

Child Welfare Funding Consultant RFP Questions and Responses, 1/14/2020

Budget, Funding, and Payment

1. Would any of the funding come from the Federal Government?

No, funding for the study is State General Fund.

2. Are there any limitations on overhead/indirect costs?

Respondents may include any and all costs required to perform the scope of work, provided they are itemized and conform to all requirements as set forth in the RFP. Please refer to VIII.E for details related to what information should be included in the cost proposal.

3. Would the funder accept an organization's federally negotiated indirect cost rate?

It is the decision of each respondent whether or not to include an indirect cost component to the bid and, if included, what rate is used.

4. Is there a suggested budget range for this work? Would the State provide a budget floor/ceiling?

Per Section 3 of Attachment B to the RFP (Assembly Bill 111), \$200,000 has been appropriated from the State General Fund for the purposes of the study. This figure is a hard, non-negotiable, contract maximum.

5. Does the State have a specific budget format for Bidders to submit? If not, would the State accept an organization's standard template?

The Legislative Counsel Bureau does not have a standard budget template. The respondents are free to use any format that conforms to the requirements of the RFP.

6. The terms & conditions contained in Attachment A, Section IV.B, states it will notify the Contractor within 10 days of receipt of bill for work completed if work is approved. If LCB does not provide an approval within 10 days, please confirm the work is automatically deemed as accepted/approved.

Section IV.B of Attachment A outlines a scenario in which work submitted to the LCB was initially not approved and allows the contractor a period of 10 business days to remedy

the deficient work, unless otherwise authorized. In all cases, for initial, or revised work products, payment will only be made after an explicit affirmation by the Contract Administrator that submitted work is satisfactory. As outlined in Attachment A, this determination will be made within 10 business days of work/bill receipt.

7. The terms & conditions in Attachment A, Section IV.C and XIV state “Upon approval of the Contract Administrator for the LCB of all of the work set forth in the bill, the LCB agrees to pay Contractor within 30 days, less 10 percent. Final payment for the project shall be withheld until the LCB approves the project and Contractor has completed all of its responsibilities under this Agreement to the satisfaction of the LCB.” Would LCB waive the 10% withholding under this procurement?

Given the short performance period of the study and the single deliverable, the LCB is disinclined to waive the withhold requirement.

8. Is the full \$200,000 available for this project for the selected Consultant?

The LCB expects to award one bidder a contract to conduct the study and \$200,000 was made available via Assembly Bill 111. However, given the short performance period, a bidder would have to demonstrate significant resource commitment to receive the entire appropriated amount. Even with an established appropriation, cost will be considered during proposal evaluation.

9. What is the intent of Section 4 of the bill (AB 111)? It references dates for expenditure of the funds into 2021, however the end date in the RFP shows an 8/31/20 end date for the project. What bearing, if any, do the 2021 dates have on the project period for the Contractor/Consultant?

The language in Section 4 of Assembly Bill 111 is a general limitation of the appropriation made and is not related to the contract performance period or deliverables.

Scope of Work

10. Is there any flexibility in timeline for the proposed scope of work?

There is limited potential for timeline flexibility. The Interim Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice, tasked with conducting the study, meets six times over the 2019-2020 Interim. The deliverable dates stated in the RFP align with the second-to-last meeting date of the committee. As outlined in II.C.3 of the RFP, the selected consultant will be expected to attend two meetings in Las Vegas to present the final report to the committee and to address any follow-up questions or concerns. As currently scheduled, the final two meeting dates of the committee are June 19 and August 7, 2020. These

dates are subject to change. Please review the committee meeting page on the legislative website:

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Interim2019/Committee/1567/Meetings>

11. Would the State be able to provide additional information regarding its priorities for this contract? Per pages 2 and 20 of the RFP, the legislative areas include a wide array of topics, including medical care, education, juvenile justice, and child care.

While the respondent has significant latitude in determining how the study will be conducted, a suggested focus is federally-funded services provided in the child welfare system by child welfare agencies. A noted exception is described in the response to question 13.

12. Is one of the specific intents of the RFP to help inform the State (DCFS, et al) regarding what FFPSA options they should consider in order to maximize those federal dollars?

A respondent may choose to include changes in any federal law, program, or regulation as an opportunity to maximize federal funding in Nevada.

13. Item 2 under I. Description of Work (pg. 2) calls for "An analysis of potential sources of funding to support agencies which provide child welfare services in this State." Would this include potential sources in addition to federal funds, or is the RFP and report solely intended to focus on federal funding.

The primary objective of the study, as refined in the response to question 11, is to identify opportunities in Nevada to maximize federal funding within the child welfare system. The quoted section is taken directly from Assembly Bill 111, please reference Section 1.2 of the bill for context. Respondents are encouraged to interpret this section in context of the primary study objective.

General

14. What type of contract does the State expect to award?

Sample contract provisions are provided in Attachment A of the RFP. Final provisions will be negotiated with a selected respondent.

15. Are there any formatting requirements for the technical/narrative proposal?

All requirements are included in the RFP.

16. Section V, Confidentiality of Proposals states that proposals will be made available to the public upon request. Please confirm that LCB intends to restrict disclosure of any confidential & proprietary info that may be included in proposal submissions as disclosure of offerors confidential & proprietary information would cause irreparable harm.

The Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice, being a public body, may review the responses in a public setting. The responses, in whole or in part, as stated in the RFP, may be released publicly. Respondents should not include any information they do not wish to be made public.

17. Can you further define "formal associations" with NV state agencies as used under Section VIII Additional Information to Be Included in Proposals, Item F - Association Disclosure?

If a respondent has difficulty determining whether an association is formal or not, the recommendation would be to disclose it.

18. With the proposal due date of 1/31, how quickly would a decision be made on the award and how quickly could the selected proposer begin work? We are asking this question because if the draft report is due June 1, 2020, that allows only a few months for the study.

The current expectation is that a vendor would be selected at the February 14, 2020, meeting of the Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice, with work commencing as quickly as possible thereafter.

19. Is there some sort of convening authority associated with this project that would help the selected consultant meet individually with key stakeholders (e.g., Directors of DCFS, Clark County DFS? Washoe County HSA, perhaps others), for example, for interviews covering federal child welfare funding, FFPSA, etc.?

The Legislative Counsel Bureau will provide a limited amount of background context and coordination between the selected consultant and Nevada child welfare agencies. The Division of Child and Family Services has also agreed to provide limited assistance with stakeholder interaction. If more than incidental assistance is needed, respondents are encouraged to identify and enumerate the extent and source of assistance required.