



Questions and Answers

Crestwood Behavioral Health, Inc.

Proposal Timeline

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:03 PM PDT

Due to the responses to questions not being available until November 4 and the RFP submission deadline being five calendar days later, is there a possibility of extending the RFP due date?

Response: Yes. We will extend the due date for the proposal by one week. Please refer to the Addendum for updated information.

General Question

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:05 PM PDT

Can an organization that becomes approved as a Training Vendor also be awarded the PSS Certification Exam Development contract?

Response: No.

Project Scope of Work

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:06 PM PDT

Will equal consideration be given to proposals that are submitted with a subcontractor outside the State of California?

Response: All proposals are taken into consideration.



Project Scope of Work

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:09 PM PDT

The RFP indicates, "The vendor may submit a proposal individually or as part of a collaborative effort with other entities, including entities to host and administer the exam." Have entities for hosting and administering the exam been identified? If so, are additional entities for hosting and administering the exam being considered?

Response: Due to procurement processes, we are not able to provide additional comments at this time.

Project Scope of Work

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:10 PM PDT

Is the list of selected SMEs currently available?

Response: The list of subject matter experts will be made available at the execution of a contract.

General Question

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:11 PM PDT

Will the materials that the PSS Certification Exam derived from be distributed to all training vendors?

Response: Training material will not be distributed to vendors. Summaries or reports of the examination development process may be made available.



Project Scope of Work

Scott Palluck, Nov 02, 2021 2:14 PM PDT

Psychometrics are used for various purposes in regard to testing such as: aptitude, interest, and ability; personality surveys; and psychological evaluations which may also include mental health assessments. What is the intention of requesting psychometrics in the exam development as identified in this RFP?

Response: Psychometricians are used in the development of examinations to ensure examinations are fair, valid, and accuracy in measuring knowledge and skills intended by the examination.

Human Resources Research Organization

HumRRO Questions (RFPPC-Peer Support Specialist Certification-Exam Development)

Gwenyth Van Trieste, Nov 02, 2021 2:31 PM PDT

The Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO) has the following questions related to the subject RFP.

(1) What extent, if any, of role overlap and/or content overlap does CalMHSA anticipate across the 5 certifications?

Response: We anticipate some overlap across the different examinations as the focus is on support and recovery.

(2) On page 8 of the RFP, it mentions a 7 page maximum for the response. Does this maximum apply to the entire proposal or just to the background of organization component?

Response: The 7-page maximum refers to the entire proposal.

(3) Is there any information CalMHSA can provide regarding how the core competencies were established? Will there be any data or other related background materials to leverage at the start of this effort?

Response: The majority of the core competencies were identified in Senate Bill 803, Beal. Mental health services: peer support specialist certification. Additionally, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) hosted public listening sessions on topics of the implementation of a peer certification program. Recommendations by stakeholders, county partner representatives, non-



profit organizations, peer-run organizations, peer support specialist, consumers, and other interested individuals was used in the development of the state standards for the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification.

(4) Does CalMHSA have a preference between testing centers and online, live remote proctored delivery for exam administration?

Response: Our preference is for online testing and proctoring. However, we are open to understanding the benefits of other modalities.

(5) Should exam administration/delivery be proposed as part of this response, or will that come in a later RFP?

Response: Information on exam administration should be included as par of the response.

(6) Is CalMHSA leaning toward exam windows or continuous testing for the certifications?

Response: We are interested in continuous testing for certification.

(7) Does CalMHSA have a preferred number of forms they'd like to administer for the initial administration of each certification?

Response: Each examination will be translated into the 16 threshold languages for California's Medi-Cal program.

(8) Does CalMHSA have a desired test length for each certification?

Response: We do not currently have a test length for each certification.

(9) Is CalMHSA anticipating stand-alone multiple choice items for these certifications or are other item types (e.g., situational judgment tests) under consideration?

Response: We are open to understanding the benefits of each type of exam item.

(10) Does CalMHSA have an estimated budget for this work?

Response: At this time, we are unable to offer an estimated budget for this work. We will review the information provided in each proposal.



(11) We received this RFP on October 29, 2021. We respectfully request an extension of the submission deadline by one week to prepare our response.

Response: We will extend the due date for the proposal by one week. Please refer to the Addendum for updated information.

(12) Please confirm if a signed Conflict of Interest Policy form is required prior to selection of a vendor. If we are required to submit one with our response, is it acceptable to have one signed by an individual who is authorized to bind HumRRO contractually or is a signed form required for all proposed HumRRO staff?

Response: We are requesting a signed conflict of interest to be signed prior to selection. The form may be signed by an authorized person in your agency. It is not required to be signed by all agency staff.

Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.

Opportunity Questions

Albert Senella, Nov 01, 2021 9:48 AM PDT

1) Why is conflict of interest form included with application documents? If we can't attest that we have no conflicts will our application be rejected?

Response: The conflict on interest is intended to avoid the identification with a conflict in the future. We are requesting the conflict of interest form to be submitted with the submission of their proposal.

2) Letter of Intent is required per minimum requirements but there are no instructions in the RFP about what is to be included in LOI or how it is to be submitted. How should LOI be submitted and by what date?

Response: Generally, a letter of intent is used to identify interest by organizations. For this proposal, the information requested in section 5.2 is incomplete. We will include a correction in the addendum removing this requirement.