

RFP25-12 Questions Asked Outside Bidders Conference

Q: Are out of state entities allowed to apply or is this only for MA organizations?

A: You do not have to be a Massachusetts organization to apply. An out of state organization may apply. However, the location where youth services will be provided must be situated within the Bristol Workforce Development Area as defined in the RFP.

Q: Is there a lot of competition for Model II? Would we be able to speak to a current Model II provider?

A: Model II is a relatively new creation. We have not funded a Model II program as of yet. If you have specific questions on the design, we can attempt to answer them.

Q: Can you clarify what it means that *“WIOA requires a Local Workforce Development Area to devote at least 20 percent of its Title 1 Youth funds for paid and unpaid work experiences which may include; summer employment opportunities that are directly linked to academic occupational learning, etc...”* It’s on page 6, Under Program Model 1 third paragraph.

A: The MassHire Bristol Workforce Board must expend at least 20% of its WIOA Title I Youth funds for paid and unpaid work experience. However, we do not require subcontractors to devote a specific percentage (i.e. at least 20%) of their budget to paid and unpaid work experience. Still, paid and unpaid work experience as defined in the RFP, is a required element in either a Model I or Model II design. But again, there is no mandated minimum budget amount that must be devoted to this element.

Q: If we have a paid experience do we send that to you to document the 20%?

A: If a paid work experience is included in the program’s WIOA budget then it must be reported for purposes of documenting allowable budget expenditures. If the paid work experience is covered by the employer and not part of the program budget then it is an in-kind match. This would not need to be reported with regular invoice submissions as it would not be a WIOA expenditure. However, documentation of in-kind match must be maintained and available for review if requested during program or fiscal subrecipient monitoring.

Q: So that budget expenditure [youth wages] comes out of the 120,000 budget we are writing for, not Bristol's MassHire budget?

A: If you are seeking WIOA funds to pay youth wages for participants in your proposed program, the youth wages are to be included in your proposed budget and do count against the program cap of \$120,000 per area as defined in Section VII of the RFP. Please review the Paid and Unpaid Work Experience element description included in Section IV or the RFP for additional detail.