partnership's WIF grant falls under the "New and Untested Ideas" category.

Abt will roll up the local evaluations into the national evaluation. They will be doing some direct work with the local evaluation providers. (For example, they have provided feedback on all the evaluation plans submitted in the selected grant proposals.)

5. *How many vendors will be chosen to submit a Request for Proposal (RFP)?*

It depends on the overall response rate and quality of the responses, but we expect to invite approximately 10-12 RFQ respondents to submit RFPs, and we expect to interview approximately 5 of those who submit RFPs.

6. *During the bidders call you mentioned that measuring client outcomes might not be included in the final evaluation scope. Can you explain why?*

Some of the initial feedback we received from DOL on our evaluation plan was that the Integrated Workforce Information System (IWIS) might not be up and running long enough by the end of the grant to see client-level results. We will be working with DOL and the selected evaluator to refine the scope.

7. *Has there been a formal modification to the WIF grant and the timeline?*

The Partnership has submitted a modification request to DOL that includes some modifications requested by DOL. We are still waiting for DOL approval of the modification. DOL asked for an increase in the evaluation budget, and the budget number included in the RFQ (\$470,000) reflects that increased evaluation budget. We also requested a budget modification to cover some internal costs. The timeline has not been modified, but once we receive the DOL modification approval, we will be working internally and with our partners to update the timeline.

8. *Is there a deadline for submitting questions about the RFQ?*

The deadline for questions related to the RFQ is 5p.m. Central Time on Tuesday, September 25th. A final list of questions and responses will be posted on the website (<http://www.cwic.org/RequestforProposals.aspx>) on Wednesday, September 26th.

9. *Chapin Hall is listed as a partner in the Technical Proposal. What is their role in the project going forward?*

The roles of the agencies, including Chapin Hall, described in the Technical Proposal demonstrate work around common performance metrics that has been happening locally. This RFQ process is an open and competitive process to select an evaluator for The Partnership's IWIS project.

10. *Did a third party evaluator help develop the evaluation plan included in the DOL application?*

No, but a private consultant did help write the overall DOL application.

11. *The city and state have a variety of data systems, some of which are mandated for reporting. How will the IWIS relate to these existing systems?*

The goal is for IWIS to interface with, but not replace those other systems. The primary public agencies that we expect to work with are the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the Illinois Department of Employment Services (IDES), and the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS).

12. *How many entities are inputting data into the current system?*

The Systems Requirements Contractor will help determine the universe of systems users.

13. *Will delegate agency performance be a component of the evaluation?*

The Systems Requirements Contractor will work with delegate agencies to determine how this system can be useful to them in assessing their performance. The evaluation scope does include some research questions related to provider outcomes.

14. *Do you expect to use an off-the-shelf data system or a custom made data system for the IWIS?*

The Systems Requirement Contractor will help determine the system needs, the available technology, and the types of systems that might meet those needs.

15. *Can you share the list of bidders?*

Below is a list of agencies that received the Evaluation and/or the Systems Requirements RFQs. Agencies marked with an "*" registered to participate on the Evaluation bidders call. The bidders call was not mandatory. Since the RFQ is posted on The Partnership's website and was sent to a number of agencies to distribute, the list below does not necessarily represent the universe of people who may have received or may respond to the RFQ.

Organization
ACMS, Inc
ACS
Actuate Corporation
Adsystem, Inc.*
Agilex Technologies
Alba Spectrum
Arbor Group
Arctic Information Technology, Inc.
Arias Information Solutions, LLC
At Work Solutions

B2B Strategic Solutions, Inc.*
BCT Partners*
Bowman Systems LLC
Bronner Group, LLC
Cadence Solutions LLC
CAEL
Cells to Society: The Center on Social Disparities and Health
Center for Governmental Studies*
Center for Urban Economic Development at UIC*
Center for Urban Research and Learning at Loyola University Chicago
Center for Workforce Learning
CH Mack, Inc.
Chapin Hall at University of Chicago*
Chicago Systems Group
Ciber, Inc.
Cityspan, Inc
Civic Consulting Alliance
Clarity Partners LLC
CLASP
ConnectEDU Inc.*
Corporation for a Skilled Workforce*
Crowe Horwath*
CSG Government Services
Curam Software, Inc.
Defran Systems
Designing Success, Inc.
Dynamic Tech Services, Inc.
Early Morning Software, Inc.*
Economic Modeling Specialists Intl.
Egan Urban Center at DePaul
EJP Consulting*
Everblue Training Institute
Foothold Technology
Fourth Economy Consulting
Greg Newton & Associates
H. G. Jones & Associates
Harmony Information Systems, Inc.
IBM Corporation
ICF International
IMPAQ International, LLC*
Indiana Business Research Center - Kelley School of Business*

Infinite Systems Support
Institute for Metropolitan Affairs at Roosevelt University
Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University
Internet Professionals, Inc.
IT2 Consultants
J. D. Hoyer
Jackie Edens
Jeffrey Marcella*
Job Search Board, Inc.*
Jobs for the Future
John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development*
Julie Langer
Kaiser Group, Inc.*
Kana
Kenway Consulting
Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, LLP
Kilbride Consulting, Inc.
LA Works*
Learning Resources, Inc.
Lois Ann Porter
Lois Richards
Lumity
Mathematica Policy Research
MDRC
Meghann Moses*
Metro Strategies
MGT of America, Inc.
MIG & Co.
Millennia Consulting*
Morris, Lloyd & Associates, LLC*
Mosaic Services, Inc. / Opportunity Alliance, LLC
MTG Management Consultants, L.L.C.*
National Able Network Inc.
National Center on Education & the Economy
New Ways to Work
Next Generation Inc
NIU Office of Sponsored Projects
Oracle
Pamela Calloway
Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at SIU
Piocon Technologies, Inc.

Policy Planning Partners
Prado Consulting*
Public Policy Associates Inc.*
Robbin and Associates
Senryo Technologies, Inc
Smart Chicago Collaborative
Social IMPACT Research Center
Social Solutions
Strategic Urban Solutions*
Tec Services, Inc.*
Tech S2, Inc.
The Aspen Institute
The Urban Institute
The William Everett Group*
Thomas P. Miller and Associates
TMA Resources
TorqWorks (formerly Workforce Associates)
TP Systems
Trinial, Inc.*
Unisys
University of Illinois Institute of Government & Public Affairs
VIVA USA Inc.
Voorhees Center at UIC
West Humboldt Park Development Council*
Work Systems
Workforce Enterprise Service*
Workforce Strategy Center

The following agencies were asked to distribute the Evaluation RFQ to their networks. Those with an “*” registered to participate on the Evaluation bidders call.

Organization
A Better Chicago
Association of Consultants to Nonprofits
Bank of America Foundation
Boeing Company Foundation
Chicago Community Trust
Chicago Foundation for Women
Chicago Jobs Council*
Circle of Service Foundation
Citigroup Foundation

Civic Consulting Alliance
CME Group Foundation
Cook County Office of Compliance
Eleanor Foundation
Exelon Foundation
Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
Grand Victoria Foundation
Joyce Foundation
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Lumina Foundation
MacArthur Foundation
McCormick Foundation
Metropolis Strategies
Metropolitan Planning Council
Michael Reese Health Trust
National Association of Workforce Boards
National Fund for Workforce Solutions
Polk Brothers Foundation
Prince Charitable Trusts
The Arie & Ida Crown Memorial Foundation
The Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management at North Park University
The Brinson Foundation
The Coleman Foundation
The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust
The Field Foundation of Illinois
The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation
The Siragusa Foundation
The Spencer Foundation
The Steans Family Foundation
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago
Wieboldt Foundation
Woods Fund of Chicago