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PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ELIGIBLE SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR IN-SCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2024

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) – YOUTH PROGRAM

PERFORMANCE PERIOD – JULY 1ST, 2024 THRU JUNE 30TH, 2026 FUNDED IN WHOLE BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION, THRU A GRANT AWARDED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO AND ALLOCATED TO THE NORTHWEST LOCAL WORKFORCE

> DEVELOPMENT AREA (CONEXIÓN LABORAL: ÁREA LOCAL NOROESTE)

PROYECTED FUNDS IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROJECT:

Out-of-School Youth: \$327,544,70 In-School Youth: \$327,544,70

RFP CLOSING DATE: June 10, 2024

The Northwest Local Workforce Development Board calls individuals, non-for-profit organizations, as well as for-profit organizations, employers, and community-based organizations to present proposals to provide services, under the WIOA Youth Program, to in-school and out-of-school youth. The selected providers will be contracted to provide services with Program Year 2024 funds, for the execution period of two (2) years: from July 1st, 2024, to June 30th,

Section 123(a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Public Law 113-128 of July 22nd, 2014, states that the local board shall award grants or contracts on a competitive basis to providers of youth workforce investment activities. All providers must have the capability to comply with the performance measures for the Youth Program, as stated on the Specifications Guide to Submit Proposals.

The Northwest Local Workforce Board must make available all fourteen (14) elements of the Youth Program under WIOA. These services will be made available to eligible youth between 14 and 24 years of age, for residents of: Aguada, Aguadilla, Añasco, Isabela, Moca, Rincón, and San Sebastián. The proposals hereby requested are to provide services for the following Youth Program elements:

- Tutoring, study skills training, and instruction leading to secondary school completion, including dropout prevention strategies Sec 129(c)(2)(A);
- Alternative secondary school services, or dropout recovery services Sec 129(c)(2)(B);
- Paid and unpaid work experience Proposals are requested to offer the academic and occupational components for out-of-school youth- Sec 129(c)(2)(C):
- 4. Occupational skill training – Sec 129(c)(2)(D);
- Education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster - Sec129(c)(2)(E);
- Leadership development opportunities Sec129(c)(2)(F); 6.
- Adult mentoring for the period of participation and a subsequent period, for a total of not less than 12 months Sec129(c)(2)(H); 7.
- Financial literacy education Sec129(c)(2)(K);
- 9. Entrepreneurial skill training - Sec129(c)(2)(L);
- Services that provide labor market and employment information about in-demand industry sectors or occupations available in the local area -Sec129(c)(2)(M);
- 11. Activities that help youth prepare for and transition to postsecondary education and training Sec129(c)(2)(N);

Changes in technology, globalization and labor market evolution require our youth to be trained in on-demand occupations. The Northwest Workforce Development Board will give priority, in the selection process, to those proposals that are innovative and aligned with current local labor market demands.

On May 22, 2024 at 10:00AM, a conference will take place in-person in Conexión Laboral, located at Aguadilla City Building, Progreso Street #101, 6TH floor, and remote access will be provided - simultaneously - through the Microsoft TEAMS platform. All interested proponents might attend the conference. The link must be requested by email elementosjovenes@odlnoroeste.com.

The Specifications Guidelines to Submit Proposals for Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program will be made available at the pre-bidding conference. Proponents interested in attending the conference remotely must request access by email at: elementosjovenes@odlnoroeste.com. On the subject line use: RFP - Eligible Youth Service Providers. Not following the provided guidelines will be reason enough not to consider the presented proposals. All questions regarding the RFP, or the required documentation, among others, must be sent to elementosjovenes@odlnoroeste.com. No questions will be answered by phone or in-person. Questions will be answered for a fourteen (14) day period, starting on the date of the pre-bidding conference. No questions will be answered afterwards, and the proponents must wait for the Youth Committee to complete the evaluation process, and to issue the notifications letters

The RFP closes on 10 June, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. All proposals must be submitted in compliance with the provided guidelines.



Chair Northwest Local Workforce Development Board

¹ In the Specifications Guidelines for Submit Proposals the budget awarded to each of the elements, to be contracted, will be informed.