



Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development



**Workforce Education and Training Five-Year Plan  
Masters of Social Work – RFP #13-4156  
Call-In Q&A's from Mandatory Bidders' Conference  
January 14, 2014**

Following are general summaries of questions asked at the Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference on 1/14/2014, and the responses to the questions:

**Question 1:** *Clarify how OSHPD has defined Counties of Need?*

**Answer:** Counties of Need are defined as counties in which two (2) or fewer stipend recipients were placed in field placement and employment payback in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13.

**Question 2:** *We want to confirm that other counties are not excluded but that you really want to see how we're going to reach those counties of need?*

**Answer:** That is correct. At least fifteen percent (15%) of the cohort needs to be placed in OSHPD-defined Counties of Need.

**Question 3:** *Regarding the Proposer references, I know you can't tell us how we should proceed, however it was suggested that OSHPD is probably our largest partner in this, but I'm assuming that OSHPD would not be one of those references, is that right?*

**Answer:** That is correct; OSHPD would not be a reference. We have to be neutral.

**Question 4:** *I'm concerned that I won't be able to get enough information from potential sub-awardees prior to the submission date and I'm not sure whether we should list potential sub-awardees prior to having the commitments from them.*

**Answer:** You would list those who you will be subcontracting with. All we can do is ask you to list those sub-awardees you know. You need to be able to tell us how many stipends are going to be awarded.

**Question 5:** *I see that there are two submission dates; one for the MSW stipend RFP, and the other for the MFT stipend RFP. Is that correct?*

**Answer:** Yes, that is correct. The MSW stipend RFP and the MFT stipend RFP are separate RFPs. So they have separate processes and separate timelines.

**Question 6:** *The RFP goes from Exhibit D to Exhibit F. Is there an Exhibit E?*

**Answer:** This RFP does not include an Exhibit E. Exhibit E is used only in those instances when the Contractor will be subject to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) rules. Because contractors resulting from this RFP will not have direct access to patients' confidential information, this is not one of those situations. As a result, there is no Exhibit E.

**Question 7:** *Is the evaluation component intended to be an outcome oriented evaluation of the entire training program or a process evaluation? A process evaluation is more descriptive in that it describes: how the project was set up, how many people we trained, how many students we placed, where they were placed; and an outcome evaluation would describe what impact the stipends had on the mental health field, what impact it had on consumers in terms of their perceptions of the benefit of the training program or feedback from the counties themselves, and how the programs/stipends have benefited them in best serving their communities. Also, one question an outcome evaluation would ask is what effect has the reduction in stipend funding had on recruiting social workers trained in mental health?*

**Answer:** Section U of the Model Agreement states that the Contractor will develop a methodology to quantify and report on contract deliverables. This includes an assessment of the stipend programs' impact on the public mental health system over time. The Contractor will notify OSHPD of the number of students receiving stipends and will provide reports and tables, contained in Attachment 10.

**Question 8:** *So what you describe is an evaluation that is really more process oriented, and my concern has to do with outcomes that we can measure as we reduce the number of stipends being made available. A related question would be to what extent can evaluative data help inform OSHPD down the road in the next cycle of funding, whether funding should be augmented if the stipend program is demonstrated to be very positive.*

**Answer:** Within the scope of this RFP, we ask you for specific information regarding outcomes related to the MSW program. What you are asking is outside this RFP and I don't want to provide advice outside the scope of the RFP. This RFP requires a process evaluation as you describe it. It asks that you report on the number of students trained and those activities in the progress reports that are identified. In our activities related to the WET program as a whole and outside this RFP, what will happen in the course of the next few years is an evaluation that is about the outcome or impact, and so anyone who enters into a contract with OSHPD for services related to the WET program will be contacted by OSHPD to help identify the outcome or the impact piece. And that goes across the board for any Contractor.

**Comment:** That's very helpful.

Bidders' Conference concluded at 3:36 p.m. We look forward to reviewing all the proposals that come forth.