

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

10:00:50 From DYCD Procurement to Everyone:

We will get started within the next 5 minutes and will admit all into the meeting!

10:09:04 From Elizabeth Iannotti to DYCD Procurement(direct message):

My colleague cannot enter. It's saying only 100 participants?

10:09:10 From Elizabeth Iannotti to DYCD Procurement(direct message):

Can you help?

10:10:58 From DYCD Procurement to Elizabeth Iannotti(direct message):

Looks like the limit is 100 we are at capacity

10:11:40 From tsang sun mui to Everyone:

I want to know this program is for discretionary fund or different fund?

10:12:45 From DYCD Procurement to Everyone:

Please hold questions until we open the meeting up for question/answer portion of the presentation

10:17:23 From nora oz to Everyone:

Could we put this link in the chat?

10:17:55 From Frances James to Everyone:

<https://popfactfinder.planning.nyc.gov/#13.65/40.71214/-73.99052>

10:23:41 From NATALIE CAPERS to Everyone:

Good morning! Natalie Capers from Central Brooklyn EDC. Will this recording be sent to participants?

10:23:53 From nora oz to Everyone:

Reacted to "https://popfactfinde..." with 

10:24:31 From DYCD Procurement to Everyone:

The recording and slides will be uploaded to the DYCD website

10:24:38 From Margery Hannah to Everyone:

Reacted to "The recording and sl..." with 

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

10:29:14 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Elizabeth Hendler, CPC Development ehendler@cpc-nyc.org Good morning. Will DYCD describe how staff should ask some folks for income info and how to identify some folks who won't be asked? We believe asking students more than "are you an immigrant" and "do you reside in NYC" may cause a chilling effect to enrollment.


10:29:24 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

What free learning disabilities services providers in NYC would DYCD recommend? Is there a publicly available list?

10:31:30 From DYCD Procurement to Everyone:

Please hold ALL questions until the presentation is complete- Thank you

10:33:53 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Reacted to "Please hold ALL ques..." with 

10:41:33 From Tareake Dorill to Everyone:

Do the program classes have to be solely focused on literacy for the full 2.5 hours?

10:41:50 From David Percey to Everyone:

How is the formula weight applied? What does 70%/30% refer to? 70% of the population or 70% of DYCD investments? I understand the criteria (poverty level, Limited English Proficiency), how is it operationally applied?

10:42:10 From Bessie Taliaferro to Everyone:

Are any Adolescent Literacy requirements new compared to last year?

10:42:18 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Sorry, didn't realize questions were to be held as I was let in late!

10:42:20 From David Percey to Everyone:

What is the "Discussion Forum" in PASSPort?

10:42:21 From Kyla Levin-Russell to Everyone:

How does this RFP relate to other DYCD discretionary funding we receive through the Adult Literacy Initiative and Adult Literacy Pilot Project?

10:42:21 From Emmanuel Loncke to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

when is the RFP be awarded?

10:42:25 From Rasika Kale to Everyone:

Do all community partnerships have to be established and specified in the proposal, or can our agency work to build new partnerships after program award?

10:42:28 From Bridgette Blair Consulting to Everyone:

Can the funding cover programs that already exist, or do they need to be brand-new programs?

10:42:32 From Sophie Simon to Everyone:

Can a program propose to offer classes in multiple sites, with one site outside of an NTA, as long as there is at least one NTA site?

10:42:32 From Amanda Sorensen to Everyone:

Amanda, representing Union Settlement in East Harlem. If our organization plans to offer all three service options do we need to submit 3 individual proposals?

10:42:42 From Peter Merani to Everyone:

Do all classes have to be offered from within the NTA or is it acceptable to have a primary location within the NTA where the majority of the classes are offered and a satellite location outside the NTA?

10:42:55 From Nixon Mercidieu to Everyone:

Nixon Mercidieu from RFCUNY: What's minimum funding for ESOL/BENL?

10:43:08 From David Percey to Everyone:

Why are NTAs considered central to attaining equity in services? We serve a targeted area of poverty in the Inwood area of Northern Manhattan (190th Street to 218th Street), where our program facility is located. It appears that we are not eligible to apply, although our targeted census tracts appear to meet the criteria.

10:43:12 From Gina Emdin to Everyone:

Gina Emdin from Learning Ally literacy nonprofit... How do we apply as a subcontractor/technology provider?

10:43:29 From MARY HURSON to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Please clarify if the experience in the NTA must be in providing literacy services or can we speak to our experience as a provider of other services such as Healthy Families, WIC, Homebase or other social service programs? ii. Organizational Experience in NTA (5 points) In 3,200 characters (approximately 400 words) or less, summarize your organization's successful experience providing services in the proposed NTA(s) within the last five years. If you do not have experience in the proposed NTA, please summarize your organization's successful experience providing services in an NTA with a similar demographic profile.

10:44:19 From Peter Merani to Everyone:

We run a Beacon program out of a DOE school site. Is it permissible to use a DOE building as the primary location for classes and what in that case should we use to demonstrate site control for the DOE school site?

10:44:20 From Julian Robles to Everyone:

What are the specific income requirements for students? Do students have to be at a certain percentage of poverty? If so, what is the percentage of poverty cap? And, what percentage of students have to meet an income cap?

10:44:20 From Julie Quinton MRNY she/her to Everyone:

Julie Q-MRNY: Given that you have adjusted your NTA requirements slightly would you consider adjusting them further so that programs whose buildings/existing sites of instruction are within a half mile of the NTA border also be allowed to provide services in their own physical plant (and in that way save very limited funds?) (and not have to find/rent/outfit limited off site space?)

10:44:23 From Elizabeth Iannotti to Everyone:

Reacted to "Why are NTAs considere..." with 🙌

10:44:32 From Emmanuel Loncke to Everyone:

will the awarded contracts be split between 2 contractors or those numbers shown will be awarded separately to multiple organizations?

10:44:32 From Bridgette Blair Consulting to Everyone:

How many community partnerships do there need to be? Is there a minimum number (I counted potentially 7, in the ESOL/BENL Program)?

10:45:35 From Bino Realuyo to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Does the online classes (60%) have to be taught FROM AN NTA? How does the NTA rule apply to a class that is virtual?

10:45:39 From Johan Lopez to Everyone:

Johan Lopez, Sunnyside Community Services

In light of the restrictive NTA geography requirements, will DYCD consider a program that is just outside the boundary or within a specific radius? For example, a potential program site for our organization is literally on the other side of the street from of the boundary line per the provided maps.

10:46:13 From Allmina Berisha to Everyone:

1. Currently, the PTS for ESOL does not have a tool to count outcomes. Will the new PTS be similar to NDA Healthy Families where each goal and outcome will be specifically outlined?

2. for the staff that we will hire, and they do not have yet FDC training, do we have 12 month period for them to complete it?

( this is all for ESOL/BENL)

10:46:36 From Corinne Colosimo to Everyone:

Can you go back to the first slide with the important dates and deadlines?

10:46:39 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Reacted to "Do all classes have ..." with 👍

10:46:39 From Lisa Spagnola to Everyone:

For the ESOL community partnerships, can you provide some examples of providers who can help us to meet literacy goals?

10:46:44 From Bino Realuyo to Everyone:

Replying to "Does the online clas..."

I mean DO... typing too fast

10:48:26 From Jennifer Powell to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Jennifer Powell, Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow: If the zip code of a literacy program site is situated at the intersection of more than one NTA neighborhood, are we eligible to submit an application for each NTA?

10:49:48 From Peter Merani to Everyone:

Is it acceptable to have a program site directly over the border (¼ mile) from the proposed NTA?

10:50:04 From Lauren Johnson to Everyone:

Regarding the Adolescent Literacy service- are non school based organizations welcomed to apply? Also for the required staff- could the staff be already employed with the organization and shared with other programs?

10:51:53 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "Julie Q-MRNY: Given ..."

We also have questions about allowing satellite sites. We have many locations at CPC that are within 2 blocks of a zone and have been serving the Chinatown/LES and Sunset Park for decades. We are concerned about the NTA allocation which will exclude about 70% of all existing literacy sites in Chinatown/LES and Sunset Park in the RFP's current framework, which would disconnect many AAPI and Latinx community members. We urge DYCD to consider allowing any provider in any zone to serve the NTA if we can effectively make a case we serve that community. There was precedence for this in the 2013 RFP.

10:52:10 From Bibi Karim to Everyone:

Is there a number of hours that a student must attend classes before they can be considered enrolled?

10:53:06 From Cynthia Andreozzi to Everyone:

Cynthia Andreozzi, Inwood Community Services, how did you specifically apply the 70%/30% formula to choose or not choose the NTAs you chose

10:53:18 From Bibi Karim to Everyone:

As I understand from the RFP, some classes can be virtual, is this correct?

10:53:47 From Berta Colon to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Why would an organization serving DYCD's targeted low income communities be excluded from applying to the RFP simply because they are not physically located in the NTA? How is that counter to the equity mission? There are multiple reasons why organizations are housed in certain locations particularly given the NYC housing market - we are in a synagogue that is cheaper than mainstream rental space and thus, allows us to concentrate more of the funding directly to participants. Isn't the priority to ensure that low income communities in the NTAs are served?

10:53:59 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "will the awarded con..."

We also have questions on this. In the RFP the number of awards for ESOL is more than the allocation contracts. We expected this would mean there would be partial slots awarded. Is this not the case?

10:54:40 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "Does the online clas..."

We have the same question at CPC.

10:54:53 From John Hunt to Everyone:

LaGuardia RFCUNY: Can you please confirm the status of the current Immigrant Services ESOL/Civics contracts? Is it correct that those are sun-setting 6/30/24 and being replaced by the ESOL/BENL section of this RFP?

10:55:00 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "Jennifer Powell, Opp..."

We also have this question at CPC.

10:55:24 From Judit Criado Fiuza to Everyone:

Can we submit one proposal for HSE and another for ABE? Therefore 2 separate proposals?

10:56:13 From Allmina Berisha to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Do the student have to be from the NTA as well or having the class in NTA is enough ? ( I am thinking with the NDA hat where clients must be living in the NDA area )

10:58:36 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "Is it acceptable to ..."

We also have this question. The NDA RFP uses a similar model of CSBG funding and it allows for any site within a half mile to serve people within that zone.

10:59:20 From Jennifer Silverman to Everyone:

Reacted to "We also have this qu..." with 👍

10:59:24 From MARY HURSON to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:00:10 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Elizabeth again from CPC, We are grateful that DYCD is allowing more remote classes. Would the city allow us to change the percentage of in person versus remote post award in any way, or must we decide for each class in the Service Level Form and then this would be the standard for all future classes?

11:00:29 From Elizabeth Iannotti to Everyone:

Replying to "Julie Q-MRNY: Given ..."



11:00:30 From David Percey to Everyone:

Reacted to "Why would an organiz..." with 👍

11:01:35 From Cynthia Andreozzi to Everyone:

Replying to "Is it acceptable to ..."

Cynthia Andreozzi We have this same question. Our program site is located 1 block from an identified NTA.



Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

11:01:56 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "LaGuardia RFCUNY: Ca..."

We also have this question at CPC. Will Comprehensive Literacy ESOL/BENL and ESL Civics ESOL/BENL be treated as a cohort?

11:02:15 From Peter Merani to Everyone:

It appears that the new NTA requirements were not accurately portrayed in the concept paper and this creates a great burden for many current providers as their current program sites are now ineligible. Will DYCD reconsider loosening the NTA rules to allow for current program sites or those close to the NTA remain as eligible sites that serve the NTA population?

11:02:46 From Kate Reuther to Everyone:

How do we demonstrate our students' poverty level?

11:03:11 From Elizabeth Iannotti to Everyone:

Replying to "Why would an organiz..."

How is serving students from anywhere by holding classes in a particular NTA creating equity?

11:03:21 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "It appears that the ..."

We also have this question at CPC. We urge DYCD to adopt a more inclusive framework, allowing providers to apply regardless of location if they can serve the NTA's population effectively, reflecting the precedent set in the 2013 Comprehensive Literacy RFP. This approach, focusing on service to the community rather than provider location, would better meet the city's diverse needs and commitment to racial equity. It also would not change the essential nature of the NTA competition format or the NTA target population required of CSBG funds, however, it would allow many more BIPOC- and immigrant-serving as well as smaller nonprofits to compete.

11:04:38 From Bridgette Blair Consulting to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Thank you!

11:05:16 From Florence Wong to Everyone:

Replying to "Why would an organiz..."

When submitting for an invoice, is this based on the # of participants you served that month, or this is based on the expenses occurred that month?

11:05:24 From Lisa Spagnola to Everyone:

Is there a template that should be used for written partnership agreements?

11:06:37 From Julian Robles to Everyone:

Can a program model serve more than 10 -15 in each class? For example, could a class be 20 students?

11:08:43 From Florence Wong to Everyone:

when submitting the invoice, is this based on the # of participants you served that month, or is this based on the expenses occurred that month?

11:09:25 From Johan Lopez to Everyone:

Reacted to "How is serving stude..." with 👍

11:09:53 From Julie Quinton MRNY she/her to Everyone:

Julie Q- MRNY- Can DYCD commit to letting programs know about awards by late May/early June so as to give us time to let staff know if they will be losing their jobs, etc.?

11:11:43 From Sophie Simon, Riis Settlement to Everyone:

The RFP states the number of total awards, however how is it determined how many contracts will be awarded per NTA? Is there a fixed number of slots per award?

11:12:57 From Julie Quinton MRNY she/her to Everyone:

Julie Q/MRNY- You said: It's one competition per NTA- the slots and funding that is listed is the competition. Can you please explain that further? I didn't understand.

11:13:03 From Jennifer Silverman to Everyone:

Replying to "Why would an organiz..."

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

Similarly, we would be unable to use a school based site and forced to pay rent when there is a useable space just outside the NTA border, this seems extremely inefficient.

11:14:19 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Replying to "Why would an organiz..."

While we would love to move within an NTA in theory, unfortunately many of us have preexisting rents, leases, and long term requirements with our landlords. In our research, more than 110+ existing literacy sites are excluded from the current RFP framework. This means 110+ spaces and leases across the city would be forced to break leases and move to new spaces in the identified NTA. There may not be space available. Will DYCD help identify available open spaces in these zones? Last, I hate to bring this up, but many of us are paying for rent for these programs out of indirect and wrap around funding to scaffold these programs as the rates are low for this contract. With the new requirements for added casework staffing that DYCD wants us to add, there is less funding available for things like rent.

11:14:59 From Sophie Simon, Riis Settlement to Everyone:

Reacted to "Why would an organiz..." with 👍

11:15:01 From Allmina Berisha CCNS Brooklyn, NY to Everyone:

Thank you

11:15:05 From Cheyla Perez to Everyone:

Good to know!

11:15:43 From Sophie Simon, Riis Settlement to Everyone:

Reacted to "While we would love ..." with 👍

11:16:45 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:18:44 From Julianne Webb to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

If you are submitting proposals for only Youth Adolescent programs located in two separate NTA locations would we be submitting one proposal or two proposals?

11:19:11 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:21:15 From Rosita Romero to Everyone:

Can the services be provided for 10 months only; meaning no summer sessions in July and August; only from September through June?

11:21:29 From Kyla Levin-Russell to Everyone:

If we have questions about the proposal submission process in Passport, who can we contact?

11:23:05 From Johan Lopez to Everyone:

Reacted to "Why would an organiz..." with 👍

11:23:31 From Rose Nova to Everyone:

Rose Nova JCC

When do you anticipate the addendums to be released?

11:24:39 From Julie Quinton MRNY she/her to Everyone:

Reacted to "Rose Nova JCC

When ..." with 👍

11:24:46 From Rose Nova to Everyone:

Reacted to "Rose Nova JCC

When ..." with 👍

11:25:30 From Lisa Spagnola to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

We were able to create an application/response in Passport for Adolescent Literacy, but can't create additional ones. (We wanted to apply for each.) We put a ticket in, but wanted to make you aware and see if others were having the same tech challenges.

11:25:35 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

If we are applying for different NTAs but for the same ESOL/BENL competition are we to apply in one proposal or one separate proposal for each NTA? We were not sure if we are to propose only within the borough or for example, write about Sunset Park or Flushing, for example, in one application? With DYCD answer on not allowing partial slot awards by allocation, we were not sure what we should do to make the case for the program we would like to offer. In the proposal narrative, there is a question related to the NTA, but it has limited space.

11:25:49 From Julie Quinton MRNY she/her to Everyone:

Julie Q- Astrid- I'm sorry- I'm still confused. When there are 2 awards in an NTA both must apply for the total amount of slots and funding?

11:25:58 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:26:44 From Johan Lopez to Everyone:

Reacted to "While we would love ..." with 👍

11:27:22 From Elizabeth Iannotti to DYCD Procurement(direct message):

I would ask that DYCD representatives not laugh or chuckle at the meeting participants' concerns. It is dismissive and disrespectful. We are at risk of losing funding if we don't move our classes to new sites. This is extremely challenging for programs. Please do not minimize or invalidate our challenges.

11:27:26 From Julie Quinton MRNY she/her to Everyone:

Julie Q -\*correction: if there are 2 awards, any applicants must apply for the complete amount listed... and 2 awards for that total will be made?

11:28:34 From Emmanuel Loncke to Everyone:

can each program be held at the same location

11:28:37 From Rose Nova to Everyone:

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

How realistic is it that a DOE school where you wish to provide service be willing to sign a contract relinquishing site control to a CBO or did I misunderstand the document you are asking for ?

11:28:38 From Cynthia Andreozzi to Everyone:

Replying to "It appears that the ..."

Inwood Community Services. We second that. We are located in an area that has inadequate facilities that would allow us to locate a program site within the NTA closest to us and still serve the high poverty and less than proficient English speakers. we have been serving for 37 years,. Our program site is located 1 block from the NTA border,

11:31:37 From Paula DaSilva-Michelin to Everyone:

Reacted to "How is serving stude..." with 👍

11:33:06 From Julian Robles to Everyone:

In previous communications over the Passport portal, I was told that "For ESOL/BENL program, only a portion of program finding is from CSBG and/or CDBG funds. As such, some participants may be subject to income eligibility criteria." However, in response to my question a few minutes ago, I was told that all students were subject to this criteria. Can you confirm which is correct?

11:33:11 From Elizabeth Hendler to Everyone:

Thank you very much!

11:35:55 From Alexandra Andrei to Everyone:

When can we expect the slides and recording to be uploaded?

11:37:10 From Alexandra Andrei to Everyone:

Reacted to "When can we expect..." with 👍

11:37:44 From Yesenia (La Colmena) to Everyone:

Thank you for this informative session -Yesenia La Colmena

11:37:53 From Margery Hannah to Everyone:

Where can we find this deck?

Literacy RFP Pre-Proposal Zoom Chat Transcript  
February 6, 2024 10am

11:37:58 From Lisa Spagnola to Everyone:

Thank you so much!

11:37:59 From Jagjit Kaur to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:38:00 From Lucia Pacheco to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:38:09 From Neforis Garcia to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:38:09 From Peter Merani to Everyone:

Thank you!

11:38:20 From Margery Hannah to Everyone:

Thanks!

11:38:23 From Dana Wilson to Everyone:

thank you

11:38:23 From Tareake Dorill to Everyone:

Thank you!