

Request for Proposals
“Workforce Services for Targeted Groups”

Questions and Answers

Q. Are persons with ‘cognitive’ impairments such as autism or downs syndrome, eligible to be served under this initiative as a disabled?

A. Yes

Q. In the RFP it defines youthful offenders as youth who are or have been under the supervision or control of the Department of Juvenile Justice. Are youth that are under the supervision of the Department of Corrections also eligible to be served?

A. Yes. The following is a modified definition for the youth that can be served under this initiative as ‘youthful offenders’ –

FOR PURPOSES OF THIS RFP, a “youthful offender” is anyone between the ages of 15 and 23, who as a condition of court ordered sentencing, is under the care, custody or supervision of either the Department of Corrections or the Department of Juvenile Justice or a private provider hired by either the Department of Corrections or the Department of Juvenile Justice to carry out the care, custody or supervision of such youth as a result of court ordered sentencing. Youth who do not meet this definition cannot be served under this initiative as ‘youthful offenders.’

Q. Are persons in county jails for periods of less than one year eligible to be served under this initiative?

A. No. The following is a modified definition for the persons that can be served under this initiative as ‘ex-offenders’ –

FOR PURPOSES OF THIS RFP, an “ex-offender” is any person who has been convicted of a felony and has served at least one-year in a county, state or federal correctional institution. This does not include persons who are currently incarcerated but does include persons who may be on parole or probation or have completed their sentences and have been released. Persons who do not meet this definition cannot be served under this initiative as ‘ex-offenders.’

Q. Does the definition for ‘youth aging out of foster care’ include out-of-home youth that may have been placed with a relative or non-relative with the court maintaining jurisdiction.

A. Yes, if removed and placed elsewhere by court order.

Q. Could a portion of funds received from WFI under this initiative be used for assisting with transportation (bus passes, car repairs, etc.) or start-up costs associated with living independently (such as first month’s rent, household items, electricity deposits, etc.)?

A. Yes. However, we would not include in the definition of “start-up” costs as the purchase of furniture or equipment or appliances or renovations to a dwelling. Those listed above are acceptable with the exclusion of furniture and equipment and appliances under household items. Furniture/equipment/appliances would be good

items to be provided from other sources as leveraged funds. An additional...and important...point is that the intent of this RFP is to achieve ‘workforce’ outcomes such as job training, earnings gains and, most importantly, job placements. If a proposal limits itself to just providing support services without achieving solid workforce outcomes, it will be less competitive than one that does. Also, to re-state an issue made throughout the RFP, if a proposal does not contain job placements as a planned outcome, it will be rejected.