



State of New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Adult Education

WIOA – Integrated Education & Training (IET) and Integrated English Literacy & Civics Education (IELCE) SFY 2024 – SFY 2026 – July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026

RFP BAE-2023-003

Date Issued: 3/2/2023

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# Contents

Section 1 – Overview and Schedule	
1.2 Schedule	
Section 2	
2.1 NIII Danaston and affiliancia	
2.1 NH Department of Education      2.2 Bureau of Adult Education	
Section 3 – Proposed Scope of Work	
3.3 Definitions	
3.4 Integrated Education & Training (IET)	
3.5 Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education	
3.5.7 Application (IELCE)	
Section 4 – Process for Submitting a Proposal	30
4.2 Proposal Submission, Deadline, and Location Instructions	31
4.3 Proposal Inquiries	31
4.4 Vendor Conference	32
4.5 Restriction of Contact with Agency Employees	32
4.6 Validity of Proposal	32
4.7 Proposal Acceptance	32
Section 5 - Content and Requirements for a Proposal	
5.2 Attachment 1 – Demonstrated Effectiveness Details	35
5.3 Attachment 2A, 2B and 2C General Program Application Details - Organizational Capacity	37
5.4 Attachment 2 – Program Application Details – Adult Education and Literacy	38
5.5 Budget Attachment 3 – Budget Worksheets	62
Section 6 – Evaluation of Proposals	
6.2 Criteria for Evaluation and Scoring	70
6.3 Planned Evaluation Steps	72
6.4 Initial Screening	72
6.5 Applicant Eligibility	72
6.6 Preliminary Scoring of Proposals	72
6.7 Oral Interviews	73

6.8 Final Scoring of Proposals	73
6.9 Final Selection	73
6.10 Rights of the Agency in Accepting and Evaluating Proposals	73
6.11 Appeal Rights	73
Section 7 – Terms and Conditions Related To The RFP Process 7.1 RFP Addendum	
7.2 Non-Collusion	74
7.3 Property of the Agency	74
7.4 Confidentiality of a Proposal	
7.5 Public Disclosure	74
7.6 Non-Commitment	75
7.7 Proposal Preparation Cost	75
7.8 Ethical Requirements	
7.9 Challenges on Form or Process of the RFP	
7.10 Insurance	
7.11 Special Provisions	76
7.12 Civil Rights Compliance	76
Section 8 – Contract Terms and Award	77
8.1 Non-Exclusive Contract	
8.2 Award	77
8.3 Standard Contract Terms	
8.4 Responsibility of the Contractor	77
8.4 Special Terms To Be Included In A Contract Resulting From This RFP	77
Appendix A: NH Data & Assessment Policy	
Appendix B: Adult Education Regions	
Appendix C. NH Workforce Flan	
Appendix E: WIOA Glossary	
Appendix F: Resources for IET/IELCE	
OCTAE Training - Contracted with various partners under National Leadership Activities	
OCTAE Resources	87
LINCS Resources	87
National Reporting System Resources	87
Research	88
Resources from Other States	88
Appendix G: NH Terms and Conditions (P-37)	
Attachment 1: Demonstrated Effectiveness	9696 97
Augenment / A. Tell Application	y/

Attachment 2B: IELCE Application	98
Attachment 2C: IELCE with IET Designed for all AEL Participants Application	
Attachment 3: AEL Budget Worksheets	
Attachment 4: Required Documentation for Proposals	
Attachment 5: Required Documentation in the Event of Contract Execution	

# Section 1 – Overview and Schedule

# 1.1 Executive Summary

The Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Education, is seeking proposals to provide the specific adult education activities called Integrated Education & Training<sup>1</sup> and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, for the period from July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2026.

Bureau of Adult Education acknowledges that designing Integrated Education & Training and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education programs can be time and resource intensive and applicants may not be ready to implement the program by July 1, 2023. Therefore, awards as a result of this Request for Proposals may include up to nine months of planning and program design prior to providing direct services to students. For agency budgeting purposes and required approval processes through the Governor and Executive council, proposals must include a projected three-year budget that includes all anticipated expenses including the planning period. The agency will work with contractors during the contract negotiation phase to determine a payment schedule for the planning phase and an agreed upon program start date. Technical assistance will be available through the Bureau of Adult Education and the US Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) including a Basic IET Design Camp, Advanced IET Design and state coaching models<sup>2</sup>.

It is the intention of WIOA to align the workforce system with education and workforce development in an effort to create a collective response to economic and labor market challenges on the national, state, and local levels. The Act emphasizes the importance of business collaboration and services to employers to ensure employment success.

Under Title II of WIOA, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) is designed to help adults with the following:

- Improve their educational and employment outcomes
- Become self-sufficient
- Support the educational development of their children
- Transition to postsecondary education and training including through career pathways programs
- Assist English language learners to acquire the skills needed to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy

The purpose of AEFLA is to create a partnership among the Federal States and localities to provide, on voluntary basis, adult education and literacy activities in order to:

- A. Assist adults to become literate and obtain knowledge and skills necessary for employment and economic self-sufficiency.
- B. Assist adults who are parents or family members to obtain the education and skills that—

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix F for Technical Assistance opportunities

RFP-BAE-2023-003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Section 3 for definitions and descriptions

- a. Are necessary to becoming full partners in the educational development of their children; and
- b. Lead to sustainable improvements in the economic opportunities for their family;
- C. Assist adults in attaining a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and in the transition to postsecondary education and training, through career pathways; and
- D. Assist immigrants and other individuals who are English language learners in
  - a. Improving their
    - i. Reading, writing, speaking and comprehension skills in English; and
    - ii. Mathematics skills; and
  - b. Acquiring an understanding of the American system of Government, individual freedom, and the responsibilities of citizenship.

Adult education is a key component of the workforce development system in New Hampshire, AEFLA recognizes that high school completion is not an end but a means to further opportunities and greater economic self-sufficiency. Through the implementation of Integrated Education and Training (IET) activities, adult education students are provided with additional support to transition from adult education into postsecondary education, training and employment through career pathways. IETs are intentionally designed to meet the needs of the regional workforce, by concurrently and contextually providing adult education and literacy activities in combination with workforce preparation activities and workforce training. By addressing the needs of both the adult education student and the local workforce, a successful IET program is mutually beneficial for both parties.

For English language learners, including professionals with degrees and credentials in their native countries, the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) program is intended to build English language skills while acquiring the basic and more advanced skills needed to function as parents, workers and citizens of the United States. IELCE requires the integration of an IET in its program design as well as concurrently and contextually providing English language acquisition skills, workforce preparation activities and instruction on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation.

#### 1.2 Schedule

The following table provides a Schedule of Events for this RFP through contract finalization and approval. The Agency reserves the right to amend this Schedule at its sole discretion and at any time through a published Addendum.

EVENT	DATE	LOCAL
		TIME
RFP Released to Proposers (Advertisement)	3/2/2023	
Mandatory Vendor Conference	3/14/2023	9:00 AM
Proposer Inquiry Period Ends	3/20/2023	4:30 PM
Final Agency Responses to Proposer Inquiries	3/24/2023	4:30 PM
Proposers Submit Proposals	4/5/2023	4:00 PM
State Workforce Board Review	April, 2023	TBD
Estimated Notification of Selection and Begin Contract Negotiations	4/1/2023	
Anticipated Governor & Council Approval, if applicable	May 2023	
Notice to Proceed	7/1/2023	

# Section 2 - Description of Agency/Program Issuing the Request for Proposals

# 2.1 NH Department of Education

The Department of Education provides educational leadership and services which promote equal educational opportunities and quality practices and programs that enable New Hampshire residents to become fully productive members of society.

#### 2.2 Bureau of Adult Education

The Bureau of Adult Education's mission is to provide a variety of educational opportunities to empower adults to become lifelong learners, to support individual in identifying and achieving their potential academic and/or career goals and to assist students to become active participants in their communities.

Currently, the Bureau funds twenty-one adult education and literacy activity (AEL) programs, two integrated education and training (IET) programs, and five integrated English literacy and civics education programs (IELCE). This Request for Proposals is only for IET and IELCE programs.

Awards will be provided to proposals from eligible providers, including consortia<sup>3</sup>.

A separate competition has been released for Adult Education & Literacy Activities available at: <a href="https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-learner-support/grant-funding-opportunities">https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-learner-support/grant-funding-opportunities</a>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A single agency or consortium of organizations may choose to apply for one or more of each type of program.

# **Section 3 – Proposed Scope of Work**

#### 3.1 Overview

The New Hampshire Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Education (BAE) is currently seeking three-year proposals from all interested parties such as adult education programs, school districts, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, volunteer literacy programs, institutions of higher education, a public or private nonprofit agency, a library, a public housing authority, a consortium or coalition of agencies or a partnership between an employer and any of the above entities, who have experience working with adults at or below the secondary level who are in need of adult education and literacy activities, specifically integrated education and training or integrated English literacy and civics education activities. The applicant must establish demonstrated effectiveness in providing services to adults as describe in Section 4.1 Minimum Requirements for Applicants.

The vision for the WIOA adult education in New Hampshire is that adult basic and secondary education including workforce development activities is available and accessible to eligible participants across the state. Providers are responsible for recruiting and engaging eligible participants in adult education and literacy services especially those identified as the most in need of services including individuals who have low levels of literacy, who are English language learners, who have disabilities and who have other barriers to employment. Additionally, providers are responsible for engaging local employers and training providers to support the growth and expansion of career pathways through the IET and IELCE programs.

Post-pandemic, New Hampshire's employment rate has rebounded resulting in one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country and a severe shortage of skilled workers is impacting employers across the state in all sectors. Data shows that the majority of adult education students in NH are working, but they are often underemployed or working multiple jobs in order to support their families. Meeting the needs of adult education students and the needs of the local workforce requires a collaborative approach across multiple agencies as intended under WIOA to ensure partnerships for basic literacy, supportive services and occupational training.

Designing effective and impactful IET programs in New Hampshire has been challenging for a variety of reasons including:

- Developing a schedule that allows participation for students who are working full-time, multiple jobs or fluctuating work schedules
- Creating a cohort of students with similar interests and/or educational levels
- Finding time to develop strong relationships with community partners necessary to reduce the cost of the program or to provide specialized training

A recent IET landscape scan for New Hampshire conducted by Ginette Chandler, Statewide Director of Professional Development, states that IET is a research driven<sup>4</sup> approach designed to advance adult learners' progress toward education and career goals. It is considered to be a best practice in adult education, grounded in adult learning theory and impacts postsecondary credential attainment and earnings outcomes<sup>5</sup>.

IET programs are intended to provide adults with skills gaps a scaffolded approach to employment or postsecondary learning opportunities. A well-designed program meets learners where they are, meets the of local employers, and leads to attainment of stackable and portable credentials that are recognized by businesses and used in hiring decisions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/Docs/InterventionReports/WWC I-BEST Report 508.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Martinson, K. et al. (2021) Washington State's Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) Program.

In 2022, the US Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education introduced a federal initiative designed to provide support to states in the development and implementation of Integrated Education & Training programs including IET in Corrections. This project included an IET Design Camp for states and local providers to work through the process of developing a strong program model. NH state staff and representatives from two local providers participated in this training.

Through its contractors<sup>6</sup>, OCTAE released an IET Toolkit and Train the Trainer materials which were adapted for use in New Hampshire and the IET Design Camp was replicated in NH during the FY23 program year for interested providers.

Over the next two years, the project will include two additional cohorts of the Basic IET Design Camp, a pilot and five cohorts of an Advanced IET Design Camp and provide Advanced IET State Coaching for eight months. It is clear from this federal initiative and the resources being provided and developed that comprehensive IET design and implementation is a priority for OCTAE<sup>7</sup>. It is also a priority for the NH Bureau of Adult Education reflected by increased technical assistance for the development of IET programs, increased funding for programs including design time and facilitation of partnerships with other core WIOA partners for access to additional training funds.

IET and IELCE programs funded under this RFP should have demonstrated effectiveness in providing the required activities in this RFP and are required to contribute to the State-adjusted levels of performance for both the primary indicators including credential attainment and measurable skill gain in the areas of basic literacy and progress toward an occupational credential. Providers are responsible for following the New Hampshire Data & Assessment Policy (Appendix A) with regard to pre- and post-testing, determining educational functioning levels, measuring performance and reporting.

Collaboration between eligible providers as well as other community organizations is essential to ensure the nonduplication of services; the capacity to serve the local need; the seamless transition of participants between educational levels; and the transition of participants into postsecondary education, training and/or employment including the increase access to training funds and career pathways.

The NH WIOA Combined State Plan<sup>8</sup> (Appendix C), required under WIOA section 108, outlines the vision, priorities and goals for workforce development. In addition to the collaborative goals, the adult education and literacy activities provided under the Adult Education & Family Literacy Act are detailed. All providers funded through this competition are required to align local IET and IELCE activities with the State Plan and to coordinate with other local one-stop partners.

IET and IELCE programs are funded under WIOA and therefore must meet the same requirements as all adult education and literacy activities. There are additional requirements specific to the IET and IELCE programs that also need to be met as detailed below.

Under WIOA, the following considerations are required to be made in awarding contracts, in accordance with section 231 (e):

- 1. the degree to with the eligible provider would be responsive to
  - a. regional needs as identified in the local plan under section 108 (Section 5.4.1); and
  - b. serving individuals in the community who were identified in such plan as most in need of adult education and literacy activities, including individuals –
    - i. who have low levels of literacy skills; or
    - ii. who are English language learners; (Section 5.4.2)
- 2. the ability of the eligible provider to serve eligible individuals with disabilities, including eligible

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Contractors include American Institutes on Research (AIR), Safal Partners, RTI and World Education

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> More information available in Appendix F

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> NH has only one workforce area and therefore the State Plan (section 102) and the Local Plan (section 103) are the same. Electronic version available at: https://www.nhworks.org/state-workforce-investment-board/state-plan/

- individuals with learning disabilities; (Section 5.4.2)
- 3. past effectiveness of the eligible provider in improving the literacy of eligible individuals, to meet State-adjusted levels of performance for the primary indicators of performance described in section 116, especially with respect to eligible individuals who have low levels of literacy; (Section 5.4.8)
- 4. the extent to which the eligible provider demonstrates alignment between proposed activities and services and the strategy and goals of the local plan under section 108, as well as the activities and services of the one-stop partners; (Section 5.4.5)
- 5. whether the eligible provider's program
  - a. is of sufficient intensity and quality, and based on the most rigorous research available so that participants achieve substantial learning gains; (Section 5.4.6) and
  - b. uses instructional practices that include the essential components of reading instruction; (Section 5.4.6)
- 6. whether the eligible provider's activities, including whether reading, writing, speaking, mathematics, and English language acquisition instruction delivered by the eligible provider, are based on the best practices derived from the most rigorous research available and appropriate, including scientifically valid research and effective educational practice; (Section 5.4.6)
- 7. whether the eligible provider's activities effectively use technology, services, and delivery systems, including distance education in a manner sufficient to increase the amount and quality of learning and how such technology, services, and systems lead to improved performance; (Section 5.4.7)
- 8. whether the eligible provider's activities provide learning in context, including through integrated education and training<sup>9</sup>, so that an individual acquires the skills needed to transition to and complete postsecondary education and training programs, obtain and advance in employment learning to economic self-sufficiency, and to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; (Section 5.4.4 and 5.4.8)
- 9. whether the eligible provider's activities are delivered by well-trained instructors, counselors, and administrators who meet any minimum qualifications established by the State, where applicable, and who have access to high quality professional development, including through electronic means; (Section 5.4.5)
- 10. whether the eligible provider's activities coordinate with other available education, training and social service resources in the community, such as by establishing strong link with elementary schools and secondary schools, postsecondary educational institutions, institutions of higher education, local workforce investment boards, one-stop centers, job training programs, and social service agencies, business, industry, labor organizations, and intermediaries, for the development of career pathways; (Section 5.4.5)
- 11. whether the eligible provider's activities offer flexible schedules and coordination with Federal, State and local support services (such as child care, transportation, mental health services, and career planning) that are necessary to enable individuals, including individuals with disabilities or other special needs, to attend and complete programs; (Section 5.4.3)
- 12. whether the eligible provider maintains a high-quality information management system that has the capacity to report measurable participant outcomes (consistent with section 116) and to monitor program performance; (Section 5.4.9) and
- 13. whether the local areas in which the eligible provider is located have a demonstrated need for additional English language acquisition programs and civics education programs. (Section 5.4.1)

#### 3.1.1 General Requirements for all WIOA Adult Education Programs

- 1. Be responsive to regional needs including the educational, economic and social/cultural needs of the area.
- 2. Serve individuals in the community who are identified as most in need of adult education and literacy activities including individuals with low levels of literacy, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with barriers to employment.
- 3. Have a delivery method, location and schedule that enables individuals to attend and complete programs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Integrated Education & Training will be competed separately.

- 4. Provide learning in context so that an individual acquires the skills needed to transition to and complete postsecondary education and training programs, obtain and advance in employment leading to economic self-sufficiency and to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5. Demonstrate alignment between the proposed activities and services and the strategy and goals of the state workforce plan as well as the activities of the one-stop partners (NH Works).
- 6. Be of sufficient intensity and quality and based on the most rigorous research available so that participants achieve substantial learning gains.
- 7. Effectively use technology, services and delivery systems including distance education, in a manner sufficient to increase the amount and quality of learning. Such technology, services and systems should lead to improved performance.
- 8. Meet or exceed minimum program outcome expectations including performance indicators, measurable skill gains and other standards.

Be implemented by July 1, 2023 or have a negotiated time line for implementation with the Bureau of Adult Education.3.1.2 General Requirements for Integrated Education & Training

Integrated Education & Training (IET) is defined in WIOA Section 203 (11) as a service approach that provides adult education and literacy activities concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of education and career advancement.

§463.36 further defines the IET requirements by stating that an integrated education and training program must include three components:

- 1. Adult education and literacy activities as described in §463.30
- 2. Workforce preparation activities as described in §463.34
- 3. Workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster with can be any one of the training services defined in Section 134(c)(3)(D) of WIOA (see Section 3.3.8)

§463.37 The three required IET components, adult education and literacy activities, workforce preparation activities, and workforce training must be provided concurrently and contextually –

- (a) Within the overall scope of a particular integrated education and training program, the adult education and literacy activities, workforce preparation activities, and workforce training:
  - 1) Are each of sufficient intensity and quality, and based on the most rigorous research available, particularly with respect to improving reading, writing, mathematics, and English proficiency of eligible individuals;
  - 2) Occur simultaneously
  - 3) Use occupationally relevant instructional materials
- (b) The integrated education and training program has a single set of learning objectives that identifies specific adult education content, workforce preparation activities, and workforce training competencies, and the program activities are organized to function cooperatively.

§463.38 A provider meeting the requirement that the integrated education and training program is "for the purposes of educational and career advancement" if:

- (a) The adult education component of the program is aligned with the State's content standards<sup>10</sup> for adult education as described in the State's Unified or Combined State Plan; and
- (b) The integrated education and training program is part of a career pathway.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The State has designated the College & Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education as the State's content standards for adult education. This is designated on page 197 of the 2022-2024 NH WIOA Combined State Plan.

# 3.1.3 General Requirements for Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education

Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education is defined in WIOA Section 203 as "education services provided to English language learners who are adults, including professionals with degrees and credentials in their native countries, that enables such adults to achieve competency in the English language and acquire the basic and more advanced skills needed to function effectively as parents, workers, and citizens in the United States. Such services shall include instruction in literacy and English language acquisition and instruction on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation, and may include workforce training.

Funding for IELCE is provided as a specific set-aside in the AELFA grant received by the State and may only be used for the purposes of the IELCE program. Section 243 of WIOA outlines the funds provided to the State, the allotment of funds including the formula to the State, the goal of the program and required OCTAE reporting to Congress.

The goal of IELCE as stated in Section 243 is:

Each program that receives funds under this section shall be designed to:

- (1) Prepare adults who are English language learners for, and place in, unsubsidized employment in in-demand industries and occupations that lead to economic self-sufficiency; and
- (2) Integrate with the local workforce development system and its functions to carry out the activities of the program.

<u>§463.70</u> further defines Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program as:

- (a) The Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program refers to the use of funds provided under section 243 of the Act for education services for English language learners who are adults, including professionals with degrees and credentials in their native countries.
- (b) The Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program delivers educational services as described in §463.33 (see first paragraph)
- (c) Such educational services must be delivered in combination with integrated education and training activities as describe in §463.36

<u>§463.73</u> Eligible providers receiving funding through the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program must provide services that –

- (a) Include instruction in literacy and English language acquisition and instruction on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation; and
- (b) Are designed to:
  - 1) Prepare adults who are English language learners for, and place such adults in, unsubsidized employment in in-demand industries and occupations that lead to economic self-sufficiency; and
  - 2) Integrate with the local workforce development system and its functions to carry out the activities of the program.

<u>§463.74</u> An eligible provider that receives funds through the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program may meet the requirement to use funds for integrated English literacy and civics education in combination with integrated education and training activities by:

(a) Co-enrolling participants in integrated education and training as described in subpart D<sup>11</sup> of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> This is a referral back to the definition of adult education & literacy activities that can also be found in this document in Section 3.3.1.

- this part that is provided within the local or regional workforce development area for sources other than section 243 of the Act; or
- (b) Using funds provided under section 241 of the Act to support integrated education and training activities as describes in subpart D<sup>12</sup> of this part.

§463.75 Individuals who otherwise meet the definition of "eligible individual" and are English language learners, including professionals with degrees and credentials obtained in their native countries, may receive Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education services.

**NOTE:** Preparing for the USCIS Naturalization Test as a stand alone class is not an acceptable use of IELCE funding unless the applicant can demonstrate that the purpose of the class is aligned with the purpose of WIOA and an integral part of the IELCE program design.

The following IELCE Immigrant Integration Framework was developed as a part of the Enhancing Access for Refugees and New Americans, an OCTAE national leadership project. Additional information is available at: https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/refugeesandnewamericans



# **IELCE Immigrant Integration Framework**

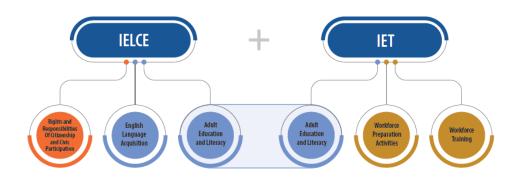
The IELCE/Immigrant Integration Framework illustrates how IELCE/IET efforts align with services and activities that further the linguistic, civic, and economic integration of immigrants.

#### **Target Population**

Adults who are learning English, including professionals with degrees and credentials in their native countries.

Services are delivered by a network of partners, which may include the adult education provider, a training provider, citizenship liaisons, refugee resettlement agencies, and other service providers.

IELCE Programs may be funded under Section 231 of Title II of WIOA. IELCE programs run in combination with IET programs may be funded under Section 243 of Title II of WIOA.



#### Pillars of Immigrant Integration and Inclusion

Civic Integration			Linguistic Integration			<b>Economic Integration</b>				
Foreign Credential	Government	Citizenship	Community	Digital Equity	Technology-Enabled	Contextualized	Multilingual	Worker's Rights and	Workplace Digital	Career Exploration
Verification	Documentation	Preparation	Services	Strategies	Instruction	ELA instruction	Strategies	Responsibilities	Competencies	

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **12** of **156** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> This is a referral back to the definition of adult education & literacy activities that can also be found in this document in Section 3.3.1.

#### 3.3 Definitions

# 3.3.1 Adult Education and Literacy Activities - Sec 103 (2)

Adult education and literacy activities mean program, activities and services that include any of the following:

- Adult education
- Literacy
- Workplace adult education and literacy activities
- Family literacy activities
- English language acquisition activities (ESL)
- Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE)
- Workforce preparation activities
- Integrated Education and Training (IET)

#### 3.3.1.1 Adult Education – Sec 203 (1)

The term "adult education" means academic instruction and education services below the postsecondary level that increase an individual's ability to –

- A. Read, write and speak in English and perform mathematics or other activities necessary for the attainment of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent;
- B. Transition to postsecondary education and training and
- C. Obtain employment

# 3.3.2 Basic Skills Deficient – Sec 3 (5)

The term "basic skills deficient" means, with respect to an individual –

- D. who is a youth, that the individual has English reading, writing or computing skills at or below the 8th grade level on a generally accepted standardized test; or
- E. who is a youth or an adult, that the individual is unable to compute or solve problems, or read, write or speak English, at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family, or in society.

#### *3.3.3 Career Pathway – Sec 3 (7)*

The term "career pathway" means a combination of rigorous and high-quality education, training, and other services that—

- (A) aligns with the skill needs of industries in the economy of the State or regional economy involved;
- (B) prepares an individual to be successful in any of a full range of secondary or postsecondary education options, including apprenticeships registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the "National Apprenticeship Act"; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.) (referred to individually in this Act as an "apprenticeship", except in section 171);
- (C) includes counseling to support an individual in achieving the individual's education and career goals;
- (D) includes, as appropriate, education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;
- (E) organizes education, training, and other services to meet the particular needs of an individual in a manner that accelerates the educational and career advancement of

- the individual to the extent practicable;
- (F) enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least 1 recognized postsecondary credential; and
- (G) helps an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

#### 3.3.4 Eligible Individual – Sec 203 (4)

The term "eligible individual" means an individual –

- A. who has attained 16 years of age;
- B. who is not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under State law; and
- C. who
  - i. is basic skills deficient
  - ii. does not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent; and has not achieved an equivalent level of education; or
  - iii. is an English language learner.

# 3.3.5 English Language Learner – Sec 203 (7)

The term "English language learner" when used with respect to an eligible individual, means an eligible individual who has limited ability in reading, writing, speaking or comprehending the English language and-

- A. whose native language is a language other than English
- B. who lives in a family or community environment where a language other than English is the dominant language.

# 3.3.6 Essential Components of Reading - From Every Student Succeeds Act Sec 1915 9 (c), p.365 The essential components of reading instruction are explicit and systematic instruction in:

- Phonemic awareness
- Phonics
- Vocabulary instruction
- Reading fluency, including oral reading skills
- Reading comprehension strategies

#### 3.3.7 Individual with a Barrier to Employment – Sec 3 (24)

The term "individual with a barrier to employment" means a member of one or more of the following populations:

- A. Displaced homemakers
- B. Low-income individuals
- C. Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, as such terms are defined in WIOA Section 166.
- D. Individuals with disabilities, including youth who are individuals with disabilities
- E. Older individuals
- F. Ex-offenders
- G. Homeless individuals, as defined in VAWA 41403(6), or homeless children and youths, as defined in McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2))
- H. Youth who are in or have aged out of the foster care system
- I. Individuals who are English language learners, individuals who have low levels of literacy, and individuals facing substantial cultural barriers.
- J. Eligible migrant and seasonal farmworkers, as defined in WIOA section 167(i)

- K. Individuals within two (2) years of exhausting lifetime eligibility under Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq)
- L. Single parents (including single pregnant women)
- M. Long-term unemployed individuals
- N. Such other groups as the Governor of New Hampshire determines to have barriers to employment

#### 3.3.8 *Individual with Disabilities – Sec 3 (25)*

The term "individual with a disability" means an individual with a disability as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)

#### 3.3.9 Low-Income Individual – Sec 3 (36)

- A. In General The term "low-income individual" means an individual who-
  - (i) receives, or in the last 6 months has received, or is a member of a family that is receiving or in the past 6 months has received, assistance through the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families program under Part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or the supplemental security income program established under title XVI of the Social Security Act 42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.), or State or local income-based public assistance;
  - (ii) is in a family with total family income that does not exceed the higher of-I. the poverty line
    - II. 70 percent of the lower living standards income level;
  - (iii) is a homeless individual (as defined in section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6))), or a homeless child or youth (as defined under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)));
  - (iv) receives or is eligible to receive a free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);
  - (v) is a foster child on behalf of whom State or local government payments are made;
  - (vi) is an individual with a disability whose own income meets the income requirement of clause (ii), but who is a member of a family whose income does not meet this requirement.
- B. Lower Living Standard Income Level The term "lower living standard income level" means that income level (adjusted for regional, metropolitan, urban and rural differences and family size) determined annually by the Secretary of Labor based on the most recent lower living family budget issued by the Secretary.

# 3.3.10 Recognized Postsecondary Credential – Sec 3(52)

The term "recognized postsecondary credential" means a credential consisting of industry-recognized certificate or certificate of completion of an apprenticeship, a license recognized by the State involved or Federal government, on an associate or baccalaureate degree.

# Additional clarification is available in TEGL 25-19<sup>13</sup>

Recognized postsecondary credentials are awarded in recognition of an individual's attainment of measurable technical or industry/occupational skills necessary to gain employment or advance within an industry/occupation.

RFP-BAE-2023-003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> TEGL 25-19 includes additional clarification and is available at: <a href="https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN\_25-19.pdf">https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN\_25-19.pdf</a>

These technical or industry/occupational skills generally are based on standards developed or endorsed by businesses or industry associations. Certificates awarded by Local Workforce Boards are not included in this definition, nor are work readiness certificates, because neither type of certificate is recognized industry-wide, nor do they document measurable technical or industry/occupational skills necessary to gain employment or advance within an occupation. Recognized postsecondary credentials reflect technical or industry/occupational skills for the specific industry/occupation rather than general skills related to safety, hygiene, etc., even if such general skills certificates are broadly required to qualify for entry-level employment or advancement in employment.

Recognized postsecondary credentials are an attestation of qualification or competence issued to an individual by a third party (such as an educational institution or an industry or occupational certifying organization) with the relevant authority or expertise to issue such a credential. The terms most commonly used for educational credentials are: diploma, certificate, and degree.

# 3.3.11 Training Services – Sec 134 (c)(3)(D)

Training services may include-

- (i) Occupational skills training, including training for nontraditional employment;
- (ii) On-the-job training;
- (iii) Incumbent worker training in accordance with subsection (d)(4);
- (iv) Programs that combine workplace training with related instruction, which may include cooperative education programs;
- (v) Training programs operated by the private sector;
- (vi) Skill upgrading and retraining
- (vii) Entrepreneurial training;
- (viii) Transitional jobs in accordance with subsection (d)(5);
- (ix) Job readiness training provided in combination with services in any of the clauses (i) through (viii)
- (x) Adult education and literacy activities, including activities or English language acquisition and integrated education and training programs, provided concurrently or in combination with services described in any of clauses (i) through (vii); and
- (xi) Customized training conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training.

#### 3.3.12 Workforce Preparation Activities – Sec 203 (17)

The term "workforce preparation activities" means activities, programs or services designed to help an individual acquire a combination of:

- Basic academic skills
- Critical thinking skills
- Digital literacy skills
- Self-management skills including competencies in:
  - o Utilizing resources
  - o Using information
  - Working with others
  - Understanding systems
  - o Obtaining skills necessary for successful transition into and completion of postsecondary education or training or employment

See also WIOA Glossary (Appendix E).

# 3.4 Integrated Education & Training (IET)

# *3.4.1 Purpose (IET)*

The purpose of the Integrated Education & Training is to increase the educational and career advancement of eligible individuals.

IET is one strategy for ensuring that eligible individuals have access to differentiated pathways that shorten their paths to family-sustaining wages. Those pathways should result in or include stackable credentials as progress toward an industry-recognized postsecondary credential.

#### 3.4.2 Eligibility (IET)

An eligible individual is an individual who meets the definition of eligible individual for all adult education and literacy activities.

# 3.4.3 Educational Functioning Levels (IET)

IET programs may provide adult education and literacy activities at all educational functioning levels (EFL), but may be restricted to certain EFLs as appropriate for successful completion of the program. Applicants must identify the appropriate EFLs to be served through this proposal and explain the reason for any limitations.

The National Reporting System has established Educational Functioning Levels for adult education. The current EFLs served in AEL are listed below.

- ABE Level 1
- ESL Level 1
- ABE Level 2
- ESL Level 2
- ABE Level 3
- ESL Level 3
- ABE Level 4
- ESL Level 4ESL Level 5
- ABE Level 5
- ABE Level 6
- ESL Level 6

Detailed descriptors and testing benchmarks for each level area available in the NH Data & Assessment Policy (Appendix A).

#### 3.4.4 Instruction (IET)

There are three components of IET:

- 1. Adult education and literacy activity
- 2. Workforce preparation activity
- 3. Workforce training

The three components of IET must be provided concurrently and contextually.

- Concurrently means that the components cannot be provided sequentially under the IET model.
- Contextually means the use of occupationally specific instructional materials.

#### 3.4.4.1 Adult Education & Literacy Activity Component

The adult education and literacy activity must include at least one of the activities listed below (see Section 3.3):

- Adult education
- Literacy
- Workplace adult education and literacy activity
- Family literacy activities
- English language acquisition activities
- Integrated English literacy and civics education
- Workforce preparation activities
- Integrated education and training

The IET is required to provide instruction aligned with the College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education<sup>14</sup>. Additionally, the instruction must include other required elements such as the essential components of reading.

There are multiple resources and regular training provided for evidence-based adult education instructional strategies including the STudent Achievement in Reading<sup>15</sup>, Teaching the Skills that Matter<sup>16</sup> and Standards in Action<sup>17</sup>.

Additionally, the Contractor, its officers, employees, agents or members, may assume full political, religious, and citizenship responsibilities, but shall refrain from exploiting the instructional responsibility of his/her professional position. Material presented to students shall be relevant to the course and appropriate to the maturity and achievement level of the students. The Contractor, its officers, employees, agents or members will at all times strive to promote tolerance for the views and opinions of others and for the right of individuals to form and hold differing views and opinions. The Contractor, its officers, employees, agents or members, will encourage the student to study varying points of view and respect his/her right to form his/her own judgment.

#### 3.4.4.2 Workforce Preparation Activity

The IET must include workforce preparation activities designed to help an individual acquire a combination of basic academic skills, critical thinking skill, digital literacy skills and self-management skills.

Workforce preparation activities include employability skills that address competencies in using resources and information, working with others, understanding systems, and obtaining the skills necessary to successfully transition to and complete postsecondary education, training and employment. There may be other employability skills that increase an individual's preparation for the workforce that are not specifically listed here.

The Bureau of Adult Education does not have a required employability skills framework, but has used the <u>Employability Skills Framework</u> developed by the Perkins Collaborative Resource Network. The Bureau provides annual training on this employability skills framework.

#### 3.4.4.3 Workforce Training

The workforce training component must be one of the following as described in WIOA section 134(c)(3)(D):

1. Occupational skills training, including training for nontraditional employment

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/CCRStandardsAdultEd.pdf

<sup>15</sup> https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/student-achievement-reading

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{16}{\text{https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teaching-skills-matter-adult-education}}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://www.standardsinaction.org/

- 2. On-the-job training
- 3. Incumbent worker training
- 4. Programs that combine workplace training with related instruction, which may include cooperative education programs
- 5. Training programs operated by the private sector
- 6. Skill upgrading and retraining
- 7. Entrepreneurial training
- 8. Transitional jobs
- 9. Job readiness training (only in combination with one of the above)
- 10. Adult education and literacy activities, including activities of English language acquisition and integrated education and training programs, provided concurrently or in combination with services listed in 1-7 above,
- 11. Customized training conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training

The workforce training must be for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancement. IET programs should be designed to prepare learners for jobs with documented labor market demand in the local region.

The workforce training must be a part of a <u>career pathway</u> and the instruction lead to either a <u>recognized postsecondary credential</u> or demonstrate progress towards a recognized postsecondary credential. Examples of how progress towards a recognized postsecondary credential can be demonstrated include, but are not limited to, training to earn stackable credentials that contribute to the occupational skills needed for the recognized postsecondary credentials or a preapprenticeship training that meets the federal definition<sup>18</sup> and leads directly into a registered apprenticeship program.

#### 3.4.4.4 Integration of IET Components

To meet the requirement that the three components be integrated, services must be provided concurrently and contextually, such that within the overall scope of a particular IET program, the three components:

- Are proportionally balanced; and
- Are of sufficient intensity and quality, and based on the most rigorous research available, particularly with respect to improving reading, writing, mathematics and English proficiency of eligible individuals; and
- Occur simultaneously (not sequentially); and
- Use occupationally relevant instructional materials

#### 3.4.4.5 Single Set of Learning Objectives

The IET requires a single set of learning objectives that identify adult education content, workforce preparation activities, and workforce training competencies. Program activities are intentionally organized to function cooperatively.

The curriculum must include instructional units, activities or contextualized class projects that integrates the three components of IET into one comprehensive curriculum. Specific instructional requirements can be found in Sections 3.4.4.1, 3.4.4.2 and 3.4.4.3.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ETA/apprenticeship/pdfs/pre\_apprenticeship\_guideforwomen.pdf

RFP-BAE-2023-003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> A pre-apprenticeship is a program or set of services designed to prepare individuals to enter and succeed in a Registered Apprenticeship program. By definition, the program has a documented partnership with at least one Registered Apprenticeship program. For more information:

The following outline 19 is provided as an example only:

Context (occupation, life skills focus, workplace focus)						
Time frame (weeks & hours/week)						
Unit/Activity/Project Description including outcome(s)						
Shared Learning Objectives List Template						
Adult Education & Literacy Activities (based on CCRS or ELPS)	Workplace Preparation Activities	Occupational/Training Skills				

#### 3.4.4.6 Recognized Postsecondary Credentials

There is not a federal or state list of approved recognized postsecondary credentials.

However, applicants may want to consider reviewing the NH Work Eligible Training Provider list (ETPL). Participants in other core WIOA programs are required to use a provider from this list in order to receive tuition assistance for training. If the applicant is considering a braided funding option to maximize access to services or is considering partnering with another entity for the occupational skills training component, this list could be helpful.

The ETPL is maintained by the Department of Business & Economic Affairs, Office of Workforce Opportunity and is available through the New Hampshire Works Source for Consumer Information on Training and Education.

Please see TEGL 25-19 for guidance on determining whether a credential qualifies as a recognized postsecondary credential.

# 3.4.5 Primary Indicators of Performance (IET)

The program must track and report data on the following Primary Indicators of Performance for each participant in each period of participation. This data is combined with data from other NH WIOA programs on the Statewide Joint Performance Report annually. The Bureau of Adult Education will negotiate performance targets for these indicators and local programs will be expected to set and meet targets under this contract.

For each of the Primary Indicators of Performance, each program entry and exit per participant during the reporting period is considered a period of participation. An individual may have more than one Primary Indicator of Performance in each period of participation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Adapted from Virginia Adult Learning Resource Center Shared Learning Objectives Template for IET at: https://ietblueprint.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/IET-Shared-Learning-Objectives-Template 4.2022.pdf

#### 3.4.5.1 Employment in the Second Quarter after Exit

Includes all participants, except those who were incarcerated at program entry who remain incarcerated, who exit during the program year.

Collection of this data may be made through data matching at the State level, if a social security number is provided and there is an existing agreement with the NH Department of Employment Security, or through a Follow-Up Survey conducted at the local level.

#### 3.4.5.2 Employment in the Fourth Quarter after Exit

Includes all participants, except those who were incarcerated at program entry who remain incarcerated, who exit during the program year.

Collection of this data must be made through data matching at the State level, if a social security number is provided, or through a Follow-Up Survey conducted at the local level.

### 3.4.5.3 Median Earning in the Second Quarter after Exit

Includes all participants who exit during the program year, except those who were incarcerated at program entry who remain incarcerated, and who are employed in the second quarter after exit.

The Median Earning is determined by the midpoint of wages between the lowest and the highest quarterly wage, in U.S. dollars, in the second quarter after exit.

Collection of this data must be made through data matching at the State level, if a social security number is provided, or through a Follow-Up Survey conducted at the local level.

#### 3.4.5.4 Credential Attainment Indicator – Secondary

Includes all participants who exit during the program year, except those who were incarcerated at program entry who remain incarcerated, and

- who were at the ninth grade equivalent educational functioning level or higher upon entry, as measured by pretest with approved NRS test.
- **AND** who received a secondary credential or diploma during participation or within one year after exit
- **AND** who entered into postsecondary education or training within one year after exit
- **OR** who obtained employment within one year after exit

Collection of this data must be made at the time of exit and 12 months from exit. Data matching through the National Student Clearinghouse may be possible for some participants enrolled in postsecondary education.

#### 3.4.5.5 Credential Attainment Indicator - Postsecondary

Includes all participants co-enrolled in a postsecondary education program (and an adult education program) who exit during the program year, and

• who receive a postsecondary credential that meets the WIOA definition<sup>20</sup> during participation or within one year after exit.

Collection of this data must be made at the time of exit and 12 months from exit. Data matching

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> TEGL 10-16 Change 2 available at: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/tegl-10-16-change-2

through the National Student Clearinghouse may be possible for some participants enrolled in postsecondary education.

#### 3.4.5.6 Exclusions

The following reasons for exit allow the exclusion of a participant from ALL performance measures:

- Exit is due to the participant becoming incarcerated or entered into a 24-hour support facility such as a hospital or treatment center.
- Exit is due to medical treatment that lasts more than 90 days.
- Participant is deceased.
- Exit is due to being called into active duty in the National Guard or other armed services for at least 90 days.

# 3.4.6 Measurable Skill Gain Indicators (MSG) (IET)

Measurable skills gains (MSGs) are indicators of progress used for federal reporting.

The program must track and report data on the following Measurable Skill Gain indicators for each participant in each period of participation.

For each of the Measurable Skill Gain Indicators, each program entry and exit per participant during the reporting period is considered a period of participation. An individual may have more than one Measurable Skill Gain in each period of participation. Only the most recent MSG will be collected per period of participation.

There are five types of MSGs<sup>21</sup>:

- 1. High School Diploma/Equivalency attainment
- 2. Educational Functioning Level Gain
  - a. Achievement on a pre-test-posttest
  - b. Credits or Carnegie units
  - c. Postsecondary enrollment
- 3. Postsecondary transcript or report card
- 4. Progress towards milestones
- 5. Skills Progression through the passage of an exam

Definitions, explanations and documentation requirements are listed below for each MSG type.

To ensure IET participants will earn at least one MSG per Period of Participation, it is recommended that a provider intentionally build opportunities to each multiple kids of MSG type into the program design.

#### 3.4.6.1 Secondary Diploma/Equivalent

All participants who earn a high school diploma or equivalent during the program year.

A high school or adult diploma can be verified by the credentialing school district or Adult Diploma program in the student data management system. Depending on the credentialing institution, the applicant may need to request an official transcript if the diploma was earned outside of the NH adult education system.

High school equivalency exams are automatically integrated into the student data management system on a daily basis. Because the data is submitted directly from the test publisher, this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See also OCTAE Program Memo 17-2 and TEGL 10-16 Change 1

serves as verified documentation.

#### 3.4.6.2 Educational Functioning Level Gain

Educational Functioning Level (EFL) gain can be measured in three ways:

- Comparing the participant's pre-test with the participant's post-test, using an NRS approved test.
- Awarding of Carnegie credits or credits in an adult high school program
- Enrollment in postsecondary education or training <u>after</u> exit within the same program year

Every two years, the Bureau of Adult Education negotiates target Measurable Skill Gain rates. The most recent targets are:

- For ABE Levels 1-6, the 2022-2023 target was 28%
- For ESL Levels 1 -6, the 2022-2023 target was 31.9%

EFLs are automatically calculated in the student data management system using an NRS approved assessment results or starting Carnegie credits. Some assessments are automatically integrated into the student data management system. No further documentation is required.

Additionally, a student may earn an MSG when entering into postsecondary education or training after exiting from the adult education program. This MSG may apply to individuals who have completed an IET and then move into postsecondary education or training before the end of the program year. This MSG may be verified through data matching with the National Student Clearinghouse or by entering the start date of the postsecondary enrollment into the student data management system.

Local providers will be required to set their own target rates and assess progress toward those targets on a quarterly basis in order to assist the state with meeting its targets.

#### 3.4.6.3 Secondary/Postsecondary Transcript or Report Card

This MSG type is only available to participants in an approved IET program or an approved workplace literacy program.

<u>For secondary education</u>, this gain may be documented through receipt of a secondary transcript or report card for one semester showing that the participant is achieving the State's policies for academic standards. In the state of New Hampshire, it is the responsibility of the local school board to adopt and implement written policies and procedures relative to how a credit can be earned, as provided in Ed 306.27.

For example, a secondary level career & technical education course such as Welding Fundamentals is a part of the design of the program and the CTE Center provides a formal report card or transcript indicating credit earned or a passing grade. The course must conform to the standard competencies and/or seat-time requirements for other students to earn a credit. This would constitute an MSG under Type 3 – Secondary Transcript or Report Card.

For documentation purposes, a copy of the report card or transcript must be uploaded into the student record on the student data management system.

<u>For postsecondary education</u>, this gain must demonstrate a sufficient number of credit hours – which is at least 12 hours per semester (or the equivalent) or, for part-time students, a total of at least 12 hours over the course of two completed semesters (or equivalent) during a 12 month period that show a participant is achieving the State's academic standards (or the equivalency for

other than credit hour programs). In the state of New Hampshire, the NH Department of Education, Division of Educator Support and Higher Education is responsible for the approval of institutions of higher education<sup>22</sup>.

# 3.4.6.4 Progress towards Milestones

This MSG is only available to participants in an approved IET or approved workplace literacy program.

Satisfactory or better progress report, toward established milestones requires that the IET design include documented milestones. Milestones must reflect substantive skill development. Milestones are usually established by an employer or training provider. The most common use of milestones can be found in the NH Employment Security On-the-Job training contract.

Please note that OCTAE has indicated that this MSG is most appropriate for workplace literacy programs where the employer has designated the skills required to be learned, the method for learning those skills, the estimated hours needed to learn those skills, how progress was evaluated and whether individual has attained the milestone. Evaluation of progress may include tests, reports, skill demonstration, performance verification or wage gain due to newly acquired skills.

There must be a standard form<sup>23</sup> used for documenting progress toward milestones. This form, signed by the employer or the training provider must be uploaded into the student record in the student data management system.

#### 3.4.6.5 Skills Progression

This MSG type is only available to participants in an approved IET program or an approved workplace literacy program.

A skills progression gain involves the successful passage of an exam that is required for a specific occupation and to progress in attaining technical or occupational skills as evidenced by traderelated benchmarks such as knowledge-based exams. The exam should be published by a 3<sup>rd</sup> part and result in a certificate, credential or license obtained.

Passing a test in an academic course in a traditional secondary or postsecondary education program is not considered a gain for this MSG type.

Documentation for this gain may include passage of a component exam in a Registered Apprenticeship program, employer-required knowledge-based exam, satisfactory attainment of an element on an industry or occupational competency-based assessment, or other completion test necessary to obtain a credential. The passing scores or resulting documentation must be uploaded into the student record in the student data management system.

#### 3.4.6.6 Exclusions

Participants in a correctional institution under section 225 of WIOA who remain incarcerated after exit are included in the MSG indicator but excluded from:

- 2nd Quarter Employment Indicator
- Median Earning Indicator
- 4th Quarter Employment Indicator
- Credential Indicator

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Approved Colleges and Universities: <a href="https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/degreegrantingdirectory.pdf">https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/degreegrantingdirectory.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See examples from Massachusetts, Georgia,

#### 3.4.7 Application (IET)

See <u>Section 5 Content and Requirements</u> for detailed instructions for completing the application for IET programs (<u>Attachment 2A</u>)

#### 3.5 Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education

Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education has four required components.

- 1. Adult education and literacy activity, specifically English language acquisition
- 2. Workforce preparation activity
- 3. Workforce training
- 4. Rights and responsibility of citizenship and civic participation

In IELCE, literacy, English language acquisition, and civics education must be delivered in combination with integrated education and training. These components must be offered concurrently and contextually.

In the Preamble to the Final Rules for WIOA, the following acknowledgement was made:

"English language learners seeking English language proficiency and civics education, but not seeking workforce training, should not be excluded or discouraged from participation in the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program. We do note that the Act required that eligible provides receiving funds under §243 are required to provide these services in combination with integrated education and training."

#### 3.5.1 Purpose (IELCE)

The purpose of the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program is to prepare adults who are who are English language learners for, and place such adults in, unsubsidized employment in in-demand industries and occupations that lead to economic self-sufficiency.

IELCE must integrate with the local workforce development system and its functions to carry out the activities of the program.

The definition of <u>IELCE in WIOA Sec 203 (12)</u> specifically designates that English language learners who are professionals with degrees and credentials in their native countries should be served through this program.

According to the Enhancing Access for Refugees and New Americans project, IELCE activities are a main pathway to support immigrants' civic, linguistic and economic integration in US society.

#### 3.5.2 Eligibility (IELCE)

An eligible individual is an individual who meets the definition of <u>eligible individual</u> for all adult education and literacy activities and is an English language learner who is interested in preparation for an placement in unsubsidized employment in in-demand industries and occupations that lead to economic self-sufficiency.

IELCE may serve professionals with degree and credentials in their native countries or internationally trained professionals who face challenges in transferring their degrees, credentials and skills in the US economy.

#### 3.5.3 Educational Functioning Levels (IELCE)

IELCE programs may provide adult education and literacy activities at all educational functioning levels (EFL), but may be restricted to certain EFLs as appropriate for successful completion of the program. Applicants must identify the appropriate EFLs to be served through this proposal and explain the reason for any limitations.

See Section 3.4.3 for NRS EFL levels.

#### 3.5.4 Instruction (IELCE)

There are four components of IELCE:

- 1. Adult education and literacy activity
- 2. Workforce preparation activity
- 3. Workforce training
- 4. Rights and responsibility of citizenship and civic participation (Civic education)

The three components of IET must be provided concurrently and contextually.

- <u>Concurrently</u> means that the components cannot be provided sequentially under the IELCE model.
- <u>Contextually</u> means the use of occupationally specific instructional materials.

# 3.5.4.1 Adult Education and Literacy Activity Component

The adult education and literacy activity must include at least one of the activities listed below (see Section 3.3):

- Adult education
- Literacy
- Workplace adult education and literacy activity
- Family literacy activities
- English language acquisition activities
- Integrated English literacy and civics education
- Workforce preparation activities
- Integrated education and training

Because an essential purpose of IELCE is to provide services for English language learners, English language acquisition skills should be included in the program design.

The IELCE is required to provide instruction aligned with the College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education<sup>24</sup> and/or the English Language Proficiency Standards<sup>25</sup>. Additionally, the instruction must include other required elements such as the essential components of reading.

There are multiple resources and regular training provided for evidence-based adult education instructional strategies including the STudent Achievement in Reading<sup>26</sup>, Teaching the Skills that Matter<sup>27</sup> and Standards in Action<sup>28</sup>.

Additionally, the Contractor, its officers, employees, agents or members, may assume full political, religious, and citizenship responsibilities, but shall refrain from exploiting the instructional responsibility of his/her professional position. Material presented to students shall be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/CCRStandardsAdultEd.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/elp-standards-adult-ed.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/student-achievement-reading

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teaching-skills-matter-adult-education

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> https://www.standardsinaction.org/

relevant to the course and appropriate to the maturity and achievement level of the students. The Contractor, its officers, employees, agents or members will at all times strive to promote tolerance for the views and opinions of others and for the right of individuals to form and hold differing views and opinions. The Contractor, its officers, employees, agents or members, will encourage the student to study varying points of view and respect his/her right to form his/her own judgment.

#### 3.5.4.2 Workforce Preparation Activity

The IELCE must include workforce preparation activities designed to help an individual acquire a combination of basic academic skills, critical thinking skill, digital literacy skills and self-management skills.

Workforce preparation activities include employability skills that address competencies in using resources and information, working with others, understanding systems, and obtaining the skills necessary to successfully transition to and complete postsecondary education, training and employment. There may be other employability skills that increase an individual's preparation for the workforce that are not specifically listed here.

The Bureau of Adult Education does not have a required employability skills framework, but has used the <u>Employability Skills Framework</u> developed by the Perkins Collaborative Resource Network. The Bureau provides annual training on this employability skills framework.

### 3.5.4.3 Workforce Training Activity

The workforce training component must be one of the following as described in WIOA section 134(c)(3)(D):

- 1. Occupational skills training, including training for nontraditional employment
- 2. On-the-job training
- 3. Incumbent worker training
- 4. Programs that combine workplace training with related instruction, which may include cooperative education programs
- 5. Training programs operated by the private sector
- 6. Skill upgrading and retraining
- 7. Entrepreneurial training
- 8. Transitional jobs
- 9. Job readiness training (only in combination with one of the above)
- 10. Adult education and literacy activities, including activities of English language acquisition and integrated education and training programs, provided concurrently or in combination with services listed in 1-7 above,
- 11. Customized training conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training

The workforce training must be for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancement. IET programs should be designed to prepare learners for jobs with documented labor market demand in the local region.

The workforce training must be a part of a <u>career pathway</u> and the instruction lead to either a <u>recognized postsecondary credential</u> or demonstrate progress towards a recognized postsecondary credential. Examples of how progress towards a recognized postsecondary credential can be demonstrated include, but are not limited to, training to earn stackable credentials that contribute to the occupational skills needed for the recognized postsecondary credentials or a pre-

apprenticeship training that meets the federal definition<sup>29</sup> and leads directly into a registered apprenticeship program.

OCTAE has provided two options<sup>30</sup> for meeting the requirement of including workforce training in IELCE:

- 1. Co-enrolling participants in an integrated education and training program that is provided within the local or regional workforce development area for sources other than \$243.
- 2. Using §243 funds to support integrated education and training activities.

The WIOA Final Rules are clear that the requirement for workforce training is in the program design, however participants in the program are not required to participate in the workforce training component. The State encourages applicants to consider how participants will be directed to the most appropriate services within the comprehensive adult education and literacy activities offered in each region.

#### 3.5.4.4 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship and Civic Participation (Civics Education)

The rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation is a critical element of the IELCE. According to the Enhancing Access for Refugees and New Americans, "IELCE instruction in this topic can include information about documentation and citizenship preparation as well as community engagement more broadly, such as through topics like navigating community services and achieving a more digital equitable future."

Other activities that could be included in the civics education component are instruction on navigating the procedures for government document attainment; understanding consumer economics; identifying and accessing community resources; comprehending employment processes and documents; understanding the role of local, state and federal government including the voting system; and acquiring digital literacy and citizenship skills.

The State of California Department of Education has published a <u>Civic Participant and IELCE assessment system</u> that includes these elements and others that may be used for guidance. The State of Illinois, Community College Board also has a list of civics objectives in their <u>IELCE Tool Kit</u> that may provide helpful guidance.

**NOTE:** Preparing for the USCIS Naturalization Test as a stand alone class is not an acceptable use of IELCE funding unless the applicant can demonstrate that the purpose of the class is aligned with the purpose of WIOA and an integral part of the IELCE program design.

#### 3.5.4.5 Integration of IELCE Components

Similar to the IET program design, IELCE also requires that the four components be integrated and that services must be provided concurrently and contextually, such that within the scope of a particular IELCE program, the four components:

- Are proportionally balanced; and
- Are of sufficient intensity and quality, and based on the most rigorous research available,

RFP-BAE-2023-003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> A pre-apprenticeship is a program or set of services designed to prepare individuals to enter and succeed in a Registered Apprenticeship program. By definition, the program has a documented partnership with at least one Registered Apprenticeship program. For more information:

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ETA/apprenticeship/pdfs/pre\_apprenticeship\_guideforwomen.pdf https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/asdm-2016-ielce.pdf

particularly with respect to improving reading, writing, mathematics and English proficiency of eligible individuals; and

- Occur simultaneously (not sequentially); and
- Use occupationally relevant instructional materials

#### 3.5.4.6 Single Set of Learning Objectives

Similar to the IET program design, IELCE also requires that the program have a single set of learning objectives that identify adult education content, workforce preparation activities, workforce training competencies and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation. Program activities are intentionally organized to function cooperatively.

See Section 3.4.4.5 for more information.

3.4.4.6 Recognized Postsecondary Credentials

See Section 3.4.4.6.

# 3.5.5 Primary Indicators of Performance (IELCE)

See <u>Section 3.4.5</u>. Requirements regarding the primary indicators of performance are the same for IELCE as they are for IET.

#### 3.5.6 Measurable Skill Gain Indicators (IELCE)

Measurable skills gains (MSGs) are indicators of progress used for federal reporting.

The program must track and report data on the following Measurable Skill Gain indicators for each participant in each period of participation.

For each of the Measurable Skill Gain Indicators, each program entry and exit per participant during the reporting period is considered a period of participation. An individual may have more than one Measurable Skill Gain in each period of participation. Only the most recent MSG will be collected per period of participation.

There are five types of MSGs<sup>31</sup>:

- 1. High School Diploma/Equivalency attainment See Section 3.4.6.1
- 2. Educational Functioning Level Gain See Section 3.4.6.2
  - a. Achievement on a pre-test-posttest
  - b. Credits or Carnegie units
  - c. Postsecondary enrollment
- 3. Postsecondary transcript or report card See Section 3.4.6.3
- 4. Progress towards milestones See Section 3.4.6.4
- 5. Skills Progression through the passage of an exam See Section 3.4.6.5

MSG types 1-2 are applicable to all IELCE participants.

MSG types 3-5 are only application IF the IELCE participant is participating in the IET component.

Exclusions are the same as for IET and can be found in <u>Section 3.4.6.6</u>.

#### 3.5.7 Application (IELCE)

See <u>Section 5 Content and Requirements</u> for detailed instructions for completing the application for IELCE programs (<u>Attachment 2B</u>)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> See also OCTAE Program Memo 17-2 and TEGL 10-16 Change 1

# Section 4 – Process for Submitting a Proposal

# 4.1 Minimum Requirements for Applicants

An applicant must be determined to be an eligible provider for the proposal to be considered.

An eligible provider is an organization that has demonstrated effectiveness in providing adult education and literacy activities is eligible to apply for a contract. These organizations may include, but are not limited to:

- a. A local education agency;
- b. A community-based organization or faith-based organization;
- c. A volunteer literacy program
- d. An institution of higher education;
- e. A public or private nonprofit agency
- f. A library
- g. A public housing authority
- h. A nonprofit institution that is not described in any of paragraphs (a) through (g) and has the ability to provide adult education and literacy activities to eligible individuals.
- i. A consortium or coalition of agencies, organizations, institutions, libraries, or authorities described in any of paragraphs (a) through (h); and
- j. A partnership between an employer and an entity described in any of paragraphs (a) through (i)

An eligible provider must demonstrate past effectiveness by providing performance data on its record of improving the skills of eligible individuals, particularly eligible individuals who have low levels of literacy, in the content domains of reading, writing, mathematics and English language acquisition, and other subject areas relevant to the services contained in this Request for Proposals.

An eligible provider must also provide information regarding its outcomes for participants related to employment, attainment of secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and transition to postsecondary education and training.

There are two ways in which an eligible provider may demonstrate effectiveness and thereby meet the requirements of this section:

- 1. An eligible provider that has been funded under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act must provide performance data required under Section 116 to demonstrate past effectiveness.
- 2. An eligible provider that has not been previously funded under Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act must provide performance data to demonstrate its past effectiveness in serving basic skills deficient eligible individuals, including evidence of its success in achieving outcomes in employment, secondary school credential attainment and transition to postsecondary education and training.

All applicants must use the Demonstrated Effectiveness chart found in the <u>Attachment 1</u> of this RFP. The source of data must be noted on the chart. Data that has been certified or submitted to a state or federal agency is preferred. If data for the indicated categories is not available or represents a significant difference from year to year, please provide a short explanation in the space provided on the chart.

Proposals submitted by applicants who do not provide demonstrated effectiveness will not be considered for funding from the Bureau of Adult Education under this RFP.

#### 4.2 Proposal Submission, Deadline, and Location Instructions

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP must be received by the Bureau of Adult Education, no later than the time and date specified in the <u>Schedule</u> section, herein. Proposals may be submitted electronically by email or in hardcopy (see below) by either U.S. Mail or In Person.

Proposals must be addressed to:

State of New Hampshire
Department of Education
Bureau of Adult Education
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 20
Concord, NH 03301
AdultEd@doe.nh.gov

Proposals must be clearly marked as follows:

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

RESPONSE TO RFP BAE-2023-003 WIOA IET or IELCE Services

Late submissions will not be accepted and will be returned to the proposers unopened. Delivery of the Proposals shall be at the Proposer's expense. The time of receipt shall be considered when a Proposal has been officially documented by the Agency, in accordance with its established policies, as having been received at the location designated above. The Agency accepts no responsibility for mislabeled mail or mail that is not delivered or undeliverable for whatever reason. Any damage that may occur due to shipping shall be the Proposer's responsibility.

All Proposals submitted in response to this RFP must consist of at least:

- a) One (1) clearly identified original, including all required attachments (hardcopy);
- b) One (1) clearly identified electronic copy of the Proposal including all required attachments contained on digital media such as a USB drive.

Proposers who are ineligible to bid on proposals, bids or quotes issued by the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Procurement and Support Services pursuant to the provisions of RSA 21-I:11-c shall not be considered eligible for an award under this proposal.

# 4.3 Proposal Inquiries

All inquiries concerning this RFP, including but not limited to, requests for clarifications, questions, and any changes to the RFP, shall be submitted via email to the following RFP designated Point of Contact with the RFP number in the subject line:

TO: Sarah.L.Wheeler@doe.nh.gov

RE: RFP-BAE-2023-003

Inquiries must be received by the Agency's RFP Point of Contact no later than the conclusion of the Proposer Inquiry Period (see <u>Schedule of Events</u> section, herein). Inquiries received later than the conclusion of the Proposer Inquiry Period shall not be considered properly submitted and may not be considered.

The Agency intends to issue official responses to properly submitted inquiries on or before the date specified in the Schedule section, herein; however, this date is subject to change at the Agency's discretion. The Agency may consolidate and/or paraphrase questions for sufficiency and clarity. The Agency may, at its discretion, amend this RFP on its own initiative or in response to issues raised by inquiries, as it deems appropriate. Oral statements, representations, clarifications, or modifications concerning the RFP shall not be binding upon the Agency. Official responses by the Agency will be made only in writing by the process described above. Vendors shall be responsible for reviewing the most updated information related to this RFP before submitting a proposal.

#### 4.4 Vendor Conference

The Bureau of Adult Education will provide an optional vendor conference online on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 from 9:00 am until noon.

# Registration is required at:

https://nhadulted-org.zoom.us/j/84607644340?pwd=bUhwd1JPQWJpd1NxNTlOL0JJVkVndz09

This conference will be held to provide potential applicants an opportunity to learn more about the program and preparation of the proposal. Submitted questions will be reviewed.

#### 4.5 Restriction of Contact with Agency Employees

From the date of release of this RFP until an award is made and announced regarding the selection of Proposer(s), all communication with personnel employed by or under contract with the Agency regarding this RFP is forbidden unless first approved by the RFP Point of Contact listed in the Proposal Inquiries section, herein. Agency employees have been directed not to hold conferences and/or discussions concerning this RFP with any potential contractor during the selection process, unless otherwise authorized by the RFP Point of Contact. Proposers may be disqualified for violating this restriction on communications.

# 4.6 Validity of Proposal

Proposals must be valid for one hundred and eighty (180) days following the deadline for submission of Proposals in Schedule of Events, or until the Effective Date of any resulting Contract, whichever is later.

#### 4.7 Proposal Acceptance

This RFP does not obligate the Bureau of Adult Education to award funding. The Bureau of Adult Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received.

Once a proposal packet is received by the Bureau of Adult Education, it will be immediately reviewed for completeness.

- 1. Stamp packet with the date and time received.
- 2. Ensure that the number of pages of the packet is equal to the number of pages noted by the applicant.
- 3. A high level review will be conducted checking for completeness.
- 4. If the packet is complete, the representative from the Department will sign the packet and mark it as complete. The representative will add the proposal to a list of received proposals for this RFP.
- 5. If the packet is Incomplete

- i. An additional person within the program will review the packet and agree that it appears incomplete.
- ii. Both individuals will sign off that the packet is incomplete.
- iii. The person who completed the initial review will notify the provider that the proposal appears to be incomplete.
- iv. The representative will then add the proposal to the list of proposals and note that it is incomplete.
- v. A provider will have 5 business days, from the date of notification by the Bureau, to submit a complete proposal or the application will be withdrawn from the competition.

# Section 5 - Content and Requirements for a Proposal

# **5.1 Proposal Contents**

It is the Applicant's responsibility to demonstrate to the Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Education that it is capable of and qualified to perform the required work in the most cost efficient method.

When responding to this RFP, the applicant shall include a completed application with following:

- 1. Attachment 1
  - a. Demonstrated Effectiveness
- 2. **One** of the following:
  - Attachment 2A Integrated Education & Training (IET) Only Application
    - a. Organizational Capacity
    - b. Integrated Education & Training (IET) Only Application
  - <u>Attachment 2B</u> Integrated English Literacy & Civics Education (IELCE) Only Application
    - a. Organizational Capacity
    - b. Integrated English Literacy & Civics Education (IELCE) Only Application
  - <u>Attachment 2C</u> IELCE with IET Designed for all AEL Participants Application
    - a. Organizational Capacity
    - b. IELCE with IET Designed for all AEL Participants Application
- 2. Attachment 3 IET/IELCE Budget Worksheets
  - a. IET/IELCE FY24 Budget Worksheet
  - b. Local Match Worksheet
  - c. Budget Narrative
  - d. FY25-FY26 Budget Projections
  - e. **NOTE:** A separate Attachment 3 will need to be provided in combination with Attachment 2C. One for IET and one for IELCE
- 3. Attachment 4 Required Documentation for Proposals
  - a. Acceptance of Terms and Conditions
  - b. Statement of Compliance with US Code of Federal Regulations and the Uniform Administrative Non-Profit Organization
  - c. Job Descriptions and Resumes of Key Program Staff
  - d. Three Letters of Support
  - e. Audited Financial Records
    - The organization must provide evidence of financial stability either through a narrative description of appropriated funds through a district budget process of a public entity or through audited financial records.

The following attachment includes documentation required for any contracts resulting from this RFP. These are not required at submission.

<u>Attachment 5</u> - Required Documentation for Contracting (not required atsubmission)

- f. P-37 Standard Contract Form
- g. Certificate of Good Standing
  - The organization must provide a Certificate of Good Standing from the NH Secretary of State's Office or documentation that the entity is exempt from this requirement.
- h. Certificate of Insurance
  - If a certificate of insurance is already on file with the NH Department of Education, please document this information in the attachments.
- i. Certificate of Authority
  - The governing board of the organization must provide authorization for the

individual to sign a contract with the NH Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Education. This can be a record of a vote from the Board of Directors/School Board or a Certificate of Authority form.

- j. Governing Board list
  - A Board of Director or School Board list
- f. General Provisions Act (GEPA) Statement
- g. Buy American Statement
- h. NH Department of Education Exhibits D H
- i. General Assurances

#### **5.2** Attachment 1 – Demonstrated Effectiveness Details

All applicants must provide data in order for the Agency to determine if the applicant meets the minimum requirements for application as an eligible provider. See <u>Section 4.1</u>.

The Demonstrated Effectiveness Chart can be found in <u>Attachment 1</u>.

#### 5.2.1 Organization Information

Please enter the organization's name, mailing address, and a contact name, title, phone and email.

# 5.2.2 Agency Type

Please indicate if the organization is a school district, non-profit organization, or enter another type of organization.

For a consortium to be considered an eligible applicant, each member of the consortium must demonstrate effectiveness as described in <u>Section 4.1</u> by completing an individual <u>Attachment 1</u>.

#### 5.2.3 Overview of Demonstrated Effectiveness

Please provide a short narrative describing the organization's experience providing adult education and literacy activities including the effectiveness of such services in increasing the academic skills necessary for employment and postsecondary education or training.

#### 5.2.4 Source of Data

Please indicate the source of the data used to complete the demographic and performance indicator sections. If the applicant was previously funded under Title II of WIOA, the data must be performance data submitted to the Bureau of Adult Education for the National Reporting System for Adult Education under section 116. For applicants not previously funded under Title II of WIOA, the data from some other audited source such as the NH Employment Security, NH Department of Health & Human Services or the NH WIOA Adult program is preferred, but not required.

Data should include all programs, operated by the applicant organization, that meet the definitions of the programs included in this RFP.

#### 5.2.5 Demographics

A. Please enter the total number of enrolled participants defined as any participant who received at least one hour of instruction.

B. Please enter the number of enrolled participants who was (Potential) NRS Eligible Participants, defined as those who attended more than 12 hours of instruction.

- C. Please enter the number of enrolled participants who are Reportable Individuals, defined as those who attended more than one hour, but less than 12 hours of instruction.
- 5.2.6 Performance Data on Improving Skills
- D. Please enter the data on improving the skills of eligible individuals, particularly eligible individuals who have low levels of literacy, in the following content domains:
  - 1. Reading
  - 2. Writing
  - 3. English language acquisition
  - 4. other subject areas relevant to the services contained in this RFP
- E. Please describe how the data was collected, how improvement was determined and how the data reflects work with individuals who have low levels of literacy.

#### 5.2.7 Performance Data on Outcomes

F. Enter the number of program participants who obtained a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent during participation in or within one (1) year after exit from the program

For organizations that have not previously reported credential attainment with these timeframes, please include a description of how it was determined that this criterion was met under Additional Information.

- G. Enter the number of participants who were employed in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter or six months after exit.
- H. Enter the number of participants who were employed in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter or one year after exit.
- I. Enter the median earnings of program participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after exit from the program.

For organizations that have not previously reported employment outcomes with these time frames, please include a description of how employment outcomes were determined.

J. Enter the number of program participants who have entered postsecondary education or training during participation in or within one (1) year after exit from the program.

For organizations that have not previously reported transition into postsecondary education and/or training with these timeframes, please include a description of how it was determined that participants transitioned to meet this or a similar performance outcome.

# 5.2.8 Additional Information

Please use this section to include explanations for how data was determined if the data was not reported on an audited system connected with the NH Works system.

Please use this section to include explanations for discrepancies, inconsistencies or other characteristics of the data that may be helpful for determining the demonstrated effectiveness of the organization.

# 5.3 Attachment 2A, 2B and 2C General Program Application Details – Organizational Capacity

In order to demonstrate that the applicant has the organization capacity to provide the services proposed, the Organizational Capacity chart must be completed.

This section includes information about staff experience, prior experience working with similar projects, geographical area it currently serves, coordination with core WIOA Partners and other community organizations.

The following information must be completed on the Application:

- Provide a summary of the titles, qualifications and responsibilities of key program staff, defined as
  program administrators, coordinators, lead instructors or other staff primarily responsible for the
  efficient operation of an adult education program and delivery of adult education instruction in
  accordance with the guidelines in this RFP.
- Designate the geographic area that the programs described will serve using the regional areas defined in <u>Appendix B</u>. Applicants may serve participants from multiple regions, but should only apply for the region in which the majority of participants will located.
- Describe how the organization will fulfill one-stop partner responsibilities as described in WIOA section 121(b)(1)(A)
- A description of any cooperative arrangements with other agencies, institutions, or organizations for the delivery of IET or IELCE activities
- Explain how community connections have increased the effectiveness of your program

### Attachments to the Proposal shall include the following:

- Job descriptions and resumes of all key staff defined as program administrators, coordinators, lead
  instructors, or other staff primarily responsible for the efficient operation of an IET and/or IELCE
  and delivery of instruction in accordance with the guidelines in this RFP including <u>Section 3.4.8</u>.
- Three (3) letters of reference from past students and/or collaborating agencies that speak to the organization's ability to provide the services described in this RFP.

### 5.3.1 Vendor Experience

- 1. Please list the titles, qualifications and responsibilities of key program staff defined as program administrators, coordinators, lead instructors, or other staff primarily responsible for the efficient operation of an integrated education & training program and/or an integrated English literacy and civics education program in accordance with the guidelines in this RFP including <a href="Section 3.4.8">Section 3.4.8</a>.
- 2. Attach job descriptions and resumes for all key program staff. If key staff roles are not currently filled, please indicate on the job description.
- 3. Describe the organization's prior experience working with adult education and literacy programs particularly IET and/or IELCE.
- 4. Describe the geographic area(s) currently covered by the organization including any satellite/outreach offices or community sites used to provide services.

## 5. For Consortium Applicants:

- Applications must identify one organization that will act as the lead organization for the consortium. The lead organization shall submit a single proposal on behalf of the consortium that outlines the plan to provide adult education and literacy activities throughout the roles and responsibilities of each member organization.
- The lead organization serves as the application organization of record, the legally

recognized fiscal agent for the grant project, and the single point of contact for the Bureau. The lead organization is responsible for overseeing the implementation of all aspects of the grant, e.g. program plan, grant monitoring, data reporting, and fiscal management.

• All consortium members are subject to the terms and conditions of the contract, federal requirements, and state policies.

#### 5.3.2 Coordination with WIOA Core Partners

- 6. Please describe how the organization has provided direct access<sup>32</sup> to adult education services for individuals entering the one-stop center.
- 7. Please describe how the organization has facilitated referrals to other core WIOA Partners.
- 8. Please describe the organization's involvement in quarterly WIOA Partner Meetings or other coordinated efforts with core WIOA Partners including the development of communication systems, career pathways or other collaborative efforts.

# 5.3.3 Coordination with Other Community Organizations

- 9. Please describe at least two collaborations with other community organizations that have increased the effectiveness of your program by helping participants to attend, advance in or complete the program and/or transition from the program into employment, postsecondary education or training.
- 10. Please attach three (3) letters of reference from past students and/or collaborating agencies that speak to the organization's ability to provide the services described in the RFP.

# 5.3.4 Financial Stability

The organization must provide evidence of financial stability either through a narrative description of appropriated funds through a district budget process of a public entity or through audited financial records.

### 5.3.5 Scoring Details

Vendor Experience/Organizational Capacity will be allocated a maximum score of 100 points.

The main purpose of this section is to evaluate the Applicant's past effectiveness in working with adults to improve basic skills; in transitioning adults into employment, postsecondary education and/or employment; and in building effective partnerships with other core WIOA partners, the local business community and social service agencies. The financial stability and local support of the organization will also be taken into consideration.

# 5.4 Attachment 2 – Program Application Details – Adult Education and Literacy

Below are the requirements, application questions and scoring considerations for each section of the IET and/or IELCE applications found in Attachment 2A, Attachment 2B and Attachment 2C.

Please use the appropriate Application form:

#### Attachment 2A

• for Integrated Education & Training (IET) Only

RFP-BAE-2023-003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> "Access: is defined in §678.305 (d) as 1. Having program staff physically present 2. Having program staff from a different partner appropriately trained to provide information 3. Making available a direct linkage through technology to program staff. Direct linkage cannot exclusively be providing a phone number, website, pamphlets or materials.

• Eligible participants include any adult education & literacy student but is not integrated with an IELCE program

# Attachment 2B

- for Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) Only
- Eligible participants are English language learners only

# Attachment 2C

- for Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education that uses an Integrated Education & Training program that is open to any adult education and literacy student.
- Eligible participants include any adult education & literacy student.

## 5.4.1 Responsiveness to Regional Needs

The program must be responsive to regional needs as identified in the local workforce development plan including the educational, economic and social/cultural needs of the area.

From <u>Florida's IELCE Assessment tool</u>, the following may be considerations for the program's role in career pathways:

- Aligns with industry skills needed within the state or regional economy
- Prepares individuals for secondary or postsecondary success
- Includes counseling in support of an individual's education and career goals
- Includes concurrent and contextualized education with cluster-specific workforce preparation and training
- Organizes education, training and other services to support an individual's need to accelerate education and career advancement
- Enable an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or equivalent
- Helps an individual enter or advance in an occupation or occupational cluster

#### *5.4.1.1 Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only*

- 1. Please describe how the program has determined that there is a need for an IET program in this area including the educational, economic, social/cultural needs of the region. Please cite any needs assessment or data used to determine the industry/occupations chosen.
- 2. Please describe how the program through its proposed training will meet the workforce needs of the region including an outline of the career pathway and the program's role in that pathway.
- 3. Is there a demonstrated need for additional English language acquisition programs and civics education programs in the region? Explain how this was determined.<sup>33</sup>

# 5.4.1.2 Questions for Attachment 2B – IELCE Only

- 1. Please describe how the program has determined that there is a need for an IELCE program in this area including the educational, economic, social/cultural and citizenship attainment needs of the region. Specifically address how this program will meet the educational and workforce needs of English language learners with credentials in their native countries.
- 2. Please describe how the program through its proposed training will meet the workforce needs of the region including an outline of the career pathway and the program's role in that pathway. Please cite any needs assessment or census data used to determine the industry/occupations chosen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> This is a required consideration for all AEFLA awards as stated in Sec 231 (e)(13).

3. Is there a demonstrated need for additional English language acquisition programs and civics education programs in the region? Explain how this was determined.

# 5.4.1.3 Questions for Attachment 2C – IET and IELCE

- 1. Please describe how the program has determined that there is a need for an IET program in this area including the educational, economic, social/cultural needs of the region. Please cite any needs assessment or data used to determine the industry/occupations chosen.
- 2. Please describe how the program has determined that there is a need for an IELCE program in this area including the educational, economic, social/cultural and citizenship attainment needs. Specifically address how this this program will meet the educational and workforce needs of English language learners with credentials in their native countries.
- 3. Please describe how the program through its proposed training will meet the workforce needs of the region including an outline of the career pathway and the program's role in that pathway.
- 4. Is there a demonstrated need for additional English language acquisition programs and civics education programs in the region? Explain how this was determined.

## 5.4.1.4 Scoring Detail for Responsiveness to Regional Needs

Responsiveness to Regional Needs will be allocated a maximum score of one hundred (100) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will meet the educational, economic and social/cultural needs of the local region including, but not limited to:

- How many residents do not have a high school diploma or equivalent?
- How many English language learners in need of English language acquisition skills including professionals with credentials from their native countries are in the region?
- What are the causes/effects of the current educational attainment level in the region (i.e. does a high level of attainment result in a lack of entry level jobs for those without a diploma?)
- What other educational needs are there in the community?
- What is the economic condition of the community?
- What are the workforce needs of the region? Where did that data come from?
- Does the program prepare individuals for in-demand jobs in the region? What skill levels are required for those jobs?
- How does the program assist individuals with integrating into the community, socially?
- What community organizations or employers does the program work with to address any of these needs and how is that accomplished?

#### *5.4.1.5 References/Resources*

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

NH State Workforce Plan

https://www.nhworks.org/state-workforce-investment-board/state-plan/

US Census Bureau - Educational Attainment

https://www.census.gov/topics/education.html

National Center for Education Statistics – State & County Estimates of Low Literacy <a href="https://nces.ed.gov/naal/estimates/">https://nces.ed.gov/naal/estimates/</a>

Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC) <a href="https://www.oecd.org/skills/piaac/">https://www.oecd.org/skills/piaac/</a>

NH Employment Security, Economic, Labor Market Information Bureau <a href="https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/index.htm">https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/index.htm</a>

NHES Community Profiles <a href="https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/cp/">https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/cp/</a>

NH Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Health Equity, NH Refugee Program <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/diversity-culture-inclusion/refugee-program">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/diversity-culture-inclusion/refugee-program</a>

Career Pathways Toolkit: A Guide for System Development <a href="https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN\_17-15\_Attachment\_Acc.pdf">https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN\_17-15\_Attachment\_Acc.pdf</a>

Adult Career Pathways Toolkit <a href="https://www.ncpn.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/adult-career-pathways-toolkit.pdf">https://www.ncpn.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/adult-career-pathways-toolkit.pdf</a>

See the Needs Assessment (page 15) of the IET Toolkit <a href="https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/IET">https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/IET</a> Toolkit Compressed 508.pdf

Florida IELCE Assessment Tool <a href="https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7522/urlt/IELCE-AssessmentTool2021.docx">https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7522/urlt/IELCE-AssessmentTool2021.docx</a>

# 5.4.2 Serving the Most in Need

The program must serve individuals in the community who were identified as most in need of adult education and literacy activities.

#### 5.4.2.1 *Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only*

- 1. Please describe how the program will serve the needs of individuals with low levels of literacy, individuals with disabilities and other individuals with barriers to employment including how those individuals will be identified, what services will be available for them and how the program will improve their literacy levels.
- 2. Please describe the program's past effectiveness in improving the literacy of individuals, especially those with low levels of literacy, and the degree to which those improvements contributed to the state levels of performance for primary indicators.
- 3. Please describe how the program will promote concurrent enrollment in program and activities under WIOA Title I.
- 4. Please provide target program enrollment numbers for the next three years.
- 5. Please explain how these anticipated numbers were determined.
- 6. Please describe the program's plan for recruitment of eligible individuals.
- 5.4.2.2 Questions for Attachment 2B IELCE Only

- 1. Please describe how the program will serve the needs of English language learners including professionals with credentials from their native countries, <u>individuals with disabilities</u> and other <u>individuals with barriers to employment</u> including how those individuals will be identified, what services will be available for them and how the program will improve their literacy levels.
- 2. Please describe the program's past effectiveness in improving the literacy of individuals including English language learners who need to transition from Advanced ESL into ABE or ASE educational functioning levels, and the degree to which those improvements contributed to the state levels of performance for primary indicators.
- 3. Please describe how the program will promote concurrent enrollment in program and activities under WIOA Title I.
- 4. Please provide target program enrollment numbers for the next three years.
- 5. Please explain how these anticipated numbers were determined.
- 6. Please describe the program's plan for recruitment of eligible individuals.

### 5.4.2.3 Questions for Attachment 2C – IET and IELCE

- 1. Please describe how the IET program will serve the needs of individuals with low levels of literacy, <u>individuals with disabilities</u> and other <u>individuals with barriers to employment</u> including how those individuals will be identified, what services will be available for them and how the program will improve their literacy levels.
- 2. Please describe how the IELCE program will serve the needs of English language learners including professionals with credentials from their native countries including how those individuals will be identified, what services will be available for them and how the program will improve their literacy levels.
- 3. Please describe IET and IELCE programs' past effectiveness in improving the literacy of individuals, especially those with low levels of literacy and English language learners who need to transition from Advanced ESL into ABE or ASE educational functioning levels, and the degree to which those improvements contributed to the state levels of performance for primary indicators.
- 4. Please describe the how IET and IELCE programs will promote concurrent enrollment in program and activities under WIOA Title I.
- 5. Please provide target program enrollment numbers in IET and IELCE for the next three years.
- 6. Please explain how these anticipated numbers were determined.
- 7. Please describe the program's plan for recruitment of eligible participants.

### 5.4.2.4 Scoring Detail for Serving the Most in Need

Serving the Most in Need will be allocated a maximum score of one hundred (100) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will serve individuals in the community who were identified as most in need of adult education and literacy activities including, but not limited to:

- How will the program identify/recruit individuals with low levels of literacy and other barriers to employment?
- How will the program identify/recruit English language learners including professionals with credentials from their native countries?
- How will the program(s) enable eligible individuals with barriers to employment to enroll, participate fully and complete the program? What supports will the program provide to encourage consistent attendance?
- If multi-level class is proposed, how will the program ensure that the needs of the individuals with the lowest literacy levels are served adequately?
- How does the program encourage the transition of English language learners from Advanced ESL into the appropriate ABE/ASE functioning level?
- What internal services or external referrals are used to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities? Are those services successful? Why or why not?
- How will the program assess for disabilities, particularly "hidden disabilities" without violating the privacy rights of all participants?
- How do the anticipated enrollment numbers compare to current numbers or recent trends? Please explain any significant differences and why those might occur.
- For IELCE programs using an IET accessible to all adult education students, how will IELCE students be recruited for the IET?

#### 5.4.2.4 References/Resources

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

Americans with Disabilities Act https://www.ada.gov/

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/temporary-assistance-needy-families-tanf

Learning to Achieve: A Review of Research Literature on Serving Adults with Learning Disabilities

https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/L2ALiteratureReview09.pdf

Eliminating Barriers to Employment: Opening Doors to Opportunity (CLASP) <a href="https://www.clasp.org/sites/default/files/publications/2019/05/2019%2005%2021%20Statement%20of%20Kisha%20Bird%20Eliminating%20Barriers%20to%20Employment.pdf">https://www.clasp.org/sites/default/files/publications/2019/05/2019%2005%2021%20Statement%20of%20Kisha%20Bird%20Eliminating%20Barriers%20to%20Employment.pdf</a>

Prioritizing Services for those Most in Need: Helping the Low-Income and Disadvantaged <a href="https://ion.workforcegps.org/resources/2015/12/07/19/22/Prioritizing\_Services\_Special\_Populations\_Low-Income\_Hard-to-Serve">https://ion.workforcegps.org/resources/2015/12/07/19/22/Prioritizing\_Services\_Special\_Populations\_Low-Income\_Hard-to-Serve</a>

Barriers to Employment (NRS)

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/barriers-employment

**Internationally Trained Professionals** 

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/refugeesandnewamericans/international

Conduct Outreach and Recruit Learners for IET Programs (page 44) from IET Toolkit https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/IET Toolkit Compressed 508.pdf

# 5.4.3 Service Delivery, Format and Schedules

The program must have a delivery method, location and schedule that enable individuals to attend and complete programs.

- All programs are expected to offer year-round programming, however it is common for IET programs to have a scheduled start and end date. It is acceptable to have a break between sessions.
- All programs should provide in-person instructional delivery that may also include hybrid or Hyflex options.
- If the proposal includes an entirely remote instructional IET and/or IELCE, the State reserves the right to conduct an oral interview (see <u>Section 6.7</u>) for clarification on items that pertain specifically to remote instruction.
- See Section 5.4.7 for integration of distance learning opportunities

Additional information on integration of components is available for IET in <u>section 3.4.4.4</u> and for IELCE in <u>section 3.5.4.5</u>.

### *5.4.3.1 Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only*

1. Please describe the IET service delivery format(s) and explain how the format(s) enables individuals to attend and complete the program. This may include one-on-one instruction, small groups, workshops, large classes, distance learning options and other service delivery methods or combinations.

The following approaches for instructional delivery in IET are offered for your consideration. These are not required, but explained in the <u>IET ToolKit</u> on page 37.

- Occupational trainer and adult education instruction team-teach concurrently 100% of the time, always in the same virtual and/or physical space. Both teachers equally plan and deliver the IET program's instruction in the same space at the same time with the same learners.
- Occupational trained and adult education instructor deliver instruction concurrently while in separate virtual or physical spaces 100% of the time.
- Occupational training and adult education instructor team-team some of the time in the same virtual and/or physical space and some of the time concurrently in separate spaces.
- One instructor with the required credentials for teaching both the occupational skills and adult education content delivers the instruction 100% of the time, either in virtual or physical spaces.
- 2. Please describe how the program will integrate the three required components of the IET program. The components may not be sequential. They must be offered concurrently over the course of the entire program:
  - 1. Adult Education & Literacy Activity
  - 2. Workforce Preparation Activity
  - 3. Workforce Training Activity
- 3. Please describe the schedule including how many weeks the IET will be, how many hours per week and how many cycles will be offered each year.

#### 5.4.3.2 Questions for Attachment 2B – IELCE Only

1. Please describe the IELCE service delivery format(s) and explain how the format(s) enables individuals to attend and complete the program. This may include one-on-one instruction, small

groups, workshops, large classes, distance learning options and other service delivery methods or combinations.

The following approaches for instructional delivery in IET are offered for your consideration. These are not required, but explained in the <u>IET ToolKit</u> on page 37.

- Occupational trainer and IELCE adult education instruction team-teach concurrently 100% of the time, always in the same virtual and/or physical space. Both teachers equally plan and deliver the IET program's instruction in the same space at the same time with the same learners.
- Occupational trained and IELCE adult education instructor deliver instruction concurrently while in separate virtual or physical spaces 100% of the time.
- Occupational training and IELCE adult education instructor team-team some of the time in the same virtual and/or physical space and some of the time concurrently in separate spaces.
- One instructor with the required credentials for teaching both the occupational skills and adult education content delivers the instruction 100% of the time, either in virtual or physical spaces.
- 2. Please describe how the program will integrate the four required components of the IELCE program. The components may not be sequential. They must be offered concurrently over the course of the entire program:
  - 1. Adult Education & Literacy Activity (eg. ESL)
  - 2. Workforce Preparation Activity
  - 3. Workforce Training Activity
  - 4. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship and Civic Participation
- 3. Please describe the schedule including how many weeks the IELCE, including the workforce training component, will be, how many hours per week and how many cycles will be offered each year.

# 5.4.3.3 Questions for Attachment 2C – IET and IELCE

1. Please describe the IET service delivery format(s) and explain how the format(s) enables individuals to attend and complete the program. This may include one-on-one instruction, small groups, workshops, large classes, distance learning options and other service delivery methods or combinations.

The following approaches for instructional delivery in IET are offered for your consideration. These are not required, but explained in the <u>IET ToolKit</u> on page 37.

- Occupational trainer and adult education instruction team-teach concurrently 100% of the time, always in the same virtual and/or physical space. Both teachers equally plan and deliver the IET program's instruction in the same space at the same time with the same learners.
- Occupational trained and adult education instructor deliver instruction concurrently while in separate virtual or physical spaces 100% of the time.
- Occupational training and adult education instructor team-team some of the time in the same virtual and/or physical space and some of the time concurrently in separate spaces.
- One instructor with the required credential for teaching both the occupational skills and adult education content delivers the instruction 100% of the time, either in virtual or physical spaces.

- 2. Please describe the IELCE service delivery format(s) and explain how the format(s) enables individuals to attend and complete the program. This may include one-on-one instruction, small groups, workshops, large classes, distance learning options and other service delivery methods or combinations.
- 3. Please describe how the program will integrate the three required components of the IET program. The components may not be sequential. They must be offered concurrently over the course of the entire program:
  - 1. Adult Education & Literacy Activity
  - 2. Workforce Preparation Activity
  - 3. Workforce Training Activity
- 4. Please describe how the IELCE will ensure that the adult education & literacy activity will be appropriate for eligible participants if taught within the context of the IET. Additionally, please explain how the four component of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic education will be integrated with the IET.
- 5. Please describe the schedule including how many weeks the IET will be, how many hours per week and how many cycles will be offered each year.
- 6. Please describe the schedule including how many weeks the IELCE will be, how many hours per week and how many cycles will be offered each year.

### 5.4.3.4 Scoring Detail for Service Delivery, Format and Schedules

Service Delivery Format and Schedules will be allocated a maximum score of one hundred (100) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will enable individuals to attend and complete classes through flexible scheduling, sufficient instructional time per week, integrated of required components and appropriate delivery methods including, but not limited to:

- Which delivery methods will the program(s) offer and why? Which methods have been most successful in the past and why?
- Will the program(s) offer a combination of service delivery options? How will these options be made available to enrolled participants?
- How will waiting lists be managed? How will participants on the waiting list be engaged while they wait for an opening?
- Will the program(s) have an attendance policy? How will participants who struggle with attendance continue to be engaged in the program(s)?
- Does the schedule allow enough time to meet any seat-time requirements imposed by credentialing authorities for the workforce training component?

#### 5.4.3.4 References/Resources

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

#### IET ToolKit

https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/IET\_Toolkit\_Compressed\_508.pdf

Supporting English Language Learners in Integrated Education and Training Programs (Virginia) <a href="https://ietblueprint.com/supporting-ells/">https://ietblueprint.com/supporting-ells/</a>

Adult Learner Persistence Policy Examples <a href="https://nelrc.org/persist/policy.html">https://nelrc.org/persist/policy.html</a>

NRS Webinar on Managed Enrollment

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/webinars/webinar-managed-enrollment

Turning Challenges Into Successes: Research on Virtual Learning and Service Delivery in Adult Education (AIR)

https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/Research-Virt-Service-508.pdf

Recommendations for Improved Service Delivery (University of Kentucky) <a href="http://www.uky.edu/~jjensen/adulteducation/service.htm">http://www.uky.edu/~jjensen/adulteducation/service.htm</a>

Adult Education Strategies: Identifying and Building Evidence of Effectiveness (Institute of Education Sciences)

https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/pubs/2021007/pdf/2021007.pdf

Increasing Enrollment Through Improved Recruitment and Retention: Focus on Instructions, Services and Recruitment

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/increasing-enrollment-webinar

## 5.4.4 Proposed Curricula and Contextualized Instruction

The program must provide learning in context so that an individual acquires the skills needed to transition to and complete postsecondary education and training programs, obtain and advance in employment leading to economic self-sufficiency and to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

IET and IELCE are required to have a single set of learning objectives that offer the required components for each program. More information and a sample template are available in <u>Sections 3.4.4.5</u> and <u>3.5.4.6</u>. Additional instructional requirements for IET can be found in <u>section 3.4.4</u>. Additional instructional requirements for IELCE can be found in <u>section 3.5.4</u>.

The State retains the right to approve an IET curriculum prior to implementation.

#### 5.4.4.1 Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only

- 1. Please provide a brief overview of the IET's proposed curriculum including how the program will meet the requirement of a single set of learning objectives that identifies adult education content, workforce preparation activities and workforce training competencies and how the program activities are organized to function cooperatively.
- 2. Please describe which <u>recognized postsecondary credential</u> will be offered through the program and how the program will support participant transition into postsecondary education, training or employment. This may include, but is not limited to, an established or planned articulation agreement, memoranda of understanding established (or planned) or employer hiring agreement.

#### 5.4.4.2 Questions for Attachment 2B – IELCE Only

1. Please provide a brief overview of the IELCE's proposed curriculum including how the program will meet the requirement of a single set of learning objectives that identifies adult education content, workforce preparation activities, workforce training competencies and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation. Please include how the program activities are organized to function cooperatively.

2. Please describe which <u>recognized postsecondary credential</u> will be offered through the program and how the program will support participant transition into postsecondary education, training or employment. This may include, but is not limited to, an established or planned articulation agreement, memoranda of understanding established (or planned) or employer hiring agreement.

#### 5.4.4.3 Questions for Attachment 2C – IET and IELCE

- 1. Please provide a brief overview of the IET's proposed curriculum including how the program will meet the requirement of a single set of learning objectives that identifies adult education content, workforce preparation activities and workforce training competencies and how the program activities are organized to function cooperatively.
- 2. Please provide a brief overview of the IELCE's proposed curriculum including how the program will meet the requirement of a single set of learning objectives that identifies adult education content, workforce preparation activities, workforce training competencies and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation. Please include how the program activities are organized to function cooperatively.
- 3. Please describe which <u>recognized postsecondary credential</u> will be offered through the IET program and how the program will support participant transition into postsecondary education, training or employment. This may include, but is not limited to, an established or planned articulation agreement, memoranda of understanding established (or planned) or employer hiring agreement.

### 5.4.4.4 Scoring Details for Proposed Curricula and Contextualized Instruction

Proposed Curricula and Contextualized Instruction will be allocated a maximum score of seventy-five (75) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will provide curricula designed to meet the needs of the participants, especially through contextualized instruction and the opportunity to earn a credential including, but not limited to:

- How will the program integrate required components? Are the components simultaneous occurring within the scope of the program?
- How will the curriculum be designed? Will it be competency-based? Will it be standards- based? Will it be project-based or have some other educational foundation?
- Does the credential proposed meet the definition of a recognized postsecondary credential as define in <u>TEGL 25-19</u> Understanding Postsecondary Credentials in the Public Workforce System
- How will adult education content be aligned with the College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education?
- How will instruction be contextualized? How will occupationally relevant materials be used?
- How will the curriculum encourage transition to postsecondary education, training or employment?
- How will the curriculum encourage the rights and responsibilities of citizenship?

### 5.4.4.5 References/Resources

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

College & Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education

https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/CCRStandardsAdultEd.pdf

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/college-career-readiness

English Proficiency Standards for Adults

https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/elp-standards-adult-ed.pdf

Handbook for Sustaining Standards-Based Education in Adult Education <a href="https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/SustainingStandards-BasedEd.pdf">https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/SustainingStandards-BasedEd.pdf</a>

TEGL 25-19 Understanding Postsecondary Credentials in the Public Workforce System <a href="https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN">https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN</a> 25-19.pdf

Create a Single Set of Learning Objectives (page 57) IET Toolkit https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/IET Toolkit Compressed 508.pdf

Adult Career Pathways Resources - IET (MN)

https://atlasabe.org/resources/acp/acp-development-tools/integrated-education-training/

**Employability Skills Framework** 

https://www.paadultedresources.org/foundation-skills-framework

Virginia IET Checklist – Part IV IET Instruction https://ietblueprint.com/instruction-checklist/

Florida Examples of Single Set of Learning Objectives <a href="https://www.floridaipdae.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=resources.aecp">https://www.floridaipdae.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=resources.aecp</a>

COABE Webinar – Contextualized Teaching and Learning for IET <a href="https://youtu.be/cYZi\_2TXPW4">https://youtu.be/cYZi\_2TXPW4</a>

# 5.4.5 State Workforce Board Alignment

The program must demonstrate alignment between the proposed activities and services and the strategy and goals of the local workforce plan as well as the activities of the one-stop partners.

The <u>NH State Workforce Plan</u> includes an analysis of economic, workforce and workforce development activities, the goals and strategies of the State Workforce Innovation Board and program requirements for each of the core partners. The Adult Education requirements starts on page 197 and include:

- Alignment of content standards to the College & Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education by July 1, 2020.
- Local activities and competitive bidding process
- Corrections education
- Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education Program (IELCE)
  - o Establishment and operation of IELCE program
  - o How funds for IELCE are distributed
  - How IELCE will be designed to prepare adults who are English language learners for, and place such adults in, unsubsidized employment in in-demand industries and occupations that lead to economic self-sufficiency
  - o How IELCE will be designed to integrate with the local workforce development system and its functions to carry out the activities of the program
- State Leadership

- Operate a high-quality professional development system
- o Participate in building career pathways
- o Provision of technical assistance
- o Monitoring and evaluation

**NOTE:** The State Plan is scheduled to be revised in 2024. Programs awarded funding under this RFP will be expected to demonstrate alignment between proposed activities and services and the strategies and goals of the local plan as well as the activities and services of the one-stop partners as described in the new State Plan available after July 1, 2024.

### *5.4.5.1 Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only*

- 1. Please describe how this IET program aligns to the State Workforce Plan, particularly with regard to career pathways? See <u>Appendix C</u> for a summary of the State Workforce Plan goals.
- 2. Please describe how this IET program will align with the activities of the one-stop partners (eg. NH Vocational Rehabilitation, WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers, WIOA Youth, NH Employment Program and NH Employment Security).
- 3. The State Workforce Plan section on adult education outlines the State's requirement to provide a high-quality professional development system. The Bureau of Adult Education intends to extend an offer to current IET/IELCE providers to participate in a national IET Design Camp, an Advanced IET Design Camp and possible state-coaching cohort with national facilitators. Additionally, the Bureau's contracted professional development vendor offered the IET Design camp during the 2022- 2023 program year. See also Appendix F for additional professional development and technical assistance available as well as examples and models from other states.

Please describe how the staff will take advantage of professional development opportunities to research & assess; design & plan; develop & implement; evaluate and improve the IET program. This may include past activities in preparation for designing or improving upon a program design.

# 5.4.5.2 Questions for Attachment 2B – IELCE Only

- 1. Please describe how this IELCE program aligns to the State Workforce Plan, particularly with regard to career pathways? See <u>Appendix C</u> for a summary of the State Workforce Plan goals.
- 2. Please describe how this IELCE program will align with the activities of the one-stop partners (eg. NH Vocational Rehabilitation, WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers, WIOA Youth, NH Employment Program and NH Employment Security).
- 3. The State Workforce Plan set the following goals in 2020. How will the IELCE program assist the State in meeting these goals?
  - Providing educational services for English language learners, including professionals
    with degrees and credentials in their native countries, that enable them to achieve
    competency in the English language and acquire the basic and more advance skills
    needed to function effectively as parents, workers and citizens in the United States.
  - Workforce training that will enable students to begin or continue careers in their chosen field, including preparation for postsecondary education.
  - All students in IELCE may be (1) co-enrolled in other workforce development programs or (2) receive services concurrently from several partners.
  - Over the next four years, NH will increase capacity for IET

5.4.5.3 Questions for Attachment 2C – IET and IELCE

- 1. Please describe how the IET program aligns to the State Workforce Plan, particularly with regard to career pathways? See Appendix C for a summary of the State Workforce Plan goals.
- 2. Please describe how the IET and the IELCE programs will align with the activities of the one-stop partners (eg. NH Vocational Rehabilitation, WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers, WIOA Youth, NH Employment Program and NH Employment Security).
- 3. The State Workforce Plan section on adult education outlines the State's requirement to provide a high-quality professional development system. The Bureau of Adult Education intends to extend an offer to current IET/IELCE providers to participate in a national IET Design Camp, an Advanced IET Design Camp and possible state-coaching cohort with national facilitators. Additionally, the Bureau's contracted professional development vendor offered the IET Design camp during the 2022- 2023 program year. See also Appendix F for additional professional development and technical assistance available as well as examples and models from other states.

Please describe how the staff will take advantage of professional development opportunities to research & assess; design & plan; develop & implement; evaluate and improve the IET program. This may include past activities in preparation for designing or improving upon a program design.

- 4. The State Workforce Plan set the following goals in 2020. How will the IELCE program assist the State in meeting these goals?
  - Providing educational services for English language learners, including professionals
    with degrees and credentials in their native countries, that enable them to achieve
    competency in the English language and acquire the basic and more advance skills
    needed to function effectively as parents, workers and citizens in the United States.
  - Workforce training that will enable students to begin or continue careers in their chosen field, including preparation for postsecondary education.
  - All students in IELCE may be (1) co-enrolled in other workforce development programs or (2) receive services concurrently from several partners.
  - Over the next four years, NH will increase capacity for IET

#### 5.4.5.3 Scoring Details

Alignment with the State Workforce Plan will be allocated a maximum score of seventy-five (75) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will be aligned to the strategies and goals of the State Workforce Plan particularly in the areas of curriculum, adult education and literacy activities, state leadership activities and performance measures. Explanations in this section should include, but are not limited to:

- How does the program work with local WIOA partners to build career pathways? How is co-enrollment encouraged/promoted?
- Does the program "feed" into a postsecondary education or training program such as the community college system, apprenticeships or On-the-Job-Training opportunities?
- How does the program work with local employers? Other local adult education centers?
- How will the program fund the workforce training component? Will the program collaborate with other WIOA partners? How and for what purposes?
- How many adult education staff have been trained in CCRS and/or the Standards in Action Curriculum Review Project, EL Institute, Teaching the Skills that Matter or other federal instructional initiatives?

### 5.4.5.4 References/Resources

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

### NH State Workforce Plan

https://www.nhworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/NH-WIOA-Combined-State-Plan-2022-2024-moifications-published.pdf

#### COABE Journal – Career Pathways Edition

https://lincs.ed.gov/professional-development/resource-collections/profile-8641

Adult Education and Family Literacy Act Resource Guide

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/aefla-resource-guide.pdf

New England Literacy Resource Center

https://nelrc.org/

National College Transition Network

https://www.collegetransition.org/

Teacher Effectiveness in Adult Education

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teacher-effectiveness

Business-Adult Education Partnerships Toolkit (LINCS)

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/business-adult-education-toolkit

#### 5.4.6 Intensity, Quality and Best Practices

The program must be a sufficient intensity and quality and based on the most rigorous research available so that participants achieve substantial learning gains.

As indicated for IET in section 3.4.4.4 and for IELCE in section 3.5.4.5, the components in both programs are required to:

- Each be of sufficient intensity and quality
- Based on the most rigorous research available, particularly with respect improving reading, writing, mathematics and English proficiency of eligible individuals
- Simultaneously occurring within the overall score of the program (addressed in section 5.4.4)
- Use occupationally relevant instructional materials (addressed in section 5.4.4)

### *5.4.6.1 Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only*

- 1. Please explain how the IET program will define "sufficient intensity" and "quality" as well as how the program will meet that requirement.
- 2. Please list the research used and how it informs that instructional practices of the IET.
- 3. WIOA section 231(e)(5)(B) requires the State to consider, in making awards, whether the program uses instructional practices that include the essential components of reading instruction.

The STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR) training, endorsed by OCTAE and offered annually by national trainers in NH, is an evidence-based reading instruction program that incorporates the essential components of reading.

The definition of essential components of reading can be found in Section 3.3.6.

Please describe how the IET will integrate the essential components of reading for all participants in the program.

# 5.4.6.2 Questions for Attachment 2B – IELCE Only

- 1. Please explain how the IELCE program will define "sufficient intensity" and "quality" as well as how the program will meet that requirement.
- 2. Please list the research used and how it informs that instructional practices of the IELCE.
- 3. WIOA section 231(e)(5)(B) requires the State to consider, in making awards, whether the program uses instructional practices that include the essential components of reading instruction.

The STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR) training, endorsed by OCTAE and offered annually by national trainers in NH, is an evidence-based reading instruction program that incorporates the essential components of reading.

The definition of essential components of reading can be found in <u>Section 3.3.6.</u>

Please describe how the IELCE will integrate the essential components of reading for all participants in the program.

#### 5.4.6.3 Questions for Attachment 2B – IET and IELCE

- 1. Please explain how the IET program will define "sufficient intensity" and "quality" as well as how the program will meet that requirement.
- 2. Please explain how the IELCE program will define "sufficient intensity" and "quality" as well as how the program will meet that requirement.
- 3. Please list the research used and how it informs that instructional practices of the IET.
- 4. Please list the research used and how it informs the instructional practices of the IELCE.
- 5. WIOA section 231(e)(5)(B) requires the State to consider, in making awards, whether the program uses instructional practices that include the essential components of reading instruction.

The STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR) training, endorsed by OCTAE and offered annually by national trainers in NH, is an evidence-based reading instruction program that incorporates the essential components of reading.

The definition of essential components of reading can be found in <u>Section 3.3.6</u>.

Please describe how the IET will integrate the essential components of reading for all participants in the program.

6. Please describe how the IELCE will integrate the essential components of reading for all participants in the program.

#### 5.4.6.4 Scoring Details

Intensity, Quality and Best Practices will be allocated a maximum score of one hundred (100) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will meet

the requirement of being of sufficient intensity and quality. This includes the degree to which instructional practices are based on the most rigorous research available including, but are not limited to:

- Intensity and quality are based on reasonable judgment. Is the intensity and quality based on the needs of the workforce in the community? Does the program prepare participants with the skills necessary for entering and completing postsecondary education or training? Does the program prepare participants for entry level skills required by local employers?
- Is the research cited the most rigorous research available including scientifically valid research and effective educational practice?
- How will teachers/students incorporate the essential components of reading into instruction?
- How will you determine that the program has enough intensity for participants to be successful within a reasonable timeframe?
- How will you assess the quality of the program?

#### *5.4.6.4 References/Resources*

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

Adult Education Research (AEFLA) https://aefla.ed.gov/research

Adult Learning – American Institutes for Research https://www.air.org/our-work/workforce/adult-learning

How I-BEST Works: Finding from a Field Study of Washington State's Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training

http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/how-i-best-works-findings.pdf

National College Transition Network – Integrated Education & Training <a href="https://www.collegetransition.org/career-pathways/featured-projects/accelerating-opportunity/">https://www.collegetransition.org/career-pathways/featured-projects/accelerating-opportunity/</a>

Adult Education Strategies: Identifying and Building Evidence of Effectiveness (IES) <a href="https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/pubs/2021007/pdf/2021007.pdf">https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/pubs/2021007/pdf/2021007.pdf</a>

Integrated Basic Education Skills and Training (I-BEST) from Institutes of Education Sciences https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/Docs/InterventionReports/WWC I-BEST Report 508.pdf

Career Pathways Group – LINCS https://community.lincs.ed.gov/group/27

Improving Adult Education Literacy Instruction: Options for Practice and Research <a href="https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/NAS\_report">https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/NAS\_report</a>

Teaching Excellence in Adult Education <a href="https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teal">https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teal</a>

Teaching the Skills that Matter

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teaching-skills-matter-adult-education

Student Achievement in Reading (STAR)

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/student-achievement-reading

Research and Evaluation (Adult Education Research and Technical Assistance Center – AIR) <a href="https://www.air.org/centers/aertac/research-and-evaluation-aertac">https://www.air.org/centers/aertac/research-and-evaluation-aertac</a>

Introduction to Workforce Preparation Activities and Employability Skills (LINCS) & Workforce Preparation Activities in the Classroom: Contextualizing Employability Skills for Deeper Learning

https://courses.lincs.ed.gov/static/about.html#workforceprep

Integrated Education and Training A Career Pathways Policy & Practice (CLASP) <a href="https://www.clasp.org/sites/default/files/public/resources-and-publications/publication-1/Integrated-Education-and-Training-A-Career-Pathways-Policy-Practice.pdf">https://www.clasp.org/sites/default/files/public/resources-and-publications/publication-1/Integrated-Education-and-Training-A-Career-Pathways-Policy-Practice.pdf</a>

# 5.4.7 Integration of Technology, Services and Digital Systems

The program must effectively use technology, services and delivery systems including distance education, in a manner sufficient to increase the amount and quality of learning. Such technology, services and system should lead to improved performance.

Digital resilience refers to the ability to navigate rapid digital transformation with confidence.

Digital citizenship refers to the responsible use of technology and etiquette pertaining to an online presence

**NOTE:** The Bureau of Adult Education currently provides access to Edmentum, Aztec Software, Burlington English, Essential Education and NorthStar Digital Literacy through state-wide contracts.

Through another statewide contract, NH Adult Education has an established Canvas instance which is currently used for all professional development activities. The Canvas instance includes embedded Zoom licenses, Kaltura and Discovery Education. By July 1, 2024, all adult education instructors are expected to be using Canvas with their participants.

#### *5.4.7.1 Questions for Attachment 2A – IET Only*

- 1. Please describe how the program will incorporate technology into learning, any technology programs or services that will be used in the program and their purpose.
- 2. Please describe how distance learning will be used to extend classroom learning including the type of activities.
- 3. How will digital literacy assessment and skills instruction, including digital resilience and digital citizenship, be incorporated for all participants?

### 5.4.7.2 Questions for Attachment 2B – IELCE Only

- 1. Please describe how the program will incorporate technology into learning, any technology programs or services that will be used in the program and their purpose.
- 2. Please describe how distance learning will be used to extend classroom learning including the type of activities.

3. How will digital literacy assessment and skills instruction, including digital resilience and digital citizenship, be incorporated for all participants?

# 5.4.7.3 Questions for Attachment 2C – IET and IELCE

- 1. Please describe how the program will incorporate technology into learning, any technology programs or services that will be used in the program and their purpose.
- 2. Please describe how distance learning will be used to extend classroom learning including the type of activities.
- 3. How will digital literacy assessment and skills instruction, including digital resilience and digital citizenship, be incorporated for all participants?

#### 5.4.7.3 Scoring Details

Integration of Technology Services and Digital Systems will be allocated a maximum score of seventy-five (75) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will incorporate the use of technology, especially with regard to distance learning including, but not limited to:

- How will the program incorporate technology into learning activities?
- What technological devices will be used?
- What programs/services will the program use?
- How will distance learning be incorporated? Will it be an option for all learners? How will the program assess the learner to determine if distance learning is appropriate?
- What type of distance learning policies will be instituted?
- How will technology, including distance learning, increase the intensity and quality of instruction?
- How were digital literacy skills required for the occupation/credential determined and how will those specific skills be incorporated into the program for all participants?

### *5.4.7.4 References/Resources*

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

IDEAL Distance Education and Blended Learning Handbook

 $\underline{https://edtech.worlded.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/IDEAL-Handbook-6th-Edition-8-16-18.pdf}$ 

Guide for Design and Implementation of Hybrid-Flexible (HyFlex) Models in Adult Education <a href="https://edtech.worlded.org/resource/guide-for-design-and-implementation-of-hybrid-flexible-hyflex-models-in-adult-education/">https://edtech.worlded.org/resource/guide-for-design-and-implementation-of-hybrid-flexible-hyflex-models-in-adult-education/</a>

Digital Resilience in the American Workplace (DRAW)

https://edtech.worlded.org/project/digital-resilience-in-the-american-workplace-draw/

EdTech Integration Strategy Toolkit

https://edtech.worlded.org/resource/edtech-integration-strategy-toolkit/

Digital Literacy Initiatives

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/digital-literacy

Northstar Digital Literacy

https://www.digitalliteracyassessment.org/

**NOTE:** The Bureau of Adult Education provides regional licenses for the use of the NorthStar Digital Assessment, Curricula and Credentialing programs.

Key Research and Organizations

https://digitalpromise.org/initiative/adult-learning/key-research-and-organizations/

Integrating Digital Literacy into English Language Instruction

 $\underline{https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/esl-pro/integrating-digital-literacy-into-english-language-instruction}$ 

# 5.4.8 Meeting Program Outcomes

The program must meet or exceed minimum program outcome expectations including performance indicators, measurable skills gains and other standards.

The State negotiates target performance every two years. Targets are based on the statistical adjustment model and are expected to reflect continuous improvement by increasing each year. Current negotiated targets are:

Indicator	2022-2023	2023-2024
Employment at the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter after exit	22.1%	23.00%
Median Wages at the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter after exit	\$6,200.00	\$6,500.00
Employment at the 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter after exit	20.0%	21.0%
Credential Attainment	15.8%	16.0%

Over the course of the contract period, the Bureau will provide technical assistance to IET and IELCE programs to ensure effective use of the performance categories specific to IET and IELCE participants.

### Part 1 – Primary Indicators of Performance

For each of the six Primary Indicators of Performance, please list how the program will contribute to meeting the indicator including any past performance, setting a target performance rate for FY24 as well as proposed plans for meeting that target.

Target performance rates will be evaluated against actuals at the end of the year and renegotiated for each year of the contract. In the case of programs not meeting target performance rates, the Bureau will initially provide additional technical assistance for improvement. Continued failure to meet target performance rates may constitute unsatisfactory performance and result in loss of funding.

See Section 3.4.5 for details on how these outcomes are collected and calculated.

#### 5.4.8.1 Questions for ALL Attachments

1. Employment in the Second Quarter after Exit

Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.

2. Employment in the Fourth Quarter after Exit

Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.

- 3. Median Earning in the Second Quarter after Exit Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.
- 4. Credential Attainment Indicator Secondary AND entry into postsecondary ed/training Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.
- 5. Credential Attainment Indicator Secondary AND entry into employment Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.
- 6. Credential Attainment Indicator Postsecondary Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.
- 7. Credential Attainment Indicator Target Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans. The Credential Attainment indicator includes both the secondary credential attainment and the postsecondary credential attainment<sup>34</sup>.

# Part 2 – Measurable Skill Gain (MSG)

For each type of MSG, please list how the program will contribute to meeting the state's target for measurable skill gain indicators, including any past performance and proposed plans.

Please note that there are additional methods for IET participants to demonstrate measurable skill gain than available under the AEL program. The IET/IELCE Program Design should include elements to allow participants to achieve measurable skill gain through multiple options during the program year. There is an MSG Selector Tool available on the National Reporting System website that may assist with identifying appropriate MSG types for the proposed program design.

For each of the Measurable Skill Gain Indicators, each program entry and exit per participant during the reporting period is considered a period of participants. An individual may have more than one MSG in each period of participation. Only the most recent MSG will be counted per period of participation.

EFL	2022-2023 Target	2023-2024 Target
ABE Level 1	25.00%	25.20%
ABE Level 2	26.00%	26.50%
ABE Level 3	23.00%	23.50%
ABE Level 4	31.00%	31.50%
ABE Level 5	29.00%	29.50%
ABE Level 6	32.00%	32.50%
ABE Total	28.0%	28.2%
ESL Level 1	20.00%	20.50%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> The percentage of those participants enrolled in an education or training program (excluding those in on-the-job training and customized training) who attain a recognized postsecondary credential or a secondary school diploma (or its recognized equivalent), during participation in or within one year after exit from the program. A participant who has attained a secondary school diploma (or its recognized equivalent) is included in the percentage of participants who have attained a secondary school diploma (or its recognized equivalent) only if the participant also is employed or is enrolled in an education or training program leading to a recognized postsecondary credential within one year after exit from the program. From <a href="https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN/25-19.pdf">https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN/25-19.pdf</a>

ESL Level 2	24.00%	24.50%
ESL Level 3	34.00%	34.50%
ESL Level 4	35.00%	35.50%
ESL Level 5	36.00%	36.50%
ESL Level 6	29.00%	29.50%
ESL Total	31.9%	32.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	29.5%	30.0%

For IET, see <u>section 3.4.6</u> and for IELCE, see <u>section 3.5.6</u> for details on how the MSG is collected, calculated and recent State targets. Also see NH Data & Assessment Policy (<u>Appendix A</u>).

- 8. Secondary Diploma/Equivalent Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.
- 9. Educational Functioning Level Gain Please describe any past performance, anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans.
- 10. Secondary/Postsecondary Transcript Please enter the anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans for use of this MSG type.
- 11. Progress towards Milestones

Please enter the anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans for use of this MSG type.

12. Skills Progression (knowledge exam)

Please enter the anticipated FY24 target and proposed plans for use of this MSG type.

### 5.4.8.2 Scoring Details

Meeting Program Outcomes will be allocated a maximum score of one hundred (100) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program has met program outcome goals in the past and how the program proposed to meet the performance goals in the future including, but not limited to:

- How will the program systematically collect/maintain contact information for participants to be able to locate them at the second quarter and fourth quarter after exit?
- How will the program coordinate follow up surveys to gain maximum responses?
- How will the program collaborate with other partners to collect performance indicators and/or measurable skill gain?
- How will the program assist participants with meeting the performance indicators even after exit from the program?
- How will the program set MSG targets?

### 5.4.8.3 References/Resources

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

NRS Tips: Resources for Reporting Measurable Skill Gains (MSG) Types 3, 4, and 5 Measurable Skill Gain Selector https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/Resources-for-Reporting

Performance Accountability Guidance for WIOA

https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/Program%20Memorandum%2017-2%20OCTAE.pdf

NRS Technical Assistance Guide

https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/nrs-ta-guide

WIOA 101 e-Learning Module

 $\underline{https://performance reporting.work forcegps.org/resources/2022/03/14/14/20/WIOA-101-E-\underline{Learning-Module}$ 

Postexit Indicators: Data Collection for the Employment and Credential Indicators (NRS) https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/postexit-indicators-employment-credential

Accountability

https://aefla.ed.gov/accountability

### 5.4.9 Reporting

The program must maintain high-quality data and input that data into a state-hosted system to provide accurate and timely reporting. In order for data entry to be consistent and validated, a specific trained individual must be assigned to complete data entry as well as quarterly data reports.

During the first year of this contract, the Bureau will work with program staff to develop a quarterly report designed to validate data and inform program decisions. Technical assistance will be provided for correctly entering IET and IELCE participants and their performance in the student data management system.

**NOTE:** The Bureau of Adult Education currently provides access to LiteracyPro's LACES data system and provides annual training.

### 5.4.9.1 Questions for ALL Attachments

- 1. Please describe how student demographic information, attendance records and testing results will be collected, stored, entered and analyzed.
- 2. Please describe the program's internal system for ensuring the accuracy of data before submission of reports to the state.
- 3. Who will be responsible for data entry and what training will this person be required to have?
- 4. Please describe how the program will use the required quarterly data reports to validate data and inform program decisions.
- 5. How often will data entry occur and how will the data be kept secure prior to being entered into the system, especially personally identifiable information such as a social security numbers?

See Data Privacy and Protection Policy (Appendix D).

#### 5.4.9.2 Scoring Details

Reporting will be allocated a maximum score of seventy-five (75) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program will collect, store, enter and validate student and program data including, but not limited to:

- What steps will be taken to ensure that the staff person responsible for data entry is adequately trained?
- What internal checks are in place or will be in place to ensure that accurate data is being entered?
- In addition to the required quarterly reports, what other reports will the program run to ensure high-quality data is being inputted?
- How will the program ensure that the IET component is available for all IELCE participants? What method of tracking student participation in the IET component will be used?

#### 5.4.9.3 References/Resources

This is not intended to be a complete list of potential references or resources that could be used to respond to this section of the RFP. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement of these organizations by the Bureau of Adult Education.

NRS Technical Assistance Guide <a href="https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/nrs-ta-guide">https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/nrs-ta-guide</a>

Linking Data Quality with Action: Evaluating and Improving Local Program Performance <a href="https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/FinalLinkingDataGuide">https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/FinalLinkingDataGuide</a> 0.pdf

Promising Approaches to Data Quality <a href="https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/data-collection-and-quality">https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/data-collection-and-quality</a>

### 5.4.10 Implementation Timeline

The program must provide a timeline for the implementation of the elements of this RFP.

As indicted in the Executive Summary, the Agency recognizes that applicants may not have a program design ready for full implementation by July 1, 2023.

Applicants may propose an implementation date after July 1, 2023 and before March 1, 2024. In the interim period, a contractor may apply for and receive funding to support the time and staff needed to complete comprehensive program planning. Technical assistance will be available through the Bureau and through the OCTAE sponsored IET Design Camp, Advance IET Design and state coaching models. For more information, see Appendix F.

Prior to implementation, each contractor will need to submit the proposed IET curriculum for Bureau approval. This will assist the Bureau with identifying areas of technical assistance across all programs and ensure that proposed programs meet all of the WIOA requirements for IET and IELCE during this performance period.

The Agency also understands that the short response time for this proposal may not allow for the completion of formal collaborative partnerships. Please indicate a general timeframe for the establishment of these partnerships over the course of the contract.

### 5.4.10.1 Questions for ALL Attachments

- 1. When is full implementation of the program anticipated? Please provide a detailed timeline explaining the start-up process.
- 2. If the applicant intends to use an interim period for program planning, please describe the process that will be used to design the program.

#### 5.4.10.1 Scoring Details

Implementation Timelines will be allocated a maximum score of twenty-five (25) points. The main purpose of this section is to measure how well the proposed program is positioned to start by March 1, 2024, including but not limited to:

- When will the program be ready to enroll and instruct participants?
- Will the appropriate staff be hired prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>?
- Will the program have the materials and curriculum ready for implementation by March 1<sup>st</sup>?
- Is the implementation timeline reasonable considering the organization's experience and past performance?
- Will the applicant access additional technical assistance at the state or local level prior to program implementation?

#### 5.4.10.2 References/Resources

Please see Appendix F for resources and available technical assistance.

# 5.5 Budget Attachment 3 – Budget Worksheets

Attachment 3 – Budget Worksheets is an Excel document with the following worksheets

- 1. IET or IELCE Program Budget Worksheet FY24
- 2. Local Match
- 3. AEL Budget Narrative FY24
- 4. AEL Budget Projections FY25 and FY 26

**NOTE:** Applicants submitting a proposal that includes an IET available to all adult education students and an IELCE using that IET as the workforce training component must submit two copies of the budget worksheet. Funding for an IET that is not connected to an IELCE program cannot be funded under section 243 funding. This will allow the Bureau to ensure that the appropriate funding is allocated to the correct programs.

The proposed budget must be compliant with the federal laws listed below. All costs must be necessary, reasonable and allowable for adult education activities. Hyperlinks to the original documentation have been included for reference.

All budgets must be entered on Attachment 3 Budget Worksheets.

### 5.5.1 Federal Laws/Rules Relevant to Funding

- WIOA
  - Section 231 Grants and Contracts for Eligible Providers
  - Section 232 Local Application
  - o Section 233 Local Administrative Cost Limits
  - Section 241 Administrative Provisions
  - o Section 243 Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education
- §463
  - o §463.25 Administrative Cost Limits
  - o <u>§463.26</u> What activities are considered local administrative costs
  - o §463.74 Use of IELCE Funds
    - An eligible provide that receives funds through the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program may meet the requirement to use

funds for integrated English literacy and civics education in combination with integrated education and training activities by:

- Co-enrolling participants in integrated education and training as described in subpart D of this part that is provided with in the local or regional workforce development area from sources other than section 243 of the Act; or
- Using funds provided under Section 243 of the Act to support integrated education and training activities as described in subpart D of this part.
- Uniform Guidance
  - o 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart D
    - Standards for Financial and Program Management
    - Performance and Financial Monitoring and Reporting
    - Subrecipient Monitoring and Management
    - Record Retention and Access
  - o 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E
    - Cost allocation plans
    - Direct vs. indirect costs
    - Allowable vs. unallowable costs
    - Necessary, reasonable and allocable costs
    - Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses
  - o EDGAR 34 CFR, Part 76
    - Indirect Cost Rates

# 5.5.2 IET and IELCE Funding

There is not an established funding formula for IET/IELCE. The following estimated funding levels have been budgeted for these programs.

- IELCE The section 243 federal funding allocation for FY23 was: \$172,273.
- IET The IET funding (federal and state) allocation for FY23 was: \$100,000

Funding for FY24 is estimated to be the same amount as FY23 but will not be available until the NH Department of Education receives a Grant Award Notice from the US Department of Education and there is an approved state biennium budget. Proposed budgets may be adjusted during the contract negotiation phase.

In August, 2019, OCTAE issued a program memo (19-2) clarifying the allowable use of AEFLA funds to pay for certificate/credentials in an IET program. The certificates and credentials must be necessary to achieve the purposes of the IET program and meet the federal definition of a recognized postsecondary credential. The memo also states that AEFLA funding may not be used for the cost of work readiness certificates or general skills certificates (see section 3.3.10 for the definition of recognized postsecondary credential)

The cost must also meet the general federal funding requirements of being reasonable, necessary and allocable. Additionally, using AEFLA funds may not supplant funds previously used to pay for such certificates and credentials. For example, if the certification exam was previously paid for through WIOA I funds, the applicant may not start using adult education funds to pay for the certificate.

It is highly recommended that applicants seek out partnerships with 3<sup>rd</sup> party entities to assist with funding the training component and/or the credentialing fees for eligible individuals. All other WIOA core partners have training funds available for eligible individuals. Additionally there are several state

agencies, professional organizations and employers that provide training funds for in-demand occupations such as licensed nursing assistant and child care teacher.

The following is not an exhaustive list, but provided to demonstrate the availability of training funds through a wide variety of sources:

- NH Charitable Foundation https://www.nhcf.org/how-can-we-help-you/apply-for-a-grant/
- NH Needs Caregivers <a href="https://nhneedscaregivers.org/">https://nhneedscaregivers.org/</a>
- NH Vocational Rehabilitation
- NH Employment Security (includes specialized training programs such as Commercial Driver License and Emergency Medical Technician) as well as programs for dislocated worked, unemployed or underemployed
- WIOA Adult through Southern NH Services
- NH Employment Program (DHHS) <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/apply-assistance">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/apply-assistance</a>
- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood NH Scholarship Program <a href="https://www.nh-connections.org/t-e-a-c-h-early-childhood-nh/">https://www.nh-connections.org/t-e-a-c-h-early-childhood-nh/</a>
- WorkNow NH tuition for recipients of Medicaid, SNAP or TANF benefits

**NOTE:** Total allocations may be adjusted depending on the actual amount of the federal grant and the future state biennium budgets.

# 5.5.3 FY25 and FY26 Funding Formulas

FY25 and FY26 funding formulas will be based on the full-time equivalents and/or target enrollment in the IET and/or the IELCE from the previous year depending on time used for program development.

# 5.5.4 IET/IELCE Budget Worksheet FY24

Please use this budget worksheet to detail the estimated line items for FY24 for each budget category as listed below.

Please indicate at the top of the Budget Worksheet if the budget is for an IET program or an IELCE program. If the applicant is submitting proposals for an IET that is open to all adult education students and using that IET as the workforce training component of the IELCE, please submit two separate worksheets.

5.5.4.1 Personnel See Section 3.4.8

Amounts paid to both permanent and temporary employees and amounts paid by the organization on behalf of employees, these amounts are not included in the gross salary, but are in addition to that amount.

1. Please list the Administrative, Support Staff and Instructional Staff positions for the program by title.

#### Administrative

Include salaries for any administrative positions such as a program director and data entry specialist.

Additional administrative salaries may be included in this section, this is any staff member responsible for providing professional development activities or other clerical tasks.

**NOTE:** There is a 5% cost limitation on Administrative Costs<sup>35</sup> (see WIOA Section 233) based on the total amount of federal funding. In accordance with WIOA §233, in cases where the cost limits described in subsection (a) are too restrictive to allow for the activities described in subsection (a)(s), the eligible provider shall negotiate with the Bureau in order to determine an adequate level of funds to be used for non-instructional purposes. The last section on the FY24 Budget worksheet is a calculation to assist with determining the percent of administrative costs. This calculation is an estimate based on the total grant amount.

### Support Staff

Include salaries positions that provide career services<sup>36</sup> including intake, assessment and counseling.

Additional support staff salaries may be included here.

#### **Instructional Staff**

Include salaries for all instructors and paraprofessionals. If the occupational training instructors will be funded through adult education funds, please include salary and benefits here.

Each program is responsible for determining the number of prep time hours allowable. This cost should be included in the total hours for each instructor.

If the applicant intends to conduct activities associated with program design and planning prior to implementation, please include any associated staff costs in this section.

2. Please list the benefits and total amount for each category of Personnel. Be sure to explain the calculations for benefits in the Budget Narrative including the type of benefits, cost per person, etc.

#### Benefits include:

- Health insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Disability Insurance
- Other Group Insurance
- Social Security Contributions
- Retirement Contributions
- Unemployment Compensation
- Worker's Compensation
- Tuition Reimbursement or Professional Development

RFP-BAE-2023-003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Administrative costs are considered costs incurred in connection with the following activities: a) planning; b) administration, including carrying out performance accountability; c) professional development; d) providing adult education and literacy activities om alignment with local workforce pans, including promoting co-enrollment in programs and activities under Title I, as appropriate, and e) carrying out the one-stop partner responsibilities as described in §678.420 including contributing to the infrastructure costs of the one-stop delivery system (34 CFR 463.26).

 $<sup>^{36}</sup>$  Support Salaries must include any personnel costs associated with Career Services as defined by WIOA in section 134(c)(2) and §678.430

Benefits may be grouped together onto a single line.

	Instructional Staff Benefits			
	[Enter Type of Benefit]	[Enter Number of Teacher Staff Receiving Benefit]	[Enter the Amount per Teacher Staff]	TOTAL
1	Health, Dental, Life Ins	10	\$200.00	\$ 2,000.00

### 5.5.4.2 Professional Technical Services

Services which by their nature can be performed only by persons or firms with specialized skills and knowledge.

Please do not list salary and benefits for occupational skills instructors that will be employed by the adult education provider and paid for with adult education funding in this section. Please see Personnel.

**Training Fees:** If adult education funding is being used to pay for training services provided by a third party provider for an eligible individual, any tuition or fees that will be paid directly to the training provider should be included here.

**Occupational Testing/Licensing Fees:** If adult education funding is being used to pay for occupational testing and/or license fees, payments to 3<sup>rd</sup> party credentialing providers should be included here.

3. Please list any purchased professional and technical services including but not limited to professional educational and technical services.

# 5.5.4.3 Purchased Property Services

Services purchased to operate, repair, maintain and rent property owned or used by the organization.

4. Please list any purchased property services including rent, cleaning and other services. Do not include utilities or communication services in this section.

Purchased Property Services include, but are not limited to:

- Water, sewer
- Cleaning services
- Disposal services
- Snow Plowing services
- Custodial services
- Repairs & Maintenance
- Rent
- Rental of Equipment

## 5.5.4.4 Other Purchased Services

Amounts paid for services rendered by organizations or personnel not on the payroll of the organization and not included in Professional and Technical Services or Property Services.

5. Please list any other purchased services including building insurance, communication systems and postage.

Other Purchased Services include, but are not limited to:

- Insurance (other than employee benefits)
- Voice Communications (telephone)
- Data Communications (Internet)
- Postage
- Advertising
- Printing and Binding
- Travel
- Tuition
- Other services purchased from private sources or another school district

### 5.5.4.5 *Supplies*

Amounts paid for items that are consumed, worn out or deteriorated through use or items that lose their identity through fabrication or incorporation into different or more complex units or substances.

6. Please list any supplies including utilities, office supplies, books, printed media, electronic media and software.

#### Supplies include:

- Energy services (please include these as a total monthly amount)
  - Natural gas
  - o Electricity
  - o Bottled gas
  - o Oil
  - o Gasoline
- Books & information resources
- Workbooks and Printed Media
- Digital Subscriptions
- Software

**NOTE**: The Bureau of Adult Education provides digital subscriptions for instructional software that are provided at no-cost to local providers. Justification for additional subscriptions must be described in the Budget Narrative.

The Uniform Guidance prohibits the use of federal funds for the purchase of food or graduation supplies. Please seek alternate funding for those items.

# 5.5.4.6 *Property*

Expenditures for acquiring fixed assets, including initial equipment, additional equipment and replacement of equipment.

7. Please list any equipment including furniture, computers and depreciation.

### Property includes:

- New Furniture
- New Computers
- Replacement Furniture
- Replacement Computers

# • Depreciation

### 5.5.4.7 Other Objects

Amounts paid for goods and services not otherwise classified.

8. Please list any other objects.

#### Other Objects include:

- Dues and fees
- Miscellaneous Expenditures that are not classified in any other object

### 5.5.4.8 Other Uses of Funds

Expenditures for transactions which are not classified in other objects, such as indirect cost.

9. Please list the indirect cost rate.

**NOTE:** This is a state requirement. The rate must be the rate approved by the NH Department of Education for the school district or a maximum of 10% for non-profit organizations.

NH Department of Education sets indirect rates for LEAs in the spring of each year. If the rate has not been set for the 2023-2024 school year prior to the submission of this proposal, please use the previous year's rate. The grant budget worksheet will need to be adjusted when the new rates are released. See <a href="https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-educator-and-analytic-resources/bureau-of-education-statistics/financial-reports">https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-educator-and-analytic-resources/bureau-of-education-statistics/financial-reports</a> for most recent rates.

### 5.5.5 IET/IELCE Budget Narrative FY24

Please use the IET/IELCE Budget Narrative FY 24 Form in <u>Attachment 3</u> to explain the items and calculations in each section of the budget. There are hyperlinks in each section to move between the same sections on the Budget Narrative and the AEL Budget Worksheet.

#### 5.5.6 IET/IELCE Budget Projections FY25 and FY 26

Please review the IET/IELCE FY25-26 Budget Projection worksheet in <u>Attachment 3</u>. Line items entered on the IET/IELCE FY24 Budget Worksheet will be automatically transferred to this worksheet. Increases for FY25, FY26 and the matching requirements are estimated at a 3% increase each year.

**NOTE**: Detailed FY25 and FY26 budgets will be negotiated in the spring of each year when federal and state allocation amounts are available. The purpose of these projections is to provide an estimate for establishing a Not to Exceed amount on any contracts requiring Governor & Council approval.

# 5.5.7 AEL Matching Budget Worksheet

**NOTE:** This is a state requirement, not a WIOA requirement.

Programs must include a 25% match for funds provided by the Bureau of Adult Education. Matching funds can be in-kind or cash. All matching funds must meet the same requirements as funds provided by the Bureau and comply with the federal laws listed in Section 5.5.1.

Please use the IET/IELCE Local Match Worksheet in Attachment 3 to detail matching cash or in-kind contributions that will be made to the program.

The State requires a 25% match of the total IET/IELCE grant. On the spreadsheet this is calculated using the Total Proposed Budget from the IET/IELCE Budget Worksheet FY24.

The FY24 Budget Total will be transferred from the IET/IELCE Budget FY24 and the 25% Total will be automatically calculated.

All grantees will be required to submit an annual report of the cash and in-kind contributions by September 30<sup>th</sup> following the end of the fiscal year. For example, the FY24 local match report will be due on September 30, 2024.

#### 5.5.7.1 Cash Contributions

Please include any cash contributions such as salaries paid by the sponsoring agency, an operating budget provided by a local school district or private grants.

Please indicate how each contribution contributes to the purpose of the IET and/or the IELCE.

#### 5.5.7.2 In-Kind Contributions

Please include the fair market value for any in-kind contributions.

Please indicate how each contribution contributes to the purpose of the IET and/or the IELCE.

The calculation for the fair market value of volunteer hours is: Volunteer Hours X local hourly rate paid for similar services.

# 5.5.7.3 Other information

Please enter the hourly rate used to calculate the value of Volunteers.

The Total Match will be automatically calculated as the sum of the Cash Contributions Total and In-Kind Contributions Total.

The Required Match will be automatically entered. Please compare the Required Match to the Total Local Match to ensure that it meets or exceeds the requirement.

# Section 6 – Evaluation of Proposals

Please note that only applications from eligible providers will be evaluated. For a complete description of the Minimum Requirements for Applicants in Section 4.1.

#### **6.1 Evaluation Considerations**

Proposals submitted by eligible providers will be subjected to the following three reviews:

#### 1. Evaluation Team Review

The Agency will appoint an evaluation team(s) to review and rate proposals. Proposals will be evaluated using the Evaluation Criteria described in the RFP. The team will review and discuss their evaluations of all proposals, combine the individual scores to determine an average score for proposal. These scores will be used to determine the most advantageous contracts.

# 2. State Workforce Board Review

All proposals will be submitted to the State Workforce Board for review for consistency with the State Workforce Plan and for an opportunity to make recommendations to the Agency to promote alignment with the plan as described in WIOA §463.21. The Agency will consider the results of the review in determining the extent to which the proposal addresses the requirements in this RFP.

## 3. Geographic Distribution

Proposals will be considered based on geographic distribution. The Agency intends to fund at least one program in each region that provides a comprehensive Adult Education and Literacy program.

For regions that have a higher percentage of eligible individuals, the Agency may fund multiple programs to ensure that services are available for those in need.

### 6.2 Criteria for Evaluation and Scoring

The Agency will use a scoring scale of 1000 points, a maximum of 100 points based on Vendor Experience/Organizational Capacity; 900 points based on the eleven areas outlined in <u>Section 5.4</u> which will be distributed as set forth in the table found in <u>Section 6.2.2</u>.

Each responsive Proposal will be evaluated and considered with regard to the following criteria:

# 6.2.1 Vendor Experience and Organizational Capacity

Vendor Experience and organizational capacity as described in <u>Attachment 2</u> will be award a maximum of 100 points based on the Applicant's past effectiveness in working with adults to improve basic skills; in transitioning adults into employment, postsecondary education and/or employment; and in building effective partnerships with other core WIOA partners, the local business community and social service agencies. The financial stability and local support of the organization will also be taken into consideration.

# 6.2.2 IET and IELCE Activities

Sections 1 - 11 will be awarded the maximum points listed below for each section.

This scoring table will be used for all three submission possibilities: IET only, IELCE only and an IET open to all adult education students that will also be used as the training component for an IELCE.

	Section	Description	Points
	Organization Capacity	The program must have the experience and organizational capacity to provide the services required in this RFP as well as past effectiveness in working with adults to improve basic skills.	100
1	Responsiveness to Regional Need	The program must be responsive to regional needs as identified in the local workforce development plan including the educational, economic and social/cultural needs of the area.	100
2	Serving the Most in Need	The program must serve individuals in the community who were identified as most in need of adult education and literacy activities.	100
3	Service Delivery Format and Schedules	The program must have a delivery method, location and schedule that enable individuals to attend and complete programs.	100
4	Proposed Curricula and Contextualized Instruction	The program must provide learning in context so that an individual acquires the skills needed to transition to and complete postsecondary education and training programs, obtain and advance in employment leading to economic self-sufficiency and to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.	75
5	State Workforce Board Alignment	The program must demonstrate alignment between the proposed activities and services and the strategy and goals of the local workforce plan as well as the activities of the one-stop partners.	75
6	Intensity, Quality and Best Practices of Program	The program must be of sufficient intensity and quality and based on the most rigorous research available so that participants achieve substantial learning gains.	100
7	Integration of Technology Services and Digital Systems	The program must effectively use technology, services and delivery systems including distance education, in a manner sufficient to increase the amount and quality of learning. Such technology, services and systems should lead to improved performance.	75
8	Meeting Program Outcomes	The program must meet or exceed minimum program outcome expectations including performance indicators, measurable skills gains and other standards.	100
9	Reporting	The program must maintain high-quality data and input that data into a state-provided system to provide accurate and timely reporting.	75
10	Implementation Timeline	The program must provide a timeline for the implementation of the elements of this RFP.	25
11	Budget	The program must provide a cost-conscious budget with the primary focus on providing quality services to eligible individuals through adequate staffing and resources; reflect the appropriate regional funding limitations and the federal limitations on administrative costs.	75
		TOTAL	1000

# 6.2.3 Agency Awards

If the Agency, determines to make an award based on these evaluations, the Agency will notify the selected Proposer(s). Should the Agency be unable to reach agreement with the selected Proposer(s) during Contract discussions, the Agency may then undertake Contract discussions with the next highest scored Proposer and so on, or the Agency may reject all proposals, cancel this RFP, or solicit new Proposals under a new acquisition process.

# **6.3 Planned Evaluation Steps**

The Agency plans to use the following process:

- Initial screening to ensure that the Proposals are in compliance with submission requirements as outlined in Section 4;
- Determine if the Applicant is Eligible by meeting the Minimum Requirements as outlined in Section 4.1
- Preliminary evaluation of the Proposals;
- Oral interviews (if necessary);
- Final Evaluation of Proposals and scoring;
- Determination if proposal meets minimum score requirements as described in <u>Section 6.6</u> Preliminary Scoring of Proposals.
- Select the Applicant(s) and begin contract negotiation.

# **6.4 Initial Screening**

The Agency will conduct an initial screening step to verify Applicant compliance with the technical submission requirements set forth in the RFP and the minimum content set forth in <u>Section 5</u> of this RFP. The Agency may waive or offer a limited opportunity to cure immaterial deviations from the RFP requirements if it is determined to be in the best interest of the State.

The initial screening will include, but is not limited to:

- Was the proposal submitted prior to the deadline?
- Was the proposal submitted in the correct format?
- Does the proposal include, at a minimum:
  - o Attachment 1: Demonstrated Effectiveness
  - o Attachment 2: IET, IELCE or IET/IELCE Application
  - o Attachment 3: IET/IELCE Budget Worksheets
  - Attachment 4: Required Documentation for Proposals

In the event of an incomplete proposal, the provider will be notified and given five (5) business days to provide any missing documentation or the proposal will be withdrawn.

### 6.5 Applicant Eligibility

Complete proposals will be reviewed to determine if the applicant has met the minimum requirements. Applicants must be determined eligible in accordance with <u>Section 4.1</u> of this RFP, WIOA Section 203 (5), 34 CFR 463.23 and 463.24.

Proposals submitted by ineligible applicants will be returned.

### 6.6 Preliminary Scoring of Proposals

The Agency will establish a three-member evaluation team(s) to initially score the Proposals. This evaluation team will review the proposals and give a preliminary score to the proposals under the guidelines set forth in Section 6.

Should an Applicant's Proposal fail to achieve 500 Points in the preliminary scoring, it will receive no further consideration from the evaluation team.

#### **6.7 Oral Interviews**

If the Agency determines that it is appropriate, proposers may be invited to oral interviews. The Agency retains the sole discretion to determine whether to conduct oral interviews. In the case that oral interviews are required, all applicants will be required to participate.

The purpose of oral interviews is to clarify and expound upon information provided in the written Proposals. Proposers are prohibited from altering the basic substance of their Proposals during the oral interviews.

Information gained from oral interviews will be used to refine review scores assigned from the initial review of the Proposals.

#### **6.8 Final Scoring of Proposals**

Following Oral Interviews, Reference Checks (if appropriate) and/or review of written clarifications of proposals requested by the Agency, the evaluation team will determine a final score for each Proposal.

#### **6.9 Final Selection**

The Agency will conduct a final selection based on the final evaluation of the initial begin contract negotiations with the selected Applicant(s).

#### 6.10 Rights of the Agency in Accepting and Evaluating Proposals

The Agency reserves the right to:

- Make independent investigations in evaluating Proposals;
- Waive minor or immaterial deviations from the RFP requirements, if determined to be in the best interest of the State;
- Omit any planned evaluation step if, in the Agency's view, the step is not needed; and
- At its sole discretion, reject any and all Proposals at any time.

#### 6.11 Appeal Rights

#### 6.11.1 State Appeal Process

A bidder who wishes to contest the award of funding under this RFP must submit a written letter stating the specifics of the dispute to the Point of Contact for this RFP no later than ten days after the public announcement of contracts. The NH Department of Education (NHED) will issue a decision on appeals within 30 days of receipt. The NHED encourages the use of informal resolution to address complaints or disputes related to the RFP process issues. Written complaint should be address to the Contract Office, NH Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Education, 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 20, Concord, NH 03301.

#### 6.11.2 Federal Appeal Process

Any person aggrieved by the award decision that results from this RFP may appeal the decision to the NH Department of Education or the Secretary of the US Department of Education. For further information about the federal appeal rights process, see EDGAR §76.401.

#### Section 7 – Terms and Conditions Related To The RFP Process

#### 7.1 RFP Addendum

The Agency reserves the right to amend this RFP at its discretion, prior to the Proposal submission deadline. In the event of an addendum to this RFP, the Agency, at its sole discretion, may extend the Proposal submission deadline, as it deems appropriate.

#### 7.2 Non-Collusion

The Proposer's signature on a Proposal submitted in response to this RFP guarantees that the prices, terms and conditions, and Work quoted have been established without collusion with other Proposers and without effort to preclude the Agency from obtaining the best possible competitive Proposal.

#### 7.3 Property of the Agency

All material received in response to this RFP shall become the property of the State and will not be returned to the proposer. Upon Contract award, the State reserves the right to use any information presented in any Proposal.

#### 7.4 Confidentiality of a Proposal

Unless necessary for the approval of a contract, the substance of a proposal must remain confidential until the Effective Date of any Contract resulting from this RFP. A Proposer's disclosure or distribution of Proposals other than to the Agency will be grounds for disqualification.

#### 7.5 Public Disclosure

Pursuant to RSA 21-G:37, all responses to this RFP shall be considered confidential until the award of a contract. At the time of receipt of proposals, the Agency will post the number of responses received with no further information. No later than five (5) business days prior to submission of a contract to the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to this RFP, the Agency will post the name, rank or score of each proposer. In the event that the contract does not require Governor & Executive Council approval, the Agency shall disclose the rank or score of the Proposals at least 5 business days before final approval of the contract.

The content of each Proposer's Proposal shall become public information upon the award of any resulting Contract. Any information submitted as part of a response to this request for proposal (RFP) may be subject to public disclosure under RSA 91-A. In addition, in accordance with RSA 9-F:1, any contract entered into as a result of this RFP will be made accessible to the public online via the website Transparent NH (http://www.nh.gov/transparentnh/). However, business financial information and proprietary information such as trade secrets, business and financials models and forecasts, and proprietary formulas may be exempt from public disclosure under RSA 91-A:5, IV. If you believe any information being submitted in response to this request for proposal, bid or information should be kept confidential as financial or proprietary information; you must specifically identify that information in a letter to the agency, and must mark/stamp each page of the materials that you claim must be exempt from disclosure as "CONFIDENTIAL". A designation by the Proposer of information it believes exempt does not have the effect of making such information exempt. The Agency will determine the information it believes is properly exempted from disclosure. Marking of the entire Proposal or entire sections of the Proposal (e.g. pricing) as confidential will neither be accepted nor honored. Notwithstanding any provision of this RFP to the contrary, Proposer pricing will be subject to disclosure upon approval of the contract. The Agency will endeavor to maintain the confidentiality of portions of the Proposal that are clearly and properly marked confidential.

If a request is made to the Agency to view portions of a Proposal that the Proposer has properly and clearly marked confidential, the Agency will notify the Proposer of the request and of the date the Agency plans to release the records. By submitting a Proposal, Proposers agree that unless the Proposer obtains a court order, at its sole expense, enjoining the release of the requested information, the Agency may release the requested information on the date specified in the Agency's notice without any liability to the Proposers.

#### 7.6 Non-Commitment

Notwithstanding any other provision of this RFP, this RFP does not commit the Agency to award a Contract. The Agency reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to reject any and all Proposals, or any portions thereof, at any time; to cancel this RFP; and to solicit new Proposals under a new acquisition process.

#### 7.7 Proposal Preparation Cost

By submitting a Proposal, a Proposer agrees that in no event shall the Agency be either responsible for or held liable for any costs incurred by a Proposer in the preparation of or in connection with the Proposal, or for Work performed prior to the Effective Date of a resulting Contract.

#### 7.8 Ethical Requirements

From the time this RFP is published until a contract is awarded, no bidder shall offer or give, directly or indirectly, any gift, expense reimbursement, or honorarium, as defined by RSA 15-B, to any elected official, public official, public employee, constitutional official, or family member of any such official or employee who will or has selected, evaluated, or awarded an RFP, or similar submission. Any bidder that violates RSA 21-G:38 shall be subject to prosecution for an offense under RSA 640:2. Any bidder who has been convicted of an offense based on conduct in violation of this section, which has not been annulled, or who is subject to a pending criminal charge for such an offense, shall be disqualified from bidding on the RFP, or similar request for submission and every such bidder shall be disqualified from bidding on any RFP or similar request for submission issued by any state agency. A bidder that was disqualified under this section because of a pending criminal charge which is subsequently dismissed, results in an acquittal, or is annulled, may notify the department of administrative services, which shall note that information on the list maintained on the state's internal intranet system, except in the case of annulment, the information, shall be deleted from the list.

#### 7.9 Challenges on Form or Process of the RFP

Any challenges regarding the validity or legality of the form and procedures of this RFP, including but not limited to the evaluation and scoring of Proposals, shall be brought to the attention of the Agency at least ten (10) business days prior to the Proposal Submission Deadline. By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is deemed to have waived any challenges to the agency's authority to conduct this procurement and the form and procedures of this RFP.

#### 7.10 Insurance

The Applicant(s) selected through this RFP must obtain and maintain in force, comprehensive general liability insurance against all claims of bodily injury, death, or property damage, in amounts of not less the \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate.

The Applicant's employees as well as employees hired under this contract must be covered with workers' compensation insurance. Proof of insurance will be requested at the time of contracting.

#### 7.11 Special Provisions

Proposals must include a statement that the organization submitting the proposal will comply with the provisions of the US Code of Federal Regulations 34 CFR 364 and the following US Circular if applicable: Office of Management and Budget (OBM) Circular A-110 "Uniform Administrative Non-Profit Organizations." Agency shall not make any award or permit any award (sub grant or contract) to any party which is debarred or suspended or is otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, "Debarment or Suspension."

#### 7.12 Civil Rights Compliance

Funding for this contract includes Federal funds and therefore obligates the Vendor to comply with civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability and age.

#### Section 8 – Contract Terms and Award

#### 8.1 Non-Exclusive Contract

Any resulting Contract from this RFP will be a non-exclusive Contract. The State reserves the right, at its discretion, to retain other Contractors to provide any of the Services or Deliverables identified under this procurement or make an award by item, part or portion of an item, group of items, or total Proposal.

#### 8.2 Award

If the State decides to award a contract as a result of this RFP process, any award is contingent upon approval of the Contract by Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire, if required, and upon continued appropriation of funding for the contract.

#### 8.3 Standard Contract Terms

The Agency will require the successful bidder to execute a Not to Exceed Contract using the Standard Terms and Conditions of the State of New Hampshire which is attached as <u>Appendix G</u>.

The Term of the Contract will be for three (3) years from the date of approval, contingent upon satisfactory vendor performance, continued funding and Governor and Executive Council approval.

To the extent that a Proposer believes that exceptions to the standard form contract will be necessary for the Proposer to enter into the Agreement, the Proposer should note those issues during the Proposer Inquiry Period. The Agency will review requested exceptions and accept, reject or note that it is open to negotiation of the proposed exception at its sole discretion. If the Agency accepts a Proposer's exception the Agency will, at the conclusion of the inquiry period, provide notice to all potential proposers of the exceptions which have been accepted and indicate that exception is available to all potential proposers. Any exceptions to the standard form contract that are not raised during the proposer inquiry period are waived. In no event is a Proposer to submit its own standard contract terms and conditions as a replacement for the State's terms in response to this solicitation.

#### 8.4 Responsibility of the Contractor

If awarded a contract, the Vendor shall maintain financial records to support the receipt, accounting for, allocation or, and disbursement of all funds awarded. The Vendor is responsible of entering the contact amounts by line item into the NH Department of Education Grants Management System.

Accurate invoices must be submitted in a timely manner. Monthly reports must be submitted within 15 days after the end of the month. At the end of the project, the organization must reconcile the final report within 60 days after close of the project. Except in the case of the State Biennium year (the year in which the two-year state budget closes), monthly expenditure reports must be submitted by June 15<sup>th</sup> for payment. Late submissions risk not being paid because state funds may not be available after June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### 8.4 Special Terms To Be Included In A Contract Resulting From This RFP

All Proposers will be required to sign annual General Assurances from the NH Department of Education, Bureau of Federal Compliance.

Please see Attachment 6 for additional required documentation for execution of a contract.

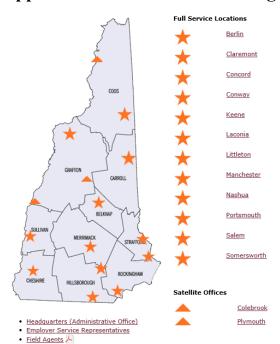
Additionally, if requirements under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 should change during the course of this contract term, vendors will be responsible for making those changes to the program.				

## **Appendix A: NH Data & Assessment Policy**

See separate document.

RFP-BAE-2023-003

## **Appendix B: Adult Education Regions**



The Adult Education Regions are based on the same catchment areas as the NH Works offices.

Interactive map available at:

https://www.nhes.nh.gov/locations/index.htm

Region	Towns Served
Berlin	Berlin, Cambridge, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Dixville, Dummer, Errol, Gorham, Groveton, Kilkenny, Milan, Millsfield, N. Stratford, Northumberland, Odell, Pittsburg, Randolph, Shelburne, Stark, Stewartstown, Stratford. Success, Wentworth's Location
Claremont	Acworth, Canaan, Charlestown, Claremont, Cornish, Croydon, Dorchester, Enfield, Goshen, Grafton, Grantham, Hanover, Langdon, Lebanon, Lempster, Lyme, New London, Newbury, Newport, Orange, Orford, Piermont, Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Unity, Washington, Wentworth, Wilmot
Concord	Allenstown, Andover, Antrim, Barnstead, Bennington, Boscawen, Bow, Bradford, Canterbury, Chichester, Concord, Danbury, Dunbarton, Epsom, Franklin, Henniker, Hillsborough Hopkinton, Loudon, Pembroke, Pittsfield, Salisbury, Warner, Webster, Windsor
Conway	Albany, Bartlett, Chatham, Conway, East Conway. Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Glen, Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Intervale, Jackson, Kearsarge. Madison, North Conway. Ossipee, Redstone, Tamworth, Wolfeboro
Keene	Alstead, Chesterfield, Dublin, Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Hancock, Harrisville, Hinsdale, Jaffrey, Keene, Marlborough, Marlow, Nelson, Peterborough, Richmond, Rindge, Roxbury. Sharon, Stoddard, Sullivan, Surry. Swanzey. Troy, Walpole, Westmoreland, Winchester
Laconia	Alexandria, Alton, Ashland, Belmont, Bridgewater, Bristol, Campton, Center Harbor, Ellsworth, Gilford, Gilmanton, Groton, Hebron, Hill, Holderness, Laconia, Meredith, Moultonborough, New Hampton, Northfield, Plymouth, Rumney, Sanbornton, Sandwich, Tilton, Tuftonboro
Littleton	Bath, Benton, Bethlehem, Carroll, Dalton, Easton, Franconia, Haverhill, Jefferson, Lancaster, Landaff, Lincoln, Lisbon, Littleton, Livermore, Lyman, Monroe, Sugar Hill, Thornton, Warren Waterville Valley, Whitefield, Woodstock
Manchester	Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Deerfield, Deering, Francestown, Goffstown, Hooksett, Londonderry, Manchester, New Boston, Raymond, Weare

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **80** of **156** 

Nashua	Amherst, Brookline, Greenfield, Greenville, Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, Nashua, New Ipswich, Temple, Wilton
Portsmouth	Brentwood, Epping Exeter, Fremont, Greenland, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, New Castle, Newington, North Hampton, Portsmouth, Rye, Seabrook, South Hampton, Stratham
Salem	Atkinson, Danville, Derry, East Kingston, Hampstead, Kingston, Newton, Pelham, Plaistow, Salem, Sandown, Windham
Somersworth	Barrington, Brookfield, Dover, Durham, Farmington, Gonic, Lee, Madbury. Minddleton, Milton, Milton Mills, New Durham, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham, Rochester, Rollinsford,. Somersworth, Strafford, Union, Wakefield

### **Appendix C: NH Workforce Plan**

# NH Works Combined State Plan 2022-2024

The 2020-2024 revised NH Combined State Workforce Plan is available at:

https://www.nhworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/NH-WIOA-Combined-State-Plan-2022-2024-moifications-published.pdf

## Goal 1: Promote services available through the talent development system to support businesses and individuals.

<u>Strategy 1.1:</u> Employ proven strategies for marketing and outreach that target audiences (e.g. small and medium-sized businesses, sector-specific stakeholders, long-term unemployed individuals, underemployed individuals, youth, etc.)

<u>Strategy 1.2:</u> Work with community-based organizations, libraries, schools, and partners' networks to promote services of NH works and it partners to individuals and youth.

## Goal 2: Enhance the talent development system by focusing on system advocacy and partner collaboration and communication.

<u>Strategy 2.1:</u> Identify and define workforce development policy priorities for which the State Innovation Workforce Board can advocate amount State decision makers (i.e. workforce housing, transportation, benefits cliff, etc.)

## Goal 3: Support a demand-driven talent development systems that bases strategies, services, and investments on a data-informed approach that anticipates the needs of businesses.

<u>Strategy 3.1:</u> Leverage current industry-driven sector partnerships throughout the state and support their expansion.

<u>Strategy 3.2:</u> Continue the collaborative business services strategies by engaging additional partners and formalizing information sharing protocols.

<u>Strategy 3.3:</u> Engage locally with economic development to ensure the systems are aligned and operate from an up-to-date understanding of in-demand sectors and occupations with regular sector analysis at the state and local levels.

<u>Strategy 3.4:</u> Provide the talent development system with data analytics that provide in-depth analysis of national, state, and local labor market information.

<u>Strategy 3.5:</u> Explore ways to collect data that would allow for tracking metrics that currently do not exit (e.g. non-degree credential attainment).

## Goal 4: Create a talent development system that leverages talent attraction, retention and development strategies.

<u>Strategy 4.1:</u> Work with the network of state's community colleges and other post-secondary education institutions to expand best practices related to flexible, business-driven training and education.

<u>Strategy 4.2</u>: Work with public and private K-12 education, career and technical education, adult education, post-secondary education, and business to promote career pathways for in-demand sectors and occupations to students in the talent pipeline

<u>Strategy 4.3:</u> Coordinate with other state agency and partners to support talent attraction and retention actions including advocacy, resource dedication, subject matter expertise, etc.

<u>Strategy 4.4</u>: Develop an inclusive talent pipeline by creating targeted strategies for working with under-represented populations, such as seniors, veterans, immigrants, refugees, etc.

## Goals 5: Provide and improve access to work-and-learn opportunities that are aligned with business and industry needs including the development of career pathways.

<u>Strategy 5.1:</u> Expand the infrastructure for businesses and individuals to pursue work-based learning opportunities along the full spectrum of options (internships, apprenticeship, work experiences, etc.)

- **A**: Map the existing resources and assets to support work-based learning in New Hampshire
- **B.** Continue to assess business interest in work-based learning and the ideal engagement strategies from the businesses' perspectives
- **C**. Determine the most appropriate way(s) to link resources from various programs and partners to offer full spectrum of work-based learning opportunities

<u>Strategy 5.2:</u> Simplify process and procedures for businesses and individuals to navigate the workforce development system by simplifying language and avoiding acronyms and "system lingo" and streamlining access to work-and-learn opportunities and other system services. The workforce system can be complex, complicated, and thus difficult for businesses and individuals to access. In order to maximize the services provided, we need to move toward a system that more clearly and concisely aligns services to customer needs.

- Strategy 5.3: Ensure career pathways include opportunities to develop foundational skills
  - **A.** Maintain adult education as an entry-point to career pathways for individuals who have not previously earned their high school diploma or the equivalent
  - **B**. Utilize WorkReadyNH and/or similar programs for individuals in need of soft skill/employability skill development
  - C. Continue the expansion of sector-based industry specific training credentials.

## **Appendix D: Data Privacy and Protection Policy**

See separate document.

RFP-BAE-2023-003

## **Appendix E: WIOA Glossary**

See separate document.

RFP-BAE-2023-003

Page **85** of **156** 

### Appendix F: Resources for IET/IELCE

#### OCTAE Training - Contracted with various partners under National Leadership Activities

#### Basic IET Design Camp – June 2023

The State will lead a team of two providers, with two staff members each, to participate in the Basic IET Design Camp<sup>37</sup>.

- Registration is required prior to April 21, 2023 and must be submitted by the State Director.
   Interested parties should contact Ginette Chandler at <u>gchandler@second-start.org</u> for more information.
- This virtual training has nine session that guide state teams to:
  - o Conduct and synthesize research to select an IET program reflective of community needs
  - Use a planning tool to define the IET program goals and develop a work plan to implement a quality IET program
  - Draft a curriculum design plan and use tools to develop a single set of learning objectives for the IET program
  - Access resources to help analyze and use program data for continuous improvement.
- Interested parties must commit to attending all nine training sessions on June 2, June 6, Jun 9, June 13, June 16, June 20, June 23, June 27, June 30. A stipend is available for participants employed by Bureau funded programs during the FY23 program year.
- Previous participants in the OCTAE sponsored IET Design Camp are not eligible to participate.
- Participation in the Basic IET Design Camp does not guarantee an award under this RFP.

### Advanced IET Design Camp - There will be five cohorts between January - April 2024)

The State will lead a team of two providers, with two staff members each, to participate in the Advance IET Design<sup>38</sup> camp.

- Registration will occur in November/December of 2023.
- Eligible participants will include Bureau funded IET programs (FY24)
- The focus of the training will be on IET implementation and action planning through IET Quality Indicators including:
  - o Designing with equity and quality in mind
  - Using data to make IET programmatic decisions based on student, community and industry needs
  - o Strengthening industry collaboration and engagement
  - Supporting student success
  - o Program management, staffing and organization support
- Participants must have completed the Basic IET Design Camp either in a national cohort or a state cohort.

#### **Advance IET Community – Starts March 2023**

Ongoing support will be provided to past and future IET Design Camp participants including:

- Learning opportunities
- Peer networking
- Resource sharing

#### Advance IET State Coaching – June 2024 – February 2025

Up to ten states will receive eight months of individualized coaching support focused on IET implementation in alignment with the quality indicators and the four levers of change.

• The State intends to submit an application in March 2024 for State Coaching

Additional information on the Advance IET Project is available at: https://lincs.ed.gov/federal-initiatives/iet-toolkit

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **86** of **156** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> The State will also offer the IET Design Camp in FY24 for those unable to attend the national cohort.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> OCTAE partners will provide Train the Trainer resources for this to be replicated at the state level during FY25.

#### **OCTAE Resources**

Report on Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/octae-ielce-report-to-congress-final-508.pdf

Program Memo 19-2 Allowable Use of Adult Education & Family Literacy Act Funds for Integrated Education and Training Programs – Frequently Asked Questions

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/octae-program-memo-19-2.pdf

Program Memo 17-5 Use of Funds Reserved for Activities under Section 243 of the Adult Education & Family Literacy Act (AELFA)

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/octae-program-memo-17-5.pdf

#### **LINCS Resources**

IET Toolkit

https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/IET Toolkit Compressed 508.pdf

**IET Checklist** 

https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/IET\_checklist508FINAL\_0.pdf

**IELCE Checklist** 

https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/IELCE\_checklistFINAL508\_0.pdf

Collection of IELCE Resources – Building Opportunities Project

https://lincs.ed.gov/program/building-opportunities-ielce/additional-resources

Advanced Integrated Education & Training

https://lincs.ed.gov/federal-initiatives/iet-toolkit

Advancing Innovation in Adult Education – IET Practices

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/advancing-innovation/explore/iet-practices

This was an OCTAE sponsored project to identify and disseminate innovative practices in IET. The website features program descriptions in specific areas such as secondary credentialing practices, bridge & IET programs, holistic approach to adult education services. There is also a podcast series available.

Enhancing Access for Refugees and New Americans

https://lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/refugeesandnewamericans

#### Various self-paced online courses

https://courses.lincs.ed.gov/

Workforce Preparation Activities in the Classroom, ESL Pro: Preparing English Language Learners for Work and Career Pathways, Instructional Considerations for Adult Career Pathways

#### **National Reporting System Resources**

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta

Webinars: Increasing Enrollment through Improved Recruitment and Retention, Barriers to Employment, Distance Education Tips

Tip Sheets: Resources for Reporting Measurable Skill Gains Types 3, 4 and 5, Enhancing Intake to Improve Services, Increasing Posttesting to Improve Measurable Skill Gain

#### Research

Migration Policy Institute

The IELCE Program: Understanding Its Design and Challenges in Meeting Immigrant Learners' Needs <a href="https://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/ielce-design-immigrant-learners">https://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/ielce-design-immigrant-learners</a>

How I-BEST Works: Finding from a Field Study of Washington State's Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training

http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/how-i-best-works-findings.pdf

IET Landscape Scan

https://nationalskillscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Final-IET-Scan.pdf

#### **Resources from Other States**

Florida – IET Resources

https://www.floridaipdae.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=resources.aecp

Includes IET Playbook, IET Boot Camp materials, single set of learning objective template and examples, webinar series

Florida – IELCE Self Assessment

https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7522/urlt/IELCE-AssessmentTool2021.docx

Indiana – Workforce Education Initiative 2019

https://www.in.gov/dwd/files/IET.WEI-Workshop-Handout-with-Links.pdf

Includes list of IET programs, bibliography,, sample MOU for workplace literacy, sample course syllabus and outlines for the following IETs:

- a paraprofessional educator
- logistics associate certification
- electronic systems technician
- certified nursing assistance

Indiana – IET Treasure Chest - Approved IET Curriculum shared by Professional Association <a href="https://iaace.com/iet/">https://iaace.com/iet/</a>

Minnesota – Adult Career Pathways Resources – General IET

https://atlasabe.org/resources/acp/integrated-education-training/general-iet/

Includes webinars, resources for designing the basic skills curriculum, examples of career pathways designed for intermediate level students, national survey of IET models, IELCE report, single set of learning objectives

Minnesota – 2022-2025 IELCE Grant Awards with Project Descriptions

http://mnabe.org/sites/default/files/2022-25 ielce grant summaries.pdf

Virginia – IET Network and Portal

https://ietblueprint.com/home-2/

Includes IET Checklist, sample activities, program models, templates, complete list of IETs by industry and map – with stackable and recognized postsecondary credentials

### **Appendix G: NH Terms and Conditions (P-37)**

The following is provided for reference only. The actual Standard Contract Form will not be executed until a contract has been negotiated.

### FORM NUMBER P-37 (version 11/7/2019)

Notice: This agreement and all of its attachments shall become public upon submission to Governor and Executive Council for approval. Any information that is private, confidential or proprietary must be clearly identified to the agency and agreed to in writing prior to signing the contract

AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Contractor hereby mutually agree as follows:

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### 1. IDENTIFICATION.

1.1 State Agency Name	1.2 State Agency Address
	\ \ \ \ \
1.3 Contractor Name	1.4 Contractor Address
1.5 Contractor Phone 1.6 Account Number	Completion Date 1.8 Price Limitation
Number	
1.9 Contracting Officer for State Agency	10 State Agency Telephone Number
1.11 Contractor Signature	1.12 Name and Title of Contractor Signatory
	)) •
Ligate:	
1.13 State Agency Signature	1.14 Name and Title of State Agency Signatory
Hate:	
) Date:	
1.15 Approval by the N.H. Department of Administration, D	ivision of Personnel (if applicable)
	P: 0
By:	Director, On:
1.16 Approval by the Attorney General (Form, Substance an	d Execution) (if applicable)
D	Δ.,
By:	On:
1.17 Approval by the Governor and Executive Council (if a)	pplicable)
G&C Item number:	G&C Meeting Date:
Good nem number.	GOO Meeting Date.

2. SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED. The State of New Hampshire, acting through the agency identified in block 1.1 ("State"), engages contractor identified in block 1.3 ("Contractor") to perform, and the Contractor shall perform, the work or sale of goods, or both, identified and more particularly described in the attached EXHIBIT B which is incorporated herein by reference ("Services").

#### 3. EFFECTIVE DATE/COMPLETION OF SERVICES.

3.1 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, and subject to the approval of the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire, if applicable, this Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council approve this Agreement as indicated in block 1.18, unless no such approval is required, in which case the Agreement shall become effective on the date the Agreement is signed by the State Agency as shown in block 1.14 ("Effective Date").

3.2 If the Contractor commences the Services prior to the Effective Date, all Services performed by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of the Contractor, and in the event that this Agreement does not become effective, the State shall have no liability to the Contractor, including without limitation, in obligation to pay the Contractor for any costs incurred or Services performed. Contractor must complete all Services by the Completion Date specified in block 1.7.

#### 4. CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.

Notwithstanding and provision of this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds affected by any state or federal legislative or executive action that reduces, eliminates or otherwise modifies the appropriation or availability of funding for this exement and the Scope for Services provide in EXHIBIT B, in whole or in part. In no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of appropriated funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to reduce or terminate the Services under this Agreement immediately upon giving the Contractor notice of such reduction or termination. The State shall not be required to transfer funds from any other account or source to the Account identified in block 1.6 in the event funds in that Account are reduced or unavailable.

#### 5. CONTRACT PRICE/PRICE LIMITATION/ PAYMENT.

- 5.1 The contract price, method of payment, and terms of payment are identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C which is incorporated herein by reference.
- 5.2 The payment by the State of the contract price shall be the only and the complete reimbursement to the Contractor for all expenses, of whatever nature incurred by the Contractor in the performance hereof, and shall be the only and the complete compensation to the Contractor for the Services. The State shall have no liability to the Contractor other than the contract price.
- 5.3 The State reserves the right to offset from any amounts otherwise payable to the Contractor under this Agreement those liquidated amounts required or permitted by N.H. RSA 80:7 through RSA 80:7-c or any other provision of law.

5.4 Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made hereunder, exceed the Price Limitation set forth in block 1.8.

## 6. COMPLIANCE BY CONTRACTOR WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS/ EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

- 6.1 In connection with the performance of the Services, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county or municipal authorities which impose any obligation or duty upon the Contractor, including, but not united to, civil rights and equal employment opportunity laws. In addition, if this Agreement is funded in any part by monies of the United States, the Contractor shall comply with all federal executive orders, rules, regulations and statutes, and with any rules, regulations and guidelines as the State or the United States issue to implement these regulations. The Contractor shall also comply with all applicable intellectual property laws.
- 6.2 During the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or national origin and will take afternative action to prevent such discrimination.
- 6.3. The Contractor agrees to permit the State or United States access to any of the Contractor's books, records and accounts for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with all rules, regulations and orders, and the covenants, terms and conditions of this Agreement.

7. PERSONNEL.

- 7.1 The Contractor shall at its own expense provide all personnel necessary to perform the Services. The Contractor warrants that all personnel engaged in the Services shall be qualified to perform the Services, and shall be properly licensed and otherwise authorized to do so under all applicable laws. 7.2 Unless otherwise authorized in writing, during the term of this Agreement, and for a period of six (6) months after the Completion Date in block 1.7, the Contractor shall not hire, and shall not permit any subcontractor or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Services to hire, any person who is a State employee or official, who is materially involved in the procurement, administration or performance of this Agreement. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.
- 7.3 The Contracting Officer specified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, shall be the State's representative. In the event of any dispute concerning the interpretation of this Agreement, the Contracting Officer's decision shall be final for the State.

#### 8. EVENT OF DEFAULT/REMEDIES.

- 8.1 Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Contractor shall constitute an event of default hereunder ("Event of Default"):
- 8.1.1 failure to perform the Services satisfactorily or on schedule;
- 8.1.2 failure to submit any report required hereunder; and/or
- 8.1.3 failure to perform any other covenant, term or condition of this Agreement.

- 8.2 Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:
- 8.2.1 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely cured, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Contractor notice of termination;
- 8.2.2 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the contract price which would otherwise accrue to the Contractor during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Contractor has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Contractor;
- 8.2.3 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and set off against any other obligations the State may owe to the Contractor any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and/or
- 8.2.4 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default, treat the Agreement as breached, terminate the Agreement and pursue any of its remeates at law or in equity, or both.
- 8.3. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event of Default, or any subsequent Event of Default. No express failure to enforce any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions kereof upon any further or other Event of Default on the part of the Contractor.

#### 9. TERMINATION.

- 9.1 Notwithstanding paragraph 8, the State may, at its sole discretion, terminate the Agreement for any reason, in whole or in part, by thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor that the State is exercising its option to terminate the Agreement.
- 9.2 In the event of an early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Services, the Contractor shall, at the State's discretion, deliver to the Contracting Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report ("Termination Report") describing in detail all Services performed, and the contract price earned, to and including the date of termination. The form, subject matter, content, and number of copies of the Termination Report shall be identical to those of any Final Report described in the attached EXHIBIT B. In addition, at the State's discretion, the Contractor shall, within 15 days of notice of early termination, develop and submit to the State a Transition Plan for services under the Agreement.

#### 10. DATA/ACCESS/CONFIDENTIALITY/ PRESERVATION.

9.1 As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, papers, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

- 9.2 All data and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason.
  9.3 Confidentiality of data shall be governed by N.H. RSA chapter 91-A or other existing law. Disclosure of data requires prior written approval of the State.
- 11. CONTRACTOR'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the performance of this Agreement the Contractor is in all respects an independent contractor, and is neither an agent nor an employee of the State. Neither the Contractor nor any of its officers, employees, agents or members shall have authority to bind the State or receive any benefits, workers' compensation or other emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

#### 12. ASSIGNMENT/DELEGATION/SUBCONTRACTS.

12.1 The Contractor shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written notice, which shall be provided to the State at least forteen (15) days prior to the assignment, and a written consent of the State. For purposes of this paragraph, a Change of Control shall constitute assignment. "Change of Control" means (a) merger, consolidation, or a transaction or series of related transactions in which a third party, together with its affiliates, becomes the direct or indirect owner of fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting shares or similar equity interests, or combined voting power of the Contractor, or by the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Contractor.

12.2 None of the Services shall be subcontracted by the Contractor without prior written notice and consent of the State. The State is entitled to copies of all subcontracts and assignment agreements and shall not be bound by any provisions contained in a subcontract or an assignment agreement to which it is not a party.

13. INDEMNIFICATION. Unless otherwise exempted by law, the Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all claims, liabilities and costs for any personal injury or property damages, patent or copyright infringement, or other claims asserted against the State, its officers or employees, which arise out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omission of the Contractor, or subcontractors, including but not limited to be negligence, reckless or intentional conduct. The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Contractor arising under this paragraph 13. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant in paragraph 13 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

#### 14. INSURANCE.

- 14.1 The Contractor shall, at its sole expense, obtain and continuously maintain in force, and shall require any subcontractor or assignee to obtain and maintain in force, the following insurance:
- 14.1.1 commercial general liability insurance against all claims of bodily injury, death or property damage, in amounts of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate or excess; and

- 14.1.2 special cause of loss coverage form covering all property subject to subparagraph 9.2 herein, in an amount not less than 80% of the whole replacement value of the property.
- 14.2 The policies described in subparagraph 14.1 herein shall be on policy forms and endorsements approved for use in the State of New Hampshire by the N.H. Department of Insurance, and issued by insurers licensed in the State of New Hampshire.
- 14.3 The Contractor shall furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, a certificate(s) of insurance for all insurance required under this Agreement. Contractor shall also furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, certificate(s) of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy. The certificate(s) of insurance and any renewals thereof shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference.

#### 15. WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

- 15.1 By signing this agreement, the Contractor agrees, certifies and warrants that the Contractor is in compliance with or exempt from, the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A ("Workers' Compensation").
- 15.2 To the extent the Contractor is subject to the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A, Contractor shall maintain, and require any subcontractor or assignee to secure and maintain, payment of Workers' Compensation in connection with activaties which the person proposes to undertake pursuant to this Agreement. The Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, proof of Workers' Compensation in the manner described in N.H. RSA chapter 281-A and any applicable renewal(s) thereof, which shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference. The State shall not be responsible for payment of any Workers' Compensation premiums or for any other claim or benefit for Contractor, or any subcontractor or employee of Contractor, which might arise under applicable State of New Hampshire Workers' Compensation laws in connection with the performance of the Services under this Agreement.
- 16. NOTICE. Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addresses to the parties at the addresses given in blocks 1.2 and 1.4, herein.
- 17. AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire unless no such approval is required under the circumstances pursuant to State law, rule or policy.
- 18. CHOICE OF LAW AND FORUM. This Agreement shall be governed, interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns. The wording used in this Agreement is the wording chosen by the parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of construction shall be applied against or in favor of any party. Any actions arising out of this Agreement shall be brought and maintained in New Hampshire Superior Court which shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof.

- 19. CONFLICTING TERMS. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this P-37 form (as modified in EXHIBIT A) and/or attachments and amendment thereof, the terms of the P-37 (as modified in EXHIBIT A) shall control.
- 20. THIRD PARTIES. The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.
- 21. **HEADINGS**. The headings throughout the Agreement are for reference purposes only, and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.
- 22. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. Additional or modifying provisions set forth in the attached EX-HIBIT A are incorporated herein by reference.
- 23. SEVERABILITY. In the event any of the provisions of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect.
- 24. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to the subject matter hereof.

## **Attachment 1: Demonstrated Effectiveness**

See separate document.

## **Attachment 2A: IET Application**

See separate document.

## **Attachment 2B: IELCE Application**

See separate document

Attachment 2C: IELCE with IET Designed for all AEL Participants Application
See separate document

## **Attachment 3: AEL Budget Worksheets**

See separate document.

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **100** of **156** 

### **Attachment 4: Required Documentation for Proposals**

The following are examples of the required documents that must be submitted with the proposal.

- 1. From Section 8 Contract Terms and Award
  - A statement that the organization submitting the proposal will accept the terms and conditions of the State of New Hampshire's standard Contract Agreement/General Provision as shown in Appendix G.
  - A <u>form for acceptance</u> is available in this section.
- 2. From <u>Section 7.11</u> Special Provisions
  - A statement that the organization will comply with the provisions of the US Code of Federal Regulations and the Uniform Administrative Non-Profit Organizations, if applicable.
  - A form is available in this section.
- 3. From Section 5.3.1 Organizational Capacity/Vendor Experience
  - Job descriptions for key program staff
  - Resumes for key program staff
- 4. From Section 5.3.3 Coordination with Other Community Organizations
  - Three (3) letters of reference from past students and/or collaborating agencies that speak to the organization's ability to provide the services described in the RFP.
- 5. From Section 5.3.4 Audited Financial Records
  - The organization must provide evidence of financial stability either through a narrative description of appropriated funds through a district budget process of a public entity or through audited financial records.

### STATEMENT of ACCEPTANCE of Terms and Conditions

The organization will accept the terms and conditions of the State of New Hampshire's standard Contract Agreement/General Provisions (Form P-37).

Superintendent of Schools or Chief Officer of Agency:	
ŭ ,	Signature
Local Director of Project:	
	Signature
Date Signed:	

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **102** of **156** 

### **STATEMENT of ACCEPTANCE of Special Provisions**

The organization will comply with the provisions of the US Code of Federal Regulations 34 CFR 364 and the following US Circular, if applicable: Office of Management and Budget (OBM) Circular A-110 "Uniform Administrative Non-Profit Organizations."

Superintendent of Schools or Chief Officer of Agency:	
ű ,	Signature
Local Director of Project:	
	Signature
Date Signed:	

### **Attachment 5: Required Documentation in the Event of Contract Execution**

Please do not submit this documentation with the proposal.

The following documentation will be required if the application is accepted by the State Agency after final negotiations are complete.

#### 1. Form P-37

• See <u>Appendix G</u> for an example

#### 2. Certificate of Good Standing

- The organization must provide a Certificate of Good Standing from the NH Secretary of State's Office or documentation that the entity is exempt from this requirement.
- For a non-profit corporation, the certificate is valid from the date of issue until December 31 of the next year ending in zero (0) or five (5).
- A copy is acceptable.
- See example in this section

#### 3. Certificate of Insurance

- If a certificate of insurance is already on file with the NH Department of Education, please document this information in the attachments.
- Specific requirements can be found in <u>Section 7.10.</u>

#### 4. Certificate of Authority

• The governing board of the organization must provide authorization for the individual to sign a contract with the NH Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Education. This can be a record of a vote from the Board of Directors/School Board or a Certificate of Authority form.

#### 5. Governing Board list

• A Board of Directors or School Board list

#### 6. US Department of Education General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)

- The organization must provide a GEPA attestation.
- Examples of the Notice to Applicants and Attestation Form are available in this section.

#### 7. Buy American Statement

• This statement is provided in accordance with Section 502 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.

#### 8. NH Department of Education Exhibits D – H

- The following Exhibits are required for any contract with the NH Department of Education
- Exhibit D Contractor Obligations
- Exhibit E Federal Barment and Suspension
- Exhibit F Anti-Lobbying
- Exhibit G Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract, Copy Rights and Confidentiality

#### 9. General Assurances

- The NH Department of Education requires a signature from all local education agencies and organizations that receive federal funds through the Department on the General Assurances.
  - o For LEAs (Local Education Agencies)
  - o For Reporting Agencies (Non-Profit Organizations)

## State of New Hampshire Department of State

#### **CERTIFICATE**

I, William M. Gardner, Secretary of State of the State of New is a New Harmshire ande name registered on certify that March 29, 2007 and that INC. presently Sellmile Stall Stall is in good standing as far as this office is

In TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Seal of the State of New Hampshire, this 15th day of April, A.D. 2015

> William M. Gardner Secretary of State



### CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

9/11/2015

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER Mason & Mason Technology Insurance Services, Inc. 458 South Ave.		CONTACT Judy Yeary				
		PHONE (A/C, No. Ext): (781) 447-5531	FAX (A/C, No): (781) 447-7230			
Whitman, MA 02382		ADDRESS: info@masoninsure.com	ARTHUR AND A CONTRACT OF THE PARTY OF THE PA			
		INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE	NAIC#			
		INSURER A: Federal Insurance Company	20281			
INSURED		INSURER B : Executive Risk Indemnity				
		INSURER C:				
		INSURER D:	$\mathcal{C}_{\lambda}$			
		INSURER E:	6			
The second secon		INSURER F :				
COVERAGES	CERTIFICATE NUMBER:	REVISIO	64 6.			
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT	THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED E	BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NO DE	FOR THE POLICY PERIOD			

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED IN THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT. TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCKEN. THE RESPECT TO WHICH THIS EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIM.

TYPE OF INSURANCE

ADDILIBER INSURANCE

INSO WAYD

POLICY NUMBER INSURANCE

LIMITS

LIMITS

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			0/1	17.	MED EXP (Any one person)	\$	10,000
			53 /	>	PERSONAL & ADV INJURY	\$	1,000,000
	GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER:				GENERAL AGGREGATE	\$	2,000,000
	POLICY PRO X LOC	Visit in the second sec	$(O)^*$		PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG	\$	2,000,000
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY	1 6	$\Sigma$		COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT	\$	
A	ANY AUTO	73546634	09/09/2015	09/09/2016	(En accident) BODILY INJURY (Per person)	-	1,000,000
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	DED X RETENTION \$ 10,00						20,000,000
^	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY	2		1	X PER STATUTE OTH-		***************************************
A	ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXEC	A 71733182 0	09/09/2015	09/09/2016	E.L. EACH ACCIDENT	\$	1,000,000
	(Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under		The second secon		E L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE	\$	1,000,000
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•	(%)	81595534	11/09/2014	11/09/2015	EACH OCC/GEN AGG		3,000,000

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

CANCELLATION

NH Department of Health and Human Services 129 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301 SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

ACORD 25 (2014/01)

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Certific		A 4	la a sui é	44 1
Cerunc	ate or	Aut	поги	V # 1

(Corporation or LLC - Non-specific, open-ended)

Corporate Resolution

	^\^	0,
Ι,	hereby certify that I am duly elected from	Secretary of
(Name)	Hamba and Gatha Gillianian in Children	
(Name of Corporation or LL		vote taken at
Traine of corporation of EE	£4 n	
a meeting of the Board of Di	irectors/shareholders, duly had held on	, 20
at which a quorum of the Dir	rectors/sharehold present and voting.	
<b>VOTED:</b> That	(may list more than one person)	is
duly authorized to		
(Name of C	with the State of New Hampshire and ar	ny of
its age or depa	artments and further is authorized to execute any	
~(O)/2	nay in his/her judgment be desirable or necessary to	effect
the purpose of this	vote.	
I hereby certify that	said vote has not been amended or repealed and rem	ains in full
force and effect as of the date	e of the contract to which this certificate is attached.	I further
certify that it is understood the	hat the State of New Hampshire will rely on this cert	ificate as
evidence that the person(s) li	isted above currently occupy the position(s) indicated	d and that
they have full authority to bi	nd the corporation. To the extent that there are any li	mits on the
authority of any listed indivi-	dual to bind the corporation in contracts with the Sta	te of New
Hampshire, all such limitation	ons are expressly stated herein.	
DATED:	ATTEST:	
	(Name & Title)	

Page 108 of 156 RFP-BAE-2023-003

### Certificate of Authority

I	John Doe	, Clerk/Secretary of	ABC lac	do hereby certify figs;	
(1)	I maintain and ha	ve custody of and am familiar	with the seal and m	inute books of the corporation;	
(2)	I am authorized to certificate;	issue certificates with respect	to the contents of:	such books and to affix such seal to such	
(3)	corporation at a n	a) (are) true and complete cop neeting of that board onMa orporation and the by-laws of t	rch 15_, 2013_, wi	ution(s) adopted by the board of directors of the sich meeting was held in accordance with the b	e sw
		vill enter into a contract with ti school youth. This resolution			ag
		Board of Directors has named timent of Education.	Jane Doe as having	authority to say (A) contract with the New	
(4)	The following is:	s true and complete copy of a b	y-law adopted (	(sh sholder)(organizational) meeting on	
(5)	The foregoing re-	colution(s) and by-law are in fu	I force and Oi	unamended, as of the date hereof; and	
(6)	The following per	rson(s) lawfully occupy the off	uncated bel	OW.	
		_Jane Dorot	President CEO		
			Vice President		
		John Doe	Secretary		
	16	_John Doe	Treasurer		
IN W	ITNES (DEOF	, I have hereunto set my hand 20	as the Clerk/Secreta	ry of the Corporation this day	of
3	prate sear it any)			Clerk/Secretary	
(If th	e corporation has no	seal, the Clerk/Secretary sh	all acknowledge ti	se certificate before an authorized officer be	low)
STAT	E OF NEW HAMPS	HIRE			
coun	NTY OF				
		, 20, certificate, know to me (or sati certificate, and acknowledge to		med officer personally appeared the person to be the Clerk/Secretary of the corporation	
success		cerumcate, and acunowiedge to of I hereunto set mv. hand and o		o me roregoning certainedite.	
	44-30-946-90-00463-53		oreover evel-		
				Notary Public/Instice of the Peace	

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **109** of **156** 

#### NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about the following provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law (P.L.) 103-382).

#### To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

#### What Does This Provision Require?

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single

narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

#### What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in braille for students who are blind.
- 3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.
- 4) An applicant that proposes a project to increase school safety might describe the special efforts it will take to address concern of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, and efforts to reach out to and involve the families of LGBT students

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

#### Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit (Public Law 103-382. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20210-4537 or email <a href="ICDocketMgr@cd.gov">ICDocketMgr@cd.gov</a> and reference the OMB Control Number 1894-0005.

# GENERAL EDUCATION PROVISIONS ACT (GEPA) Sec. 427 Attestation – WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT, TITLE II – ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY

This attestation outlines the steps that	will ensure be taken
(Applicant	
should the Adult Education application be funded.	
The purpose of this requirement is to assist the United Staimplementing its mission to ensure equal access to educate excellence.  If funded, the following steps will be taken to ensure equal in the project or activity to be conducted with federal aduaccess needs of students, teachers, and other program benequitable participation, including barriers based on gende and age.  The Act highlights six types of barriers that can impede experience.	itable access to and equitable participation lt education assistance by addressing the reficiaries in order to overcome barriers to r, race, color, national origin, disability
race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on le	
these or other barriers may prevent students, teachers, etc	
federally-funded project or activity. Please describe the s	steps to be taken to comply with the GEPA
requirements.	
Project Director: (Name and Title)	
Signature of Project Director:	Date:
515114141 61 1 10ject 151166161.	Date.

### **Buy American Act**

PURCHASE OF AMERICAN-MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS.— In the case of any equipment or product that may be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance provided using funds made available under title I or II or under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.), it is the sense of Congress that entities receiving the assistance should, in expending the assistance, purchase only American-made equipment and products.

This statement is provided in accordance with Section 502 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act of 2014.

Revised 8/2/19

#### **EXHIBIT D**

#### Contractor Obligations

Contracts in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently set at \$250,000) must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where the contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate. Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 and 2 C.F.R. 200, Appendix II, required contract clauses.

The contractor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to the contractor's actions pertaining to this contract.

The Contractor, certifies and affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Contractor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3801 et seq., apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.

#### Breach

A breach of the contract clauses above may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and subcontractor as provided in 29 C.F.R. § 5.12.

#### Fraud and False Statements

The Contractor understands that, if the project which is the subject of this Contract is financed in whole or in part by federal funds, that if the undersigned, the company that the Contractor represents, or any employee or agent thereof, knowingly makes any false statement, representation, report or claim as to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of material used or to be used, or quantity or quality work performed or to be performed, or makes any false statement or representation of a material fact in any statement, certificate, or report, the Contractor and any company that the Contractor represents may be subject to prosecution under the provision of 18 USC §1001 and §1020.

#### **Environmental Protection**

(This clause is applicable if this Contract exceeds \$150,000. It applies to Federal-aid contracts only.)

The Contractor is required to comply with all applicable standards, orders or requirements issued under Section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857 (h), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations (40 CFR Part 15) which prohibit the use under non-exempt Federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the EPA List of Violating Facilities. Violations shall be reported to the FHWA and to the U.S. EPA Assistant Administrator for Enforcement.

#### Procurement of Recovered Materials

In accordance with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. § 6962), State agencies and agencies of a political subdivision of a state that are using appropriated Federal funds for procurement must procure items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired in the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; must procure solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and must have established an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Revised 8/2/19

#### Exhibit E

#### Federal Debarment and Suspension

- a. By signature on this Contract, the Contractor certifies its compliance, and the compliance of its Sub-Contractors, present or future, by stating that any person associated therewith in the capacity of owner, partner, director, officer, principal investor, project director, manager, auditor, or any position of authority involving federal funds:
  - Is not currently under suspension, debarment, voluntary exclusion, or determination of ineligibility by any Federal Agency;
  - Does not have a proposed debarment pending;
  - Has not been suspended, debarred, voluntarily excluded or determined ineligible by any Federal Agency within the past three (3) years; and
  - Has not been indicted, convicted, or had a civil judgment rendered against the firm by a court of competent jurisdiction in any matter involving fraud or official misconduct within the past three (3) years.
- b. Where the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor is unable to certify to the statement in Section a.1. above, the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor shall be declared ineligible to enter into Contract or participate in the project.
- c. Where the Contractor or Sub-Contractor is unable to certify to any of the statements as listed in Sections a.2., a.3., or a.4., above, the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor shall submit a written explanation to the DOE. The certification or explanation shall be considered in connection with the DOE's determination whether to enter into Contract.
- d. The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the DOE if, at any time, the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor, learn that its Debarment and Suspension certification has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

RFP-BAE-2023-003

Revised 8/2/19

#### Exhibit F

#### Anti-Lobbying

The Contractor agrees to comply with the provisions of Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, Government wide Guidance for New Restrictions on Lobbying, and 31 U.S.C. 1352, and further agrees to have the Contractor's representative, execute the following Certification:

The Contractor certifies, by signing and submitting this contract, to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, that:

- a. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or shall be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence any officer or employee of any State or Federal Agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal amendment, or modification of any Federal contract grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- b. If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or shall be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal Agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit the "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form in accordance with its instructions (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/sflllin.pdf).
- c. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making and entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31 and U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.
- d. The Contractor also agrees, by signing this contract that it shall require that the language of this certification be included in subcontracts with all Sub-Contractor(s) and lower-tier Sub-Contractors which exceed \$100,000 and that all such Sub-Contractors and lower-tier Sub-Contractors shall certify and disclose accordingly.
- e. The DOE shall keep the firm's certification on file as part of its original contract. The Contractor shall keep individual certifications from all Sub-Contractors and lower-tier Sub-Contractors on file. Certification shall be retained for three (3) years following completion and acceptance of any given project.

Revised 8/2/19

#### Exhibit G

#### Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract, Copy Rights and Confidentiality

#### Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement

Contracts or agreements for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and the recipient in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the DOE.

Any discovery or invention that arises during the course of the contract shall be reported to the DOE. The Contractor is required to disclose inventions promptly to the contracting officer (within 2 months) after the inventor discloses it in writing to contractor personnel responsible for patent matters. The awarding agency shall determine how rights in the invention/discovery shall be allocated consistent with "Government Patent Policy" and Title 37 C.F.R. § 401.

#### Confidentiality

All Written and oral information and materials disclosed or provided by the DOE under this agreement constitutes Confidential Information, regardless of whether such information was provided before or after the date on this agreement or how it was provided.

The Contractor and representatives thereof, acknowledge that by making use of, acquiring or adding to information about matters and data related to this agreement, which are confidential to the DOE and its partners, must remain the exclusive property of the DOE.

Confidential information means all data and information related to the business and operation of the DOE, including but not limited to all school and student data contained in NH Title XV, Education, Chapters 186-200.

Confidential information includes but is not limited to, student and school district data, revenue and cost information, the source code for computer software and hardware products owned in part or in whole by the DOE, financial information, partner information(including the identity of DOE partners), Contractor and supplier information, (including the identity of DOE Contractors and suppliers), and any information that has been marked "confidential" or "proprietary", or with the like designation. During the term of this contract the Contractor agrees to abide by such rules as may be adopted from time to time by the DOE to maintain the security of all confidential information. The Contractor further agrees that it will always regard and preserve as confidential information/data received during the performance of this contract. The Contractor will not use, copy, make notes, or use excerpts of any confidential information, nor will it give, disclose, provide access to, or otherwise make available any confidential information to any person not employed or contracted by the DOE or subcontracted with the Contractor.

#### Ownership of Intellectual Property

The DOE shall retain ownership of all source data and other intellectual property of the DOE provided to the Contractor in order to complete the services of this agreement. As well the DOE will retain copyright ownership for any and all materials, patents and intellectual property produced, including, but not limited to, brochures, resource directories, protocols, guidelines, posters, or reports. The Contractor shall not reproduce any materials for purposes other than use for the terms under the contract without prior written approval from the DOE.



Frank Edelblut Commissioner Christine Brennan Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 25 Hall Street Concord, N.H. 03301 TEL. (603) 271-3495 FAX (603) 271-1953

April 4, 2022

TO: Superintendents

FROM: Lindsey Labonville, Administrator

Bureau of Federal Compliance

SUBJECT: General Assurances FY 2023

The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) has developed the attached "General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs" document that must be signed by all agencies and organizations that receive federal funds through the NHDOE. The federally funded programs which flow money through the NHDOE require each applicant to file certain assurances. Some of these assurances apply to all programs and are therefore, considered "general assurances."

The submission of general assurances is required in part by:

- Federal regulation 34 CFR §76.301 of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), which requires a general application for subgrantees/subrecipients for participation in federal programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education that meets the requirements of Section 442 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA).
- Applicable federal statutes.
- · Applicable regulations of other federal agencies.

The NHDOE has consolidated the general assurances into one document which also now includes requirements and definitions in an effort to provide more guidance relative to implementation of the underlying assurances. NHDOE requests an annual submission for all of your Local Education Agencies (LEA's). This will simplify the collection of assurances and facilitate the requirement that the NHDOE Commissioner

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of Education certify to the Secretary of Education the status of all LEAs. In New Hampshire both School Districts and School Administrative Units (SAUs) are considered LEA's. Individual program policy establishes which of these two entities may apply for federal funds. As such, both the Superintendent and the local School Board Chairperson are required to sign the certifications of the attached document.

I am requesting that you and the local School Board complete the certifications at the end of the enclosed general assurance document; initial each page in the spaces provided and return it in full to the attention of the Bureau of Federal Compliance. That office will notify the directors of all NHDOE programs approving federal funds to LEA's when they have received your assurances. The directors of the various federal programs are not to request additional copies from you, but to accept the Bureau of Federal Compliance list as the basis for determining compliance with these requirements as one item in their approval of proposals for funding. Other program specific assurances will still be requested from the LEA's by individual NHDOE programs.

Compliance with these general assurances will be subject to review by NHDOE staff during onsite federal compliance monitoring. Annual audits by CPA's in accordance with the Single Audit Act may also include compliance checks.

On the Certification page, please include the name and number of the SAU office and the name of the School District which will be applying for funds, both certifying parties are asked to execute the document, and return to the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance office no later than June 30, 2022.

If you should have any questions regarding these general assurances, please contact Lindsey Labonville, Administrator of the Bureau of Federal Compliance at Lindsey.L.Labonville@doe.nh.gov or at 603-271-3837.

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### New Hampshire Department of Education

#### FY2023

### GENERAL ASSURANCES, REQUIREMENTS AND DEFINITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Subrecipients of any Federal grant funds provided through the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) must submit a signed copy of this document to the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance prior to any formula grant application being deemed to be "substantially approvable" or any discretionary grant receiving "final approval". Once a formula grant is deemed to be in substantially approvable form, the subrecipient may begin to obligate funds which will be reimbursed upon final approval of the application by the NHDOE (34 CFR 708).

Any funds obligated by the subrecipient prior to the application being in substantially approvable form will not be reimbursable even upon final approval of the application by the NHDOE.

While there have been no significant changes notable in the last year, this FY2023 general assurances document contains a few minor differences from the FY2022 general assurances document. You are encouraged to do a side-by-side comparison of the two documents so that you thoroughly understand the requirements and deadlines to which you are agreeing.

Following your review and acceptance of these <u>General Assurances</u>, <u>Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs</u> please sign the certification statement on the appropriate page and then initial each of the remaining pages where indicated.

Please note that the practice of the School Board authorizing the Superintendent to sign on behalf of the School Board Chair is not acceptable to the NHDOE in this case and will be considered non-responsive.

Once the document is fully executed, you may either email or mail a copy of the entire document to:

New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Federal Compliance 25 Hall Street Concord, NH 03301 federalcompliance@doe.nh.gov

Should you have any questions please contact Lindsey Labonville at 603-271-3837, or Jessica Lescarbeau at 603-271-3808.

### General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs

#### A. General Assurances

Assurance is hereby given by the subrecipient that, to the extent applicable:

- The subrecipient has the legal authority to apply for the federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay non-federal share of project costs, as applicable) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in all applications submitted.
- 2) The subrecipient will give the awarding agency, the NHDOE, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, other State Agencies, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
- 3) The subrecipient will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. The subrecipient will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
- 4) The subrecipient will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency (2 CFR 200.1 Definitions 'Federal Awarding Agency') with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
- 5) The subrecipient will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
- 6) The subrecipient will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
- The subrecipient will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
- 8) The subrecipient will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to:
  - (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin;
  - (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.§§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex;
  - (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps;
  - (d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age;

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 1 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

- (e) The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse;
- (f) The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism:
- (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records;
- (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing;
- Any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and,
- (j) The requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
- 9) The subrecipient will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of federal participation in purchases.
- 10) The subrecipient will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with federal funds. The subrecipient further assures that no federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the subrecipient to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant; the entering into of any cooperative agreement; and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal grant or cooperative agreement.
- 11) The subrecipient will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported in whole or in part with federal funds.
- 12) The subrecipient will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported in whole or in part with federal funds.
- 13) The subrecipient will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
- 14) The subrecipient will comply with all applicable requirements of all other federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing all program(s).
- 15) The subrecipient will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and 2 CFR 200.501, Subpart F, "Audit Requirements," as applicable.
- 16) The recipient will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a subrecipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

17)	The control	of fur	ids provided	to a su	brecipient	that is a	Local	Education .	Agency	under eac	:h program
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New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 2 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency, and a public agency will administer those funds and property.

- 18) Personnel funded from federal grants and their subcontractors will adhere to the prohibition from text messaging while driving an organization-owned vehicle, or while driving their own privately owned vehicle during official Grant business, or from using organization-supplied electronic equipment to text message or email while driving. Recipients must comply with these conditions under Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership On Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009 (pursuant to provisions attached to federal grants funded by the US Department of Education).
- 19) The subrecipient assures that it will adhere to the Pro-Children Act of 2001, which states that no person shall permit smoking within any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted and utilized for the provision of routine or regular kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education or library services to children (P.L. 107-110, section 4303[a]). In addition, no person shall permit smoking within any indoor facility (or portion of such a facility) owned or leased or contracted and utilized for the provision of regular or routine health care or day care or early childhood development (Head Start) services (P.L. 107-110, Section 4303[b][1]). Any failure to comply with a prohibition in this Act shall be considered to be a violation of this Act and any person subject to such prohibition who commits such violation may be liable to the United States for a civil penalty, as determined by the Secretary of Education (P.L. 107-110, section 4303[e][1]).
- 20) The subrecipient will comply with the Stevens Amendment.
- 21) The subrecipient will submit such reports to the NHDOE and to U.S. governmental agencies as may reasonably be required to enable the NHDOE and U.S. governmental agencies to perform their duties. The subrecipient will maintain such fiscal and programmatic records, including those required under 20 U.S.C. 1234f, and will provide access to those records, as necessary, for those Departments/agencies to perform their duties.
- 22) The subrecipient will assure that expenditures reported are proper and in accordance with the terms and conditions of any project/grant funding, the official who is authorized to legally bind the agency/organization agrees to the following certification for all fiscal reports and/or vouchers requesting payment [2CFR 200.415(a)].

"By signing this General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs document, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the reports submitted are true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purpose and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Project Award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise."

- 23) If an LEA, the subrecipient will provide reasonable opportunities for systematic consultation with and participation of teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals, including education-related community groups and non-profit organizations, in the planning for and operation of each program.
- 24) If an LEA, the subrecipient shall assure that any application, evaluation, periodic program plan, or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public upon request.
- 25) If an LEA, the subrecipient has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program, significant information from educational

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 3 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects. Such procedures shall ensure compliance with applicable federal laws and requirements.

- The subrecipient will comply with the requirements of the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994.
- 27) The subrecipient will submit a fully executed and accurate <u>Single-Audit Certification</u> form to the NHDOE not later than December 31, 2022. The worksheet will be provided to each subrecipient by the NHDOE.
- 28) The subrecipient shall comply with the restrictions of New Hampshire RSA 15:5.
- 29) The subrecipient will comply with the requirements in 2 CFR Part 180, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement).
- 30) The subrecipient certifies that it will maintain a drug-free workplace and will comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and 34 CFR 84.200.
- The recipient will adhere to the requirements of Title 20 USC 7197 relative to the Transfer of Disciplinary Records.
- 32) Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
- 33) Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
- 34) Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
- 35) Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
- 36) Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
- 37) Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of

New Hampshire Department of Education - FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 4 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

38) As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the non-Federal entity should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award (2 CFR 200.322).

#### B. Explanation of Grants Management Requirements

The following section elaborate on certain requirements included in legislation or regulations referred to in the "General Assurances" section. This section also explains the broad requirements that apply to federal program funds.

#### 1. Financial Management Systems

Financial management systems, including records documenting compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions; and the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used according to the Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

Specifically, the financial management system must be able to:

- a) Identify, in its accounts, all federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and federal award identification must include, as applicable, the CFDA title and number, federal award identification number and year, name of the federal agency, and name of the pass-through entity, if any.
- Provide accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program.
- Produce records that identify adequately the source and application of funds for federally funded activities.
- d) Maintain effective control over, and accountability for, all funds, property, and other assets. The subrecipient must adequately safeguard all assets and assure that they are used solely for authorized purposes.
- e) Generate comparisons of expenditures with budget amounts for each federal award.

#### 2. Written Policies and Procedures

The subrecipient must have written policies and procedures for:

Policy/Procedure Name	In Accordance With	Policy	Procedure
Drug-Free Workplace Policy	34 CFR 84.200 and the Drug-Free		N/A
	Workplace Act of 1988		IV/A
Procurement Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.317-327		
Conflict of Interest/Standard of Conduct Policy	2 CFR 318(c)(1)		N/A
Inventory Management Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.313(d)		
District Travel Policy	2 CFR 200.475(b)		N/A

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New Hampshire Department of Education	on – FY23	Initials of Sur	erintendent:	
Page 5 of 17		Initials of School	Board Chair:	

Policy/Procedure Name	In Accordance With	Policy	Procedure
Subrecipient Monitoring	2 CFR 200.332(d)		
Policy/Procedure (if applicable)			
Time and Effort Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.431		
Records Retention Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.334		
Prohibiting the Aiding and Abetting of	ESEA 8546		N/A
Sexual Abuse Policy			N/A
Allowable Cost Determination Policy	2 CFR 200.302(b)(7)		N/A
Gun Free School Act	Gun Free School Act of 1994		N/A
Cash Management	2 CFR 200.302(b)(6) and 200.305		

#### 3. Internal Controls

The subrecipient must:

- a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-federal entity is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with the guidance outlined in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the "Internal Control Integrated Framework", issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- Comply with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal awards.
- Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified, including noncompliance identified in audit findings.
- d) Take reasonable measures to safeguard and protect personally identifiable information and other information the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the subrecipient considers sensitive consistent with applicable federal, state, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.
- e) Maintain all accounts, records, and other supporting documentation pertaining to all costs incurred and revenues or other applicable credits acquired under each approved project in accordance with 2 CFR 200.334.

#### 4. Allowable Costs

In accounting for and expending project/grant funds, the subrecipient may only charge expenditures to the project award if they are;

- a) in payment of obligations incurred during the approved project period;
- b) in conformance with the approved project;
- in compliance with all applicable statutes and regulatory provisions;
- d) costs that are allocable to a particular cost objective;
- e) spent only for reasonable and necessary costs of the program; and
- f) not used for general expenses required to carry out other responsibilities of the subrecipient.

#### 5. Audits

This part is applicable for all non-federal entities as defined in 2 CFR 200, Subpart F.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 6 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

- a) In the event that the subrecipient expends \$750,000 or more in federal awards in its fiscal year, the subrecipient must have a single or program-specific audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F. In determining the federal awards expended in its fiscal year, the subrecipient shall consider all sources of federal awards, including federal resources received from the NHDOE. The determination of amounts of federal awards expended should be in accordance with the guidelines established by 2 CFR 200, Subpart F.
- b) In connection with the audit requirements, the subrecipient shall also fulfill the requirements relative to auditee responsibilities as provided in 2 CFR 200.508.
- c) If the subrecipient expends less than \$750,000 in federal awards in its fiscal year, an audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F, is not required. In the event that the subrecipient expends less than \$750,000 in federal awards in its fiscal year and elects to have an audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F, the cost of the audit must be paid from non-federal resources (i.e., the cost of such an audit must be paid from subrecipient resources obtained from non-federal entities).

The subrecipient assures it will implement the following audit responsibilities;

- a) Procure or otherwise arrange for the audit required by this part in accordance with auditor selection regulations (2 CFR 200.509), and ensure it is properly performed and submitted no later than nine months after the close of the fiscal year in accordance with report submission regulations (2 CFR 200.512).
- b) Provide the auditor access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed so that the auditor may perform the audit required by this part.
- Prepare appropriate financial statements, including the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with financial statements regulations (2 CFR 200.510).
- d) Promptly follow up and take corrective action on audit findings, including preparation of a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan in accordance with audit findings follow-up regulations (2 CFR 200.511(b-c)).
- Upon request by the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance (BFC), promptly submit a corrective action plan using the NHDOE template provided by the BFC for audit findings related to NHDOE funded programs.
- f) For repeat findings not resolved or only partially resolved, the subrecipient must provide an explanation for findings not resolved or only partially resolved to the BFC for findings related to all NHDOE funded programs. The BFC will review the subrecipient's submission and issue an appropriate Management Decision in accordance with 2 CFR 200.521.

#### 6. Reports to be Submitted

#### Audits/Management Decisions

Copies of reporting packages for audits conducted in accordance with 2 CFR 200, Subpart F shall be submitted, by or on behalf of the recipient directly to the following:

a) The Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) in 2 CFR 200, Subpart F requires the auditee to electronically submit the data collection form described in 200.512(b) and the reporting package described in 200.512(c) to FAC at: https://harvester.census.gov/facides/(S(mqamohbpfj0hmyh1r45p1po1))/account/login.aspx

Copies of other reports or management decision letter(s) shall be submitted by or on behalf of the subrecipient directly to:

a) New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Federal Compliance

New Hampshire Department of Education - FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 7 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

25 Hall Street Concord, NH 03301

Or via email to: federalcompliance@doe.nh.gov

b) In response to requests by a federal agency, auditees must submit a copy of any management letters issued by the auditor, 2 CFR 200.512(e).

Any other reports, management decision letters, or other information required to be submitted to the NHDOE pursuant to this agreement shall be submitted in a timely manner.

#### Single Audit Certification

A fully executed and accurate <u>Single-Audit Certification</u> form shall be submitted to the NHDOE no later than **December 31, 2022**. A copy of the form will be provided to each subrecipient by the NHDOE.

#### 7. Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

As required by Executive Orders (E.O.) 12549 and 12689, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 2 CFR Part 180, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined in 2 CFR 180.120, 180.125 and 180.200, no contract shall be made to parties identified on the General Services Administration's Excluded Parties List System as excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-procurement Programs in accordance with E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension." This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549. Contractors with awards that exceed the small purchase threshold shall provide the required certification regarding their exclusion status and that of their principal employees.

The federal government imposes this requirement in order to protect the public interest, and to ensure that only responsible organizations and individuals do business with the government and receive and spend government grant funds. Failure to adhere to these requirements may have serious consequences – for example, disallowance of cost, termination of project, or debarment.

To assure that this requirement is met, there are four options for obtaining satisfaction that subrecipients and contractors are not suspended, debarred, or disqualified. They are:

The subrecipient certifies that it and its principals:

- a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal Department or agency.
- b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes; commission of embezzlement; theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records; making false statements; or receiving stolen property.
- c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in this certification.
- d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

Where the subrecipient is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, they shall attach an explanation to this document.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:	•
Page 8 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:	

#### 8. Drug-Free Workplace (Grantees Other Than Individual)

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and implemented in 34 CFR 84.200 the subrecipient certifies that it will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

- a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance (34 CFR 84.610) is prohibited in the subrecipient's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition.
- Establishing, as required by 34 CFR 84.215, an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
  - The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace.
  - The recipient's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
  - Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs.
  - The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
- Requiring that each employee engaged in the performance of the project is given a copy of this statement.
- d) Notifying the employee in the statement that, as a condition of employment under the project, the employee will:
  - Abide by the terms of the statement.
  - Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.
- e) Notifying the agency in writing within 5 calendar days after receiving notice of an employee's conviction of a violation of a criminal drug statute in the workplace, as required by 34 CFR 84.205(c)(2), from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of employee's conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title to:

Director, Grants and Contracts Service
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. [Room 3124, GSA – Regional Office Building No. 3]
Washington, D.C. 20202-4571

(Notice shall include the identification number[s] of each affected grant).

- f) Taking one of the following actions, as stated in 34 CFR 84.225(b), within 30 calendar days of receiving the required notice with respect to any employee who is convicted of a violation of a criminal drug statute in the workplace.
  - Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
  - Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.
- g) Making a good-faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of the requirements stated above.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 9 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

### General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Requirements - Section 427 (Federal Requirement) Equity for Students, Teachers, and Other Program Beneficiaries

The purpose of Section 427 of GEPA is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence by ensuring equal opportunities to participate for all eligible students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in proposed projects, and to promote the ability of such students, teachers, and beneficiaries to meet high standards. Further, when designing their projects, grant applicants must address the special needs and equity concerns that might affect the ability of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to participate fully in the proposed project.

Program staff within the NHDOE must ensure that information required by Section 427 of GEPA is included in each application that the Department funds. (There may be a few cases, such as research grants, in which Section 427 may not be applicable because the projects do not have individual project beneficiaries. Contact the Government Printing Office staff should you believe a situation of this kind exists).

The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, and age. Based on local circumstances, the applicant can determine whether these or other barriers may prevent participants from access and participation in the federally assisted project, and how the applicant would overcome these barriers.

These descriptions may be provided in a single narrative or, if appropriate, may be described in connection with other related topics in the application. Subrecipients should be asked to state in the table of contents where this requirement is met.

NHDOE program staff members are responsible for screening each application to ensure that the requirements of this section are met before making an award. If this condition is not met, after the application has been selected for funding the program staff should contact the subrecipient to find out why this information is missing. Documentation must be in the project file indicating that this review was completed before the award was made. If an oversight occurred, the program staff may give the applicant another opportunity to satisfy this requirement, but must receive the missing information before making the award, 34 CFR 75.231.

All applicants for new awards must satisfy this provision to receive funding. Those seeking *continuation* awards do not need to submit information beyond the descriptions included in their original applications.

#### Gun Possession (Local Education Agencies (LEAs) only)

As required by Title XIV, Part F, and Section 14601 (Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994) of the Improving America's Schools Act:

The LEA assures that it shall comply with the provisions of RSA 193:13 III.

RSA 193:13, III. Any pupil who brings or possesses a firearm as defined in section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code in a safe school zone as defined in RSA 193-D:1 without written authorization from the Superintendent or designee shall be expelled from school by the local school board for a period of not less than 12 months.

The LEA assures that it has adopted a policy, which allows the Superintendent or Chief Administrating officer to modify the expulsion requirement on a case by case basis. RSA 193:13, IV.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 10 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

The LEA assures that it shall report to the NHDOE in July of each year, a description of the circumstances surrounding any expulsions imposed under RSA 193:13, III and IV including, but not limited to:

- a) The name of the school concerned;
- The grade of the student disciplined;
- c) The type of firearm involved;
- d) Whether or not the expulsion was modified, and
- e) If the student was identified as Educationally Disabled.

The LEA assures that it has in effect a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm or weapon to school.

Ed 317.03 Standard for Expulsion by Local School Board.

- A school board which expels a pupil under RSA 193:13, II or III, shall state in writing its reasons, including the act leading to expulsion, and shall provide a procedure for review as allowed under RSA 193:13, II.
- b) School boards shall make certain that the pupil has received notice of the requirements of RSA 193-D and RSA 193:13 through announced, posted, or printed school rules.
- c) If a student is subject to expulsion and a firearm is involved, the Superintendent shall contact local law enforcement officials whenever there is any doubt concerning:
  - 1) Whether a firearm is legally licensed under RSA 159; or
  - Whether the firearm is lawfully possessed, as opposed to unlawfully possessed, under the legal definitions of RSA 159.
- d) If a pupil brings or possesses a firearm in a safe school zone without written authorization from the Superintendent, the following shall apply:
  - The Superintendent shall suspend the pupil for a period not to exceed 10 days, pending a hearing by the local board; and
  - The school board shall hold a hearing within 10 days to determine whether the student was in violation of RSA 193:13, III and therefore is subject to expulsion.

#### 11. Lobbying

As required by Section 1352, Title 31, of the U.S. Code, and implemented in 34 CFR Part 82, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined in 34 CFR 82.105 and 82.110, the applicant certifies that:

- a) No federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the subrecipient to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant; the entering into of any cooperative agreement; and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal grant or cooperative agreement.
- b) If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with federal grants or cooperative agreements, the subrecipient shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- c) The subrecipient shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, contracts under grants,

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 11 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

#### New Hampshire RSA 15:5 - Prohibited Activities.

- I. Except as provided in paragraph II, no recipient of a grant or appropriation of state funds may use the state funds to lobby or attempt to influence legislation, participate in political activity, or contribute funds to any entity engaged in these activities.
- II. Any recipient of a grant or appropriation of state funds that wishes to engage in any of the activities prohibited in paragraph I, or contribute funds to any entity engaged in these activities, shall segregate the state funds in such a manner that such funds are physically and financially separate from any non-state funds that may be used for any of these purposes. Mere bookkeeping separation of the state funds from other moneys shall not be sufficient.

#### 12. Subrecipient Monitoring

In addition to reviews of audits conducted in accordance with 2 CFR 200, Subpart F, subrecipient monitoring procedures may include, but not be limited to, on-site or remote visits by NHDOE staff, limited scope audits, and/or other procedures. By signing this document, the subrecipient agrees to comply and cooperate with any monitoring procedures/processes deemed appropriate by the NHDOE. In the event the NHDOE determines that a limited scope audit of the project recipient is appropriate, the subrecipient agrees to comply with any additional instructions provided by NHDOE staff to the subrecipient regarding such audit.

#### 13. More Restrictive Conditions

Subrecipients found to be in noncompliance with program and/or fund source requirements or determined to be "high risk" shall be subject to the imposition of more restrictive conditions as determined by the NHDOE.

#### 14. Obligations by Subrecipients

Obligations will be considered to have been incurred by subrecipients on the basis of documentary evidence of binding commitments for the acquisition of goods or property or for the performance of work, except that funds for personal services, for services performed by public utilities, for travel, and for the rental of facilities shall be considered to have been obligated at the time such services were rendered, such travel was performed, and/or when facilities are used (see 34 CFR 76.707).

#### 15. Personnel Costs - Time Distribution

Charges to federal projects for personnel costs, whether treated as direct or indirect costs, are allowable to the extent that they satisfy the specific requirements of 2 CFR 200.430, and will be based on payrolls documented in accordance with generally accepted practices of the subrecipient and approved by a responsible official(s) of the subrecipient.

When employees work solely on a single federal award or cost objective, charges for their salaries and wages must be supported by personnel activity reports (PARs), which are periodic certifications (at least semi-annually) that the employees worked solely on that program for the period covered by the certification. These certifications must be signed by the employee or a supervisory official having firsthand knowledge of the work performed by the employee.

When employees work on multiple activities or cost objectives (e.g., more than one federal project, a federal

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:
Page 12 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:

project and a non-federal project, an indirect cost activity and a direct cost activity, two or more indirect activities which are allocated using different allocation bases, or an unallowable activity and a direct or indirect cost activity), the distribution of their salaries or wages will be supported by personnel activity reports or equivalent documents that meet the following standards:

- Reflect an after-the-fact distribution of the actual activity of each employee
- b) Account for the total activity for which each employee is compensated
- c) Prepared at least monthly and must coincide with one or more pay period
- d) Signed and dated by the employee

#### 16. Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

As required in Section 9524 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, LEAs must certify annually that they have no policy that prevents or otherwise denies participation in constitutionally protected prayer in public elementary and secondary schools.

#### 17. Purchasing/Procurement

The non-Federal entity must have and use documented procurement procedures, consistent with the standards of this section and 2 CFR 200.317, 200.318, and 200.319 for any of the following methods of procurement used for the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award or sub-award.

- 1. Informal procurement methods
  - a. Micro-purchases
  - b. Small purchases
- Formal procurement methods
  - a. Sealed bids
  - b. Proposals
- 3. Noncompetitive procurement

#### 18. Retention and Access to Records

Requirements related to retention and access to project/grant records, are determined by federal rules and regulations. Federal regulation 2 CFR 200.334, addresses the retention requirements for records that applies to all financial and programmatic records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other non-Federal entity records pertinent to a Federal or Project award. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration date of the retention period, the records must be maintained until all ligation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

Access to records of the subrecipient and the expiration of the right of access is found at 2 CFR 200.337 (a) and (c), which states:

- a) Records of non-Federal entities. The Federal awarding agency, Inspectors General, the Comptroller General of the United States, and the pass-through entity, or any of their authorized representatives [including but not limited to the NHDOE] must have the right of access to any documents, papers, or other records of non-Federal entity which are pertinent to the Federal award, in order to make audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcripts. The right also includes timely and reasonable access to the non-Federal entity's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents.
- d) Expiration of right of access. The rights of access in this section are not limited to the required retention period but last as long as the records are retained.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:	
Page 13 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:	

#### 19. The Stevens Amendment

All federally funded projects must comply with the Stevens Amendment of the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, found in Section 8136, which provides:

When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations, and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with federal money, all grantees receiving federal funds, including but not limited to state and local governments, shall clearly state (1) the percentage of the total cost of the program or project which will be financed with federal money, (2) the dollar amount of federal funds for the project or program, and (3) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be funded by non-governmental sources.

#### 20. Transfer of Disciplinary Records

Title 20 USC 7197 requires that the State have a procedure to assure that a student's disciplinary records, with respect to suspensions and expulsions, are transferred by the project recipient to any public or private elementary or secondary school where the student is required or chooses to enroll. In New Hampshire, that assurance is statutory and found at RSA 193-D:8.

The relevant portions of the federal and state law appear below.

- a) Disciplinary Records In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g), not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this part, each State receiving Federal funds under this Act shall provide an assurance to the Secretary that the State has a procedure in place to facilitate the transfer of disciplinary records, with respect to a suspension or expulsion, by local educational agencies to any private or public elementary school or secondary school for any student who is enrolled or seeks, intends, or is instructed to enroll, on a full- or part-time basis, in the school.
- b) 193-D:8 Transfer Records; Notice All elementary and secondary educational institutions, including academies, private schools, and public schools, shall upon request of the parent, pupil, or former pupil, furnish a complete school record for the pupil transferring into a new school system. Such record shall include, but not be limited to, records relating to any incidents involving suspension or expulsion, or delinquent or criminal acts, or any incident reports in which the pupil was charged with any act of theft, destruction, or violence in a safe school zone.

#### C. Definitions (2 CFR 200.1)

- Audit finding Audit finding means deficiencies which the auditor is required by 2 CFR 200.516
   (a) to report in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- 2) Management decision -Management decision means the Federal awarding agency's or pass-through entity's written determination, provided to the auditee, of the adequacy of the auditee's proposed corrective actions to address the findings, based on its evaluation of the audit findings and proposed corrective actions.
- Pass-through entity Pass-through entity (PTE) means a non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program.
- 4) Period of performance Period of performance means the total estimate time interval between the start of an initial Federal award and the planned end date, which may include one or more

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:	_
Page 14 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:	

funded portions, or budget periods. Identification of the Period of Performance in the Federal award per 2 CFR 200.211(b)(5) does not commit the awarding agency to fund the award beyond the currently approved budget period.

- 5) Subaward Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.
- 6) Subrecipient Subrecipient mean an entity, usually buy not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal award; but does not include an individual hat is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superintendent:	
Page 15 of 17	Initials of School Board Chair:	

#### CERTIFICATION

Instructions: The Superintendent, or other Qualifying Administrator, if the School District or School Administrative Unit (SAU) does not have a Superintendent, (See RSA 194-C:5, II) must consult with the School Board for the School District/SAU by informing said School Board about the District's/SAU's participation in Federal Programs and the terms and conditions of the General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs. The Superintendent or other Qualifying Administrator and the Chair of the School Board must sign this certification page (and initial the remaining pages) as described below and return it to the NHDOE. No payment for project/grant awards will be made by the NHDOE without a fully executed copy of this General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs on file. For further information, contact the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance.

#### Superintendent or other Qualifying Administrator Certification:

We the undersigned acknowledge that [a] person is guilty of a violation of R.S.A. § 641:3 if [h]e or she makes a written or electronic false statement which he or she does not believe to be true, on or pursuant to a form bearing a notification authorized by law to the effect that false statements made therein are punishable; or (b) With a purpose to deceive a public servant in the performance of his or her official function, he or she: (1) Makes any written or electronic false statement which he or she does not believe to be true; or (2) Knowingly creates a false impression in a written application for any pecuniary or other benefit by omitting information necessary to prevent statements therein from being misleading; or (3) Submits or invites reliance on any writing which he or she knows to be lacking in authenticity; or (4) Submits or invites reliance on any sample, specimen, map, boundary mark, or other object which he or she knows to be false.

Accordingly, I, the undersigned official legally authorized to bind the named School District/SAU

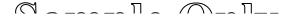
hereby apply for participation in federally funded education District/SAU named below. I certify, to the best of my District/SAU will adhere to and comply with these Gen Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs (page is evidenced by the Minutes of the School Board Meeti informed the members of the School Board of the federand of these General Assurances. Requirements and Definitions of the School Board of the federand of these General Assurances.	knowledge, that the below School heral Assurances, Requirements at s 1 through 17 inclusive). I furth ng held on the property of the property of the property of the ral funds the District/SAU will be	ol nd er certify, as hat I have receiving	
and of these General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for the Participation in Federal Programs for the District's/SAU's participation in said programs.			
SAU Number: District or SAU Name:			
Typed Name of Superintendent or other Qualifying Administrator	Signature	Date	
New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Superinten		
Page 16 of 17	Initials of School Board (	Chair:	

#### **School Board Certification:**

I, the undersigned official representing the Schoother Qualifying Administrator, as identified ab Board, in furtherance of the School Board's obland pursuant to the School Board's oversight of the General Assurances, Requirements and Def programs.	ove, has consulted with all members of ligations, including those enumerated if federal funds the District will be reco	of the School in RSA 189:1-a eiving and of
Typed Name of School Board Chair (on behalf of the School Board)	Signature	Date
Please email or mail a c	opy of the entire document to:	

New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Federal Compliance 25 Hall Street Concord, NH 03301 federalcompliance@doe.nh.gov

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23 Initials of Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_\_
Page 17 of 17 Initials of School Board Chair: \_\_\_\_\_\_





Frank Edelblut Commissioner Christine Brennan Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 25 Hall Street Concord, N.H. 03301 TEL. (603) 271-3495 FAX (603) 271-1953

April 4, 2022

TO: Chief Administrative/Financial Officer

FROM: Lindsey Labonville, Administrator

Bureau of Federal Compliance

SUBJECT: General Assurances FY 2023

The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) has developed the attached "General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs" document that must be signed by all agencies and organizations that receive federal funds through the NHDOE. The federally funded programs which flow money through the NHDOE require each applicant to file certain assurances. Some of these assurances apply to all programs and are therefore, considered "general assurances."

The submission of general assurances is required by:

- Federal regulation 34 CFR §76.301 of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), which requires a general application for subgrantees/subrecipients for participation in federal programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education that meets the requirements of Section 442 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA).
- Applicable federal statutes.
- Applicable regulations of other federal agencies.

The NHDOE has consolidated the general assurances into one document which also now includes terms and requirements in an effort to provide more guidance relative to implementation of the underlying assurances. NHDOE requests an annual submission for all of your Postsecondary Colleges/Institutions or Reporting Authorities. This will simplify the collection of assurances and facilitate the requirement that the New Hampshire Commissioner of Education certify to the Secretary of Education the status of all applicant agencies.

TDD Access: Relay NH 711
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER- EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs

#### A. General Assurances

Assurance is hereby given by the subrecipient that, to the extent applicable:

- The subrecipient has the legal authority to apply for the federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay non-federal share of project costs, as applicable) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in all applications submitted.
- 2) The subrecipient will give the awarding agency, the NHDOE, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, other State Agencies, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
- The subrecipient will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
- 4) The subrecipient will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
- The subrecipient will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to:
  - (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin;
  - (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.§§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex;
  - (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps;
  - (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age;
  - (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse;
  - (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism:
  - (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records;
  - (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing;
  - (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and,
  - (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY20	Initials of Chief Administrator/:
Page 1 of 16	Financial Officer

We are requesting that you complete the certifications at the end of the enclosed general assurance document; initial each page in the spaces provided and return it in full to the attention of the Bureau of Federal Compliance. That office will notify the directors of all programs approving federal funds to Postsecondary Colleges/Institutions or Reporting Authorities when they have received your assurances. The directors of the various federal programs are not to request additional copies from you, but to accept the Bureau of Federal Compliance list as the basis for determining compliance with these requirements as one item in their approval of proposals for funding. Other program specific assurances will still be requested by individual NHDOE programs.

Compliance with these general assurances will be subject to review by NHDOE staff during onsite federal compliance monitoring. Annual audits by CPA's in accordance with the Single Audit Act may also include compliance checks.

In the certification section, please include the name of the Postsecondary Colleges/Institutions or Reporting Authority that will be applying for funds. The certifying party is asked to execute the document, and return to the Bureau of Federal Compliance office no later than <u>June 30</u>, 2022.

Thank you for your assistance with this initiative. This process should make it less difficult for all of us to access and use the federal funds for the purposes designated.

If you should have any questions regarding these general assurances, please contact Lindsey Labonville, Administrator of the Bureau of Federal Compliance at <a href="mailto:Lindsey.L.Labonville@doe.nh.gov">Lindsey.L.Labonville@doe.nh.gov</a> or at 603-271-3837.

### New Hampshire Department of Education

#### FY2023

### GENERAL ASSURANCES, REQUIREMENTS AND DEFINITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Subrecipients of any Federal grant funds provided through the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) must submit a signed copy of this document to the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance prior to any formula grant application being deemed to be "substantially approvable" or any discretionary grant receiving "final approval". Once a formula grant is deemed to be in substantially approvable form, the subrecipient may begin to obligate funds which will be reimbursed upon final approval of the application by the NHDOE (34 CFR 708).

Any funds obligated by the subrecipient prior to the application being in substantially approvable form will not be reimbursable even upon final approval of the application by the NHDOE.

While there have been no significant changes notable in the last year, this FY2023 general assurances document contains a few minor differences from the FY2022 general assurances document. You are encouraged to do a side-by-side comparison of the two documents so that you thoroughly understand the requirements and deadlines to which you are agreeing.

Following your review and acceptance of these <u>General Assurances</u>, <u>Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs</u> please sign the certification statement on the appropriate page and then initial each of the remaining pages where indicated.

Once the document is fully executed, you may either email or mail a copy of the <u>entire</u> document to:

New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Federal Compliance 25 Hall Street Concord, NH 03301 federalcompliance@doe.nh.gov

Should you have any questions please contact Lindsey Labonville at 603-271-3837, or Jessica Lescarbeau at 603-271-3808.

### General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs

#### A. General Assurances

Assurance is hereby given by the subrecipient that, to the extent applicable:

- The subrecipient has the legal authority to apply for the federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay non-federal share of project costs, as applicable) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in all applications submitted.
- 2) The subrecipient will give the awarding agency, the NHDOE, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, other State Agencies, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
- 3) The subrecipient will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. The subrecipient will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
- 4) The subrecipient will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency (2 CFR 200.1 Definitions 'Federal Awarding Agency') with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
- 5) The subrecipient will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
- 6) The subrecipient will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
- The subrecipient will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
- 8) The subrecipient will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to:
  - (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin;
  - (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.§§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex;
  - (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps;
  - (d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age;

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:	
Page 1 of 17	or Financial Officer	

- (e) The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse;
- (f) The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism;
- (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records;
- (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing;
- Any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and,
- (j) The requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
- 9) The subrecipient will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of federal participation in purchases.
- 10) The subrecipient will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with federal funds. The subrecipient further assures that no federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the subrecipient to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant; the entering into of any cooperative agreement; and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal grant or cooperative agreement.
- 11) The subrecipient will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported in whole or in part with federal funds.
- 12) The subrecipient will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported in whole or in part with federal funds.
- 13) The subrecipient will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
- 14) The subrecipient will comply with all applicable requirements of all other federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing all program(s).
- 15) The subrecipient will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and 2 CFR 200.501, Subpart F, "Audit Requirements," as applicable.
- 16) The recipient will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a subrecipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.
- 17) The control of funds provided to a subrecipient that is a Local Education Agency under each program, and title to property acquired with those funds, will be in a public agency, and a public agency will

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 2 of 17	or Financial Officer

administer those funds and property.

- 18) Personnel funded from federal grants and their subcontractors will adhere to the prohibition from text messaging while driving an organization-owned vehicle, or while driving their own privately owned vehicle during official Grant business, or from using organization-supplied electronic equipment to text message or email while driving. Recipients must comply with these conditions under Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership On Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009 (pursuant to provisions attached to federal grants funded by the US Department of Education).
- 19) The subrecipient assures that it will adhere to the Pro-Children Act of 2001, which states that no person shall permit smoking within any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted and utilized for the provision of routine or regular kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education or library services to children (P.L. 107-110, section 4303[a]). In addition, no person shall permit smoking within any indoor facility (or portion of such a facility) owned or leased or contracted and utilized for the provision of regular or routine health care or day care or early childhood development (Head Start) services (P.L. 107-110, Section 4303[b][1]). Any failure to comply with a prohibition in this Act shall be considered to be a violation of this Act and any person subject to such prohibition who commits such violation may be liable to the United States for a civil penalty, as determined by the Secretary of Education (P.L. 107-110, section 4303[e][1]).
- The subrecipient will comply with the Stevens Amendment.
- 21) The subrecipient will submit such reports to the NHDOE and to U.S. governmental agencies as may reasonably be required to enable the NHDOE and U.S. governmental agencies to perform their duties. The subrecipient will maintain such fiscal and programmatic records, including those required under 20 U.S.C. 1234f, and will provide access to those records, as necessary, for those Departments/agencies to perform their duties.
- 22) The subrecipient will assure that expenditures reported are proper and in accordance with the terms and conditions of any project/grant funding, the official who is authorized to legally bind the agency/organization agrees to the following certification for all fiscal reports and/or vouchers requesting payment [2CFR 200.415(a)].
  - "By signing this General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs document, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the reports submitted are true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purpose and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Project Award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise."
- 23) If an LEA, the subrecipient will provide reasonable opportunities for systematic consultation with and participation of teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals, including education-related community groups and non-profit organizations, in the planning for and operation of each program.
- 24) If an LEA, the subrecipient shall assure that any application, evaluation, periodic program plan, or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public upon request.
- 25) If an LEA, the subrecipient has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program, significant information from educational research, demonstrations, and similar projects, and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices developed through such projects. Such procedures shall ensure compliance with

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:	
Page 3 of 17	or Financial Officer	

applicable federal laws and requirements.

- The subrecipient will comply with the requirements of the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994.
- 27) The subrecipient will submit a fully executed and accurate <u>Single-Audit Certification</u> form to the NHDOE not later than December 31, 2022. The worksheet will be provided to each subrecipient by the NHDOE.
- The subrecipient shall comply with the restrictions of New Hampshire RSA 15:5.
- 29) The subrecipient will comply with the requirements in 2 CFR Part 180, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement).
- 30) The subrecipient certifies that it will maintain a drug-free workplace and will comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and 34 CFR 84.200.
- The recipient will adhere to the requirements of Title 20 USC 7197 relative to the Transfer of Disciplinary Records.
- 32) Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
- 33) Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
- 34) Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
- 35) Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
- 36) Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
- 37) Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:	
Page 4 of 17	or Financial Officer	

38) As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the non-Federal entity should, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award (2 CFR 200.322).

## B. Explanation of Grants Management Requirements

The following section elaborate on certain requirements included in legislation or regulations referred to in the "General Assurances" section. This section also explains the broad requirements that apply to federal program funds.

### 1. Financial Management Systems

Financial management systems, including records documenting compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions; and the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used according to the Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

Specifically, the financial management system must be able to:

- a) Identify, in its accounts, all federal awards received and expended and the federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and federal award identification must include, as applicable, the CFDA title and number, federal award identification number and year, name of the federal agency, and name of the pass-through entity, if any.
- Provide accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federal award or program.
- Produce records that identify adequately the source and application of funds for federally funded activities.
- d) Maintain effective control over, and accountability for, all funds, property, and other assets. The subrecipient must adequately safeguard all assets and assure that they are used solely for authorized purposes.
- Generate comparisons of expenditures with budget amounts for each federal award.

### 2. Written Policies and Procedures

The subrecipient must have written policies and procedures for:

Policy/Procedure Name	In Accordance With	Policy	Procedure
Drug-Free Workplace Policy	34 CFR 84.200 and the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988		N/A
Procurement Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.317-327		
Conflict of Interest/Standard of Conduct Policy	2 CFR 318(c)(1)		N/A
Inventory Management Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.313(d)		
District Travel Policy	2 CFR 200.475(b)		N/A

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 5 of 17	or Financial Officer

Policy/Procedure Name	In Accordance With	Policy	Procedure
Subrecipient Monitoring	2 CFR 200.332(d)		
Policy/Procedure (if applicable)			
Time and Effort Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.431		
Records Retention Policy/Procedure	2 CFR 200.334		
Prohibiting the Aiding and Abetting of	ESEA 8546		N/A
Sexual Abuse Policy			N/A
Allowable Cost Determination Policy	2 CFR 200.302(b)(7)		N/A
Gun Free School Act	Gun Free School Act of 1994		N/A
Cash Management	2 CFR 200.302(b)(6) and 200.305		

#### 3. Internal Controls

The subrecipient must:

- a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-federal entity is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with the guidance outlined in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the "Internal Control Integrated Framework", issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- b) Comply with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal awards.
- Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified, including noncompliance identified in audit findings.
- d) Take reasonable measures to safeguard and protect personally identifiable information and other information the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the subrecipient considers sensitive consistent with applicable federal, state, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.
- Maintain all accounts, records, and other supporting documentation pertaining to all costs incurred and revenues or other applicable credits acquired under each approved project in accordance with 2 CFR 200.334.

### 4. Allowable Costs

In accounting for and expending project/grant funds, the subrecipient may only charge expenditures to the project award if they are;

- a) in payment of obligations incurred during the approved project period;
- b) in conformance with the approved project;
- in compliance with all applicable statutes and regulatory provisions;
- d) costs that are allocable to a particular cost objective;
- e) spent only for reasonable and necessary costs of the program; and
- f) not used for general expenses required to carry out other responsibilities of the subrecipient.

### 5. Audits

This part is applicable for all non-federal entities as defined in 2 CFR 200, Subpart F.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 6 of 17	or Financial Officer

- a) In the event that the subrecipient expends \$750,000 or more in federal awards in its fiscal year, the subrecipient must have a single or program-specific audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F. In determining the federal awards expended in its fiscal year, the subrecipient shall consider all sources of federal awards, including federal resources received from the NHDOE. The determination of amounts of federal awards expended should be in accordance with the guidelines established by 2 CFR 200, Subpart F.
- b) In connection with the audit requirements, the subrecipient shall also fulfill the requirements relative to auditee responsibilities as provided in 2 CFR 200.508.
- c) If the subrecipient expends less than \$750,000 in federal awards in its fiscal year, an audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F, is not required. In the event that the subrecipient expends less than \$750,000 in federal awards in its fiscal year and elects to have an audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F, the cost of the audit must be paid from non-federal resources (i.e., the cost of such an audit must be paid from subrecipient resources obtained from non-federal entities).

The subrecipient assures it will implement the following audit responsibilities;

- a) Procure or otherwise arrange for the audit required by this part in accordance with auditor selection regulations (2 CFR 200.509), and ensure it is properly performed and submitted no later than nine months after the close of the fiscal year in accordance with report submission regulations (2 CFR 200.512).
- b) Provide the auditor access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed so that the auditor may perform the audit required by this part.
- c) Prepare appropriate financial statements, including the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with financial statements regulations (2 CFR 200.510).
- d) Promptly follow up and take corrective action on audit findings, including preparation of a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan in accordance with audit findings follow-up regulations (2 CFR 200.511(b-c)).
- Upon request by the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance (BFC), promptly submit a corrective action plan using the NHDOE template provided by the BFC for audit findings related to NHDOE funded programs.
- f) For repeat findings not resolved or only partially resolved, the subrecipient must provide an explanation for findings not resolved or only partially resolved to the BFC for findings related to all NHDOE funded programs. The BFC will review the subrecipient's submission and issue an appropriate Management Decision in accordance with 2 CFR 200.521.

### 6. Reports to be Submitted

### Audits/Management Decisions

Copies of reporting packages for audits conducted in accordance with 2 CFR 200, Subpart F shall be submitted, by or on behalf of the recipient directly to the following:

a) The Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) in 2 CFR 200, Subpart F requires the auditee to electronically submit the data collection form described in 200.512(b) and the reporting package described in 200.512(c) to FAC at: https://harvester.census.gov/facides/(S(mqamohbpfj0hmyh1r45p1po1))/account/login .aspx

Copies of other reports or management decision letter(s) shall be submitted by or on behalf of the subrecipient directly to:

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:	
Page 7 of 17	or Financial Officer	

 a) New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Federal Compliance
 25 Hall Street
 Concord, NH 03301

Or via email to: federalcompliance@doe.nh.gov

 In response to requests by a federal agency, auditees must submit a copy of any management letters issued by the auditor, 2 CFR 200.512(e).

Any other reports, management decision letters, or other information required to be submitted to the NHDOE pursuant to this agreement shall be submitted in a timely manner.

### Single Audit Certification

An executed and accurate <u>Single-Audit Certification</u> form shall be submitted to the NHDOE no later than **December 31, 2022**. A copy of the form will be provided to each subrecipient by the NHDOE.

### 7. Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

As required by Executive Orders (E.O.) 12549 and 12689, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 2 CFR Part 180, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined in 2 CFR 180.120, 180.125 and 180.200, no contract shall be made to parties identified on the General Services Administration's Excluded Parties List System as excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-procurement Programs in accordance with E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension." This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549. Contractors with awards that exceed the small purchase threshold shall provide the required certification regarding their exclusion status and that of their principal employees.

The federal government imposes this requirement in order to protect the public interest, and to ensure that only responsible organizations and individuals do business with the government and receive and spend government grant funds. Failure to adhere to these requirements may have serious consequences – for example, disallowance of cost, termination of project, or debarment.

To assure that this requirement is met, there are four options for obtaining satisfaction that subrecipients and contractors are not suspended, debarred, or disqualified. They are:

The subrecipient certifies that it and its principals:

- a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal Department or agency.
- b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes; commission of embezzlement; theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records; making false statements; or receiving stolen property.
- c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in this certification.
- d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 8 of 17	or Financial Officer

Where the subrecipient is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, they shall attach an explanation to this document.

### 8. Drug-Free Workplace (Grantees Other Than Individual)

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and implemented in 34 CFR 84.200 the subrecipient certifies that it will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

- a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance (34 CFR 84.610) is prohibited in the subrecipient's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition.
- Establishing, as required by 34 CFR 84.215, an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
  - The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace.
  - The recipient's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
  - Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs.
  - The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
- Requiring that each employee engaged in the performance of the project is given a copy of this statement.
- d) Notifying the employee in the statement that, as a condition of employment under the project, the employee will:
  - Abide by the terms of the statement.
  - Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.
- e) Notifying the agency in writing within 5 calendar days after receiving notice of an employee's conviction of a violation of a criminal drug statute in the workplace, as required by 34 CFR 84.205(c)(2), from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of employee's conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title to:

Director, Grants and Contracts Service
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. [Room 3124, GSA – Regional Office Building No. 3]
Washington, D.C. 20202-4571

(Notice shall include the identification number[s] of each affected grant).

- f) Taking one of the following actions, as stated in 34 CFR 84.225(b), within 30 calendar days of receiving the required notice with respect to any employee who is convicted of a violation of a criminal drug statute in the workplace.
  - Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
  - Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:	
Page 9 of 17	or Financial Officer	

g) Making a good-faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of the requirements stated above.

### 9. General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Requirements - Section 427 (Federal Requirement) Equity for Students, Teachers, and Other Program Beneficiaries

The purpose of Section 427 of GEPA is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence by ensuring equal opportunities to participate for all eligible students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries in proposed projects, and to promote the ability of such students, teachers, and beneficiaries to meet high standards. Further, when designing their projects, grant applicants must address the special needs and equity concerns that might affect the ability of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to participate fully in the proposed project.

Program staff within the NHDOE must ensure that information required by Section 427 of GEPA is included in each application that the Department funds. (There may be a few cases, such as research grants, in which Section 427 may not be applicable because the projects do not have individual project beneficiaries. Contact the Government Printing Office staff should you believe a situation of this kind exists).

The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, and age. Based on local circumstances, the applicant can determine whether these or other barriers may prevent participants from access and participation in the federally assisted project, and how the applicant would overcome these barriers.

These descriptions may be provided in a single narrative or, if appropriate, may be described in connection with other related topics in the application. Subrecipients should be asked to state in the table of contents where this requirement is met.

NHDOE program staff members are responsible for screening each application to ensure that the requirements of this section are met before making an award. If this condition is not met, after the application has been selected for funding the program staff should contact the subrecipient to find out why this information is missing. Documentation must be in the project file indicating that this review was completed before the award was made. If an oversight occurred, the program staff may give the applicant another opportunity to satisfy this requirement, but must receive the missing information before making the award, 34 CFR 75.231.

All applicants for new awards must satisfy this provision to receive funding. Those seeking *continuation* awards do not need to submit information beyond the descriptions included in their original applications.

### 10. Gun Possession (Local Education Agencies (LEAs) only)

As required by Title XIV, Part F, and Section 14601 (Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994) of the Improving America's Schools Act:

The LEA assures that it shall comply with the provisions of RSA 193:13 III.

RSA 193:13, III. Any pupil who brings or possesses a firearm as defined in section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code in a safe school zone as defined in RSA 193-D:1 without written authorization from the Superintendent or designee shall be expelled from school by the local school board for a period of not less than 12 months.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 10 of 17	or Financial Officer

The LEA assures that it has adopted a policy, which allows the Superintendent or Chief Administrating officer to modify the expulsion requirement on a case by case basis. RSA 193:13, IV.

The LEA assures that it shall report to the NHDOE in July of each year, a description of the circumstances surrounding any expulsions imposed under RSA 193:13, III and IV including, but not limited to:

- a) The name of the school concerned;
- The grade of the student disciplined;
- c) The type of firearm involved;
- d) Whether or not the expulsion was modified, and
- e) If the student was identified as Educationally Disabled.

The LEA assures that it has in effect a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm or weapon to school.

Ed 317.03 Standard for Expulsion by Local School Board.

- a) A school board which expels a pupil under RSA 193:13, II or III, shall state in writing its reasons, including the act leading to expulsion, and shall provide a procedure for review as allowed under RSA 193:13, II.
- b) School boards shall make certain that the pupil has received notice of the requirements of RSA 193-D and RSA 193:13 through announced, posted, or printed school rules.
- If a student is subject to expulsion and a firearm is involved, the Superintendent shall contact local law enforcement officials whenever there is any doubt concerning:
  - 1) Whether a firearm is legally licensed under RSA 159; or
  - Whether the firearm is lawfully possessed, as opposed to unlawfully possessed, under the legal definitions of RSA 159.
- d) If a pupil brings or possesses a firearm in a safe school zone without written authorization from the Superintendent, the following shall apply:
  - The Superintendent shall suspend the pupil for a period not to exceed 10 days, pending a hearing by the local board; and
  - The school board shall hold a hearing within 10 days to determine whether the student was in violation of RSA 193:13, III and therefore is subject to expulsion.

### 11. Lobbying

As required by Section 1352, Title 31, of the U.S. Code, and implemented in 34 CFR Part 82, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined in 34 CFR 82.105 and 82.110, the applicant certifies that:

- a) No federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the subrecipient to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant; the entering into of any cooperative agreement; and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal grant or cooperative agreement.
- b) If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with federal grants or cooperative agreements, the subrecipient shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 11 of 17	or Financial Officer

instructions.

c) The subrecipient shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, contracts under grants, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

### New Hampshire RSA 15:5 - Prohibited Activities.

- Except as provided in paragraph II, no recipient of a grant or appropriation of state funds
  may use the state funds to lobby or attempt to influence legislation, participate in political
  activity, or contribute funds to any entity engaged in these activities.
- II. Any recipient of a grant or appropriation of state funds that wishes to engage in any of the activities prohibited in paragraph I, or contribute funds to any entity engaged in these activities, shall segregate the state funds in such a manner that such funds are physically and financially separate from any non-state funds that may be used for any of these purposes. Mere bookkeeping separation of the state funds from other moneys shall not be sufficient.

### 12. Subrecipient Monitoring

In addition to reviews of audits conducted in accordance with 2 CFR 200, Subpart F, subrecipient monitoring procedures may include, but not be limited to, on-site or remote visits by NHDOE staff, limited scope audits, and/or other procedures. By signing this document, the subrecipient agrees to comply and cooperate with any monitoring procedures/processes deemed appropriate by the NHDOE. In the event the NHDOE determines that a limited scope audit of the project recipient is appropriate, the subrecipient agrees to comply with any additional instructions provided by NHDOE staff to the subrecipient regarding such audit.

### 13. More Restrictive Conditions

Subrecipients found to be in noncompliance with program and/or fund source requirements or determined to be "high risk" shall be subject to the imposition of more restrictive conditions as determined by the NHDOE.

### 14. Obligations by Subrecipients

Obligations will be considered to have been incurred by subrecipients on the basis of documentary evidence of binding commitments for the acquisition of goods or property or for the performance of work, except that funds for personal services, for services performed by public utilities, for travel, and for the rental of facilities shall be considered to have been obligated at the time such services were rendered, such travel was performed, and/or when facilities are used (see 34 CFR 76.707).

### 15. Personnel Costs – Time Distribution

Charges to federal projects for personnel costs, whether treated as direct or indirect costs, are allowable to the extent that they satisfy the specific requirements of 2 CFR 200.430, and will be based on payrolls documented in accordance with generally accepted practices of the subrecipient and approved by a responsible official(s) of the subrecipient.

When employees work solely on a single federal award or cost objective, charges for their salaries and wages must be supported by personnel activity reports (PARs), which are periodic certifications (at least semi-annually) that the employees worked solely on that program for the period covered by the certification.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:	_
Page 12 of 17	or Financial Officer	

These certifications must be signed by the employee or a supervisory official having firsthand knowledge of the work performed by the employee.

When employees work on multiple activities or cost objectives (e.g., more than one federal project, a federal project and a non-federal project, an indirect cost activity and a direct cost activity, two or more indirect activities which are allocated using different allocation bases, or an unallowable activity and a direct or indirect cost activity), the distribution of their salaries or wages will be supported by personnel activity reports or equivalent documents that meet the following standards:

- a) Reflect an after-the-fact distribution of the actual activity of each employee
- b) Account for the total activity for which each employee is compensated
- c) Prepared at least monthly and must coincide with one or more pay period
- d) Signed and dated by the employee

### 16. Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

As required in Section 9524 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, LEAs must certify annually that they have no policy that prevents or otherwise denies participation in constitutionally protected prayer in public elementary and secondary schools.

### 17. Purchasing/Procurement

The non-Federal entity must have and use documented procurement procedures, consistent with the standards of this section and 2 CFR 200.317, 200.318, and 200.319 for any of the following methods of procurement used for the acquisition of property or services required under a Federal award or sub-award.

- 1. Informal procurement methods
  - a. Micro-purchases
  - b. Small purchases
- 2. Formal procurement methods
  - a. Sealed bids
  - b. Proposals
- 3. Noncompetitive procurement

## 18. Retention and Access to Records

Requirements related to retention and access to project/grant records, are determined by federal rules and regulations. Federal regulation 2 CFR 200.334, addresses the retention requirements for records that applies to all financial and programmatic records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other non-Federal entity records pertinent to a Federal or Project award. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration date of the retention period, the records must be maintained until all ligation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

Access to records of the subrecipient and the expiration of the right of access is found at 2 CFR 200.337
(a) and (c), which states:

a) Records of non-Federal entities. The Federal awarding agency, Inspectors General, the Comptroller General of the United States, and the pass-through entity, or any of their authorized representatives [including but not limited to the NHDOE] must have the right of access to any documents, papers, or other records of non-Federal entity which are pertinent to the Federal award, in order to make audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcripts. The right also includes timely and reasonable access to the non-Federal entity's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 13 of 17	or Financial Officer

c) Expiration of right of access. The rights of access in this section are not limited to the required retention period but last as long as the records are retained.

#### 19. The Stevens Amendment

All federally funded projects must comply with the Stevens Amendment of the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, found in Section 8136, which provides:

When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations, and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with federal money, all grantees receiving federal funds, including but not limited to state and local governments, shall clearly state (1) the percentage of the total cost of the program or project which will be financed with federal money, (2) the dollar amount of federal funds for the project or program, and (3) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be funded by non-governmental sources.

### 20. Transfer of Disciplinary Records

Title 20 USC 7197 requires that the State have a procedure to assure that a student's disciplinary records, with respect to suspensions and expulsions, are transferred by the project recipient to any public or private elementary or secondary school where the student is required or chooses to enroll. In New Hampshire, that assurance is statutory and found at RSA 193-D:8.

The relevant portions of the federal and state law appear below.

- a) Disciplinary Records In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g), not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this part, each State receiving Federal funds under this Act shall provide an assurance to the Secretary that the State has a procedure in place to facilitate the transfer of disciplinary records, with respect to a suspension or expulsion, by local educational agencies to any private or public elementary school or secondary school for any student who is enrolled or seeks, intends, or is instructed to enroll, on a full- or part-time basis, in the school.
- b) 193-D:8 Transfer Records; Notice All elementary and secondary educational institutions, including academies, private schools, and public schools, shall upon request of the parent, pupil, or former pupil, furnish a complete school record for the pupil transferring into a new school system. Such record shall include, but not be limited to, records relating to any incidents involving suspension or expulsion, or delinquent or criminal acts, or any incident reports in which the pupil was charged with any act of theft, destruction, or violence in a safe school zone.

## C. Definitions (2 CFR 200.1)

- Audit finding Audit finding means deficiencies which the auditor is required by 2 CFR 200.516

   (a) to report in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- 2) Management decision -Management decision means the Federal awarding agency's or passthrough entity's written determination, provided to the auditee, of the adequacy of the auditee's proposed corrective actions to address the findings, based on its evaluation of the audit findings and proposed corrective actions.

New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief Administrator:
Page 14 of 17	or Financial Officer

- Pass-through entity Pass-through entity (PTE) means a non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program.
- 4) Period of performance Period of performance means the total estimate time interval between the start of an initial Federal award and the planned end date, which may include one or more funded portions, or budget periods. Identification of the Period of Performance in the Federal award per 2 CFR 200.211(b)(5) does not commit the awarding agency to fund the award beyond the currently approved budget period.
- 5) Subaward Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.
- 6) Subrecipient Subrecipient mean an entity, usually buy not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal award; but does not include an individual hat is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.

RFP-BAE-2023-003 Page **155** of **156** 

#### CERTIFICATION

Instructions: The Chief Administrator/Financial Officer or Consortium Chair must sign this certification (and initial the remaining pages) as described below. And return it to the NHDOE. No payment for project/grant awards will be made by the NHDOE without a fully executed copy of this General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs on file. For further information, contact the NHDOE Bureau of Federal Compliance at (603) 271-3837.

### Certification:

I the undersigned acknowledge that [a] person is guilty of a violation of R.S.A. § 641:3 if [h]e or she makes a written or electronic false statement which he or she does not believe to be true, on or pursuant to a form bearing a notification authorized by law to the effect that false statements made therein are punishable; or (b) With a purpose to deceive a public servant in the performance of his or her official function, he or she: (1) Makes any written or electronic false statement which he or she does not believe to be true; or (2) Knowingly creates a false impression in a written application for any pecuniary or other benefit by omitting information necessary to prevent statements therein from being misleading; or (3) Submits or invites reliance on any writing which he or she knows to be lacking in authenticity; or (4) Submits or invites reliance on any sample, specimen, map, boundary mark, or other object which he or she knows to be false.

Accordingly, I, the undersigned official legally authorized to bind the named subrecipient, hereby apply for participation in federally funded programs on behalf of the subrecipients named below. I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the below subrecipient will adhere to and comply with these General Assurances, Requirements and Definitions for Participation in Federal Programs (pages 1 through 17 inclusive).

RA Number:		
Reporting Authority		
Typed Name of Chief Administrative/ Financial Officer or Consortium Chair	Signature	Date
New Hampshire Department of Education – FY23	Initials of Chief A	Administrator:
Page 16 of 17	or Financial Officer	

RFP-BAE-2023-003