



Workforce Issuance

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☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MassHire DCS Operation Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Diane Hurley, Acting Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: June 8, 2023

Subject: **Life Sciences Workforce Development Initiative Request for Proposals**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other workforce partners that The Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (OWD) is seeking proposals from qualified organizations to provide sectoral training and intermediary services under its Life Sciences Workforce Development Initiative (LSWDI), an initiative that seeks to support the growth of local life sciences clusters by expanding access to career opportunities for underserved and underrepresented communities.

Background: Life sciences are a range of activities from research and development to manufacturing products and services that rely on fundamental knowledge in biology, biochemistry, and related science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects. - Some of these products and services may support healthcare, but the life sciences industries are distinct from the medical field and support

careers not found in that field. This industry has seen employment growth of more than 60 percent over the last ten years, yet workers without a bachelor's degree hold fewer than one out of five jobs. The City of Boston is committed to building stronger, scalable pathways into this growing sector for all Boston residents, including people of color and workers who do not hold four-year degrees.

Through LSWDI, Mayor Wu's Administration is acting on its commitment to build a more equitable, inclusive economy. The vision is to cultivate and diversify the City's life sciences workforce by investing in training and education, partnering closely with industry, and addressing barriers to employment in the sector. The award will be made for a two-year contract with an anticipated start date of October 2, 2023. The City of Boston will provide up to \$4.0 million in funding for this initiative.

Key Dates:

Bidders' Conference: Tuesday, June 20th 2023 - 4PM Via ZOOM

Organizations interested in bidding on the RFP are strongly encouraged to participate in the scheduled Bidders' Conference. All Q&A from the Conference will be made available to the public on this page no later than Friday, June 30. The Bidders' Conference will be conducted via Zoom.

Register Here

Submission of Inquiries: Friday July 14th 2023 - 5PM.

Questions regarding this RFP should be submitted in writing to sarah.so-roui@boston.gov by Friday, July 14, 2023 at 5:00 PM EST. Phone calls will not be accepted. OWD is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Proposal Submission: Friday July 21st 2023 5PM.

Full proposals, following the format specified in the Request for Proposals, are due no later than 5:00 PM EST on Friday, July 21, 2023. Proposals must be uploaded as a single PDF document with all relevant attachments included in **this link**. Please use the naming convention OrgName_LSWDIproposalCY23. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure their information is complete and submitted on time.

Notification of Selection: Early September.

Anticipated Contract Start Date: October 2nd 2023.

Action

Requested: Please share managers, staff, and partners as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately

Attachment: Request for Proposals