Questions and Answers regarding Chicago Codes Program Operator RFP

September 7, 2018

1. I wanted to ask about the eligibility of the RFP contractor. Must you be a non-profit and/or have MBE status? What about for-profit businesses that have BEP certification as well as MBE status currently pending with the state?

   Entities are eligible to apply regardless of BEP/MBE status. The Partnership will review MBE/WBE/BPE documentation during the evaluation process, and determine how many of the allowable 2 points will be awarded for a given proposal. This designation will account for 2 out of 100 possible points in the proposal scoring.

2. Will the Workforce Partnership consider proposals that teach programming languages other than Python?

   This first cohort will be focused on Python. We plan to expand to other languages in future cohorts.

3. The eligibility requirements within the RFP mention that “any organization currently providing training in software development or coding” is eligible. My question was: Would an organization partner with other training providers to give our clients training in coding, be eligible to apply? Must the applicant be the entity directly providing the training?

   Multiple organizations/entities may partner to deliver the services. The lead applicant should be the entity delivering the training, as stated on page 6 of the RFP.

4. So proposals will have to reach you by 9/14, and not postmarked 9/14?

   Proposals should be delivered to The Partnership by 4:00pm Central Time on 9/14, as described on page 10 of the RFP.

5. What is the expected start date?

   We anticipate beginning recruiting in Fall 2018, and will work with the awardee on the timeline for rollout and enrollment.

6. Challenge on South Side is to get adequate Business Class internet. Is there any support from Telecom (Comcast, AT&T) to get adequate service?

   The Partnership is providing a space for the program, and this will include utilities such as internet service. The applicant should clarify broadband needs in the proposal.

7. Will the winning bidder be expected to pay the stipends from the awarded funds?

   The training and internship stipends should not be included in the proposal narrative or budgets.
8. Has the CCWP secured space for this effort? Has the buildout started for the classroom?

A number of spaces are currently under consideration, but all of them will be furnished, wired for internet, compliant with the American with Disabilities Act, and accessible via public transportation. Awardee may be asked to advise on the layout of the space, as well as furniture and other office equipment purchase, but does not need to address that in this proposal, and can assume a move-in ready space with a classroom with capacity for roughly 25-30 workstations, reception area, an office, and break room.

9. Should respondents budget for network infrastructure (i.e. wired networks, switches, Internet access, etc.) as a part of their proposal?

The space will be wired for internet. Any additional equipment should be included in the proposal and budget.

10. Does the 10 - 16 weeks include the internship?

Instruction should be 10-16 weeks, followed by an 8 week internship. The applicant may propose other schedules, and should provide justification.