

Middle School Academy RFP
Questions & Responses

Question 1:

Is there an expected total contract amount to be awarded?

Answer:

No, there is not an expected total contract amount to be awarded. The amount budgeted for the Middle School Academies is \$800,000. Originally there were to be four Middle School Academies, with an estimated budget of \$200,000 each.

Question 2:

What is the budget max? Range?

Answer:

There is no maximum budget. See answer for question #1.

Question 3:

Is the Provider expected to serve the same students in summer and throughout the school year?

Answer:

Research has shown that the longer a participant is in out of the school programming, the higher the success rate. However, JWB is aware that the availability of participants may change between summer and the school year, so it is possible that there may be different students between summer and the school year.

Question 4:

What are the hours?

Answer:

Azalea Middle School's school day hours are 9:40am-4:10pm. Please see addendum acknowledgement #1 in response to hours for the program.

Question 5:

What are the hours and expectations of the summer bridge program at Azalea? How would this impact the Academy program if kids are enrolled in both?

Answer:

Summer Bridge hours are from 9:00am-12:00pm. However, JWB does not have information in regards to Summer Bridge locations for summer 2021. Expectations, should Azalea be selected as a Summer Bridge site, would be discussed during contract negotiations.

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Question 6:

What are the expectations for school breaks and summer programming?

- a. Hours and dates?

Answer:

Please see addendum acknowledgement #1

Question 7:

Are the staff before and after school required to be the same as the summer staff?

Answer:

No, staff before and after school are not required to be the same as the summer staff. Staff retention promotes strong relationships with students, student engagement, and student success. Middle School Academies should demonstrate a commitment and ability to recruit and retain highly qualified staff. However, staff turnover is expected and Middle School Academies should prepare accordingly.

Question 8:

Is there an example of curriculum that would be preferred for Academic and Enrichment?

Answer:

No, program curriculum must be evidence-informed or evidence-based.

Question 9:

Is there a minimum education requirement for staff that are hired to run the site outside of the certified teachers?

Answer:

Yes. Minimum education requirements for all staff must follow the minimum requirements for substantial compliance level of adherence to the Pinellas County Licensing Board requirements.

Question 10:

Do all staff at the Azalea site need to be certified teachers or do we only need one or two for the specific purpose of facilitating academic programs?

Answer:

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No. Only certified teachers may provide academic instruction (see Section 2.6 1e). Enrichment program elements may be provided by program staff that are not certified teachers. However, all staff must meet the requirements for substantial compliance level of adherence to the Pinellas County Licensing Board requirements.

Question 11:

Would this After-school program be able to hire teachers that work at Azalea Middle currently?

Answer:

Yes; however, there may be restraints on the teachers based on number of hours teaching or restraints from their employer, Pinellas County Schools.

Question 12:

Will the staff or Director need to have After-school Teacher Certification through DCF?

Answer:

Must adhere to licensing requirements per Pinellas County Licensing Board.

Question 13:

Where do we find certified teachers?

Answer:

Standard recruitment strategies can be used such as utilization of recruitment web sites and job boards.

Question 14:

How is this RFP and its requirements/outcomes different from currently running MSA?

Answer:

Starting in FY21, requirements and outcomes will be aligned across all JWB funded Middle School Academies.

Question 15:

What does Youth Voice mean in JWB's point of view?

Answer:

Youth voice refers to the ideas, opinions, attitudes, knowledge, and actions of young people (CASEL, 2019). All MSAs are expected to incorporate youth voice into the development and implementation of program opportunities.

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Question 16:

How bought into this idea is the principal of Azalea? How willing to work with a Provider are they?

Answer:

The principal has been informed of the RFP and is excited to work with an out-of-school provider.

Question 17:

When will the expectation be for evaluating the program and its success? When will outcomes need to be shown?

Answer:

Evaluation will start after completion of the first year of programming. JWB and Providers can adjust performance standards as necessary based off of the results of the first year. Additional standards will be added in year two and three.

Question 18:

Page 21- "If applicable, describe your licensing status or capacity to become licensed or substantially compliant with the Pinellas County Licensing Board at the site location(s) where the services will be provided." –is this applicable? Is the school already licensed? Does the program/provider itself need to be licensed?

Answer:

Yes, the Provider must become licensed or substantially compliant with the Pinellas County Licensing Board.

Question 19:

Will the program need to be licensed through any organization such as DCF?

Answer:

The Provider must obtain a certificate of substantial compliance issued by the Pinellas County Licensing Board. See *Special Conditions of the Agreement* in Attachment 1-Sample Agreement.

Question 20:

Regarding licensure, is there a time for obtaining the license?

Answer:

There will be a timeframe set in contract negotiation. Also ensure that all costs related with the licensing are reflected in the start-up budget.

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Question 21:

What are the requirements for using subcontracted services or organizations to run limited specialized groups such as Therapeutic Cooking, Community Drumming, Robotics, Art?

Answer:

The requirements are outlined in Section 10, *Assignments and Subcontracts* in Attachment 1-Sample Agreement.

Question 22:

Must all of these potential sub-contractors be identified in the proposal? Is there flexibility through the grant cycle to adjust, add, delete or change in any way length of commitment?

Answer:

The type of services provided by a subcontract should be identified in the Proposal, however, not the specific vendor(s). There is flexibility on changing these services throughout the grant cycle.

Question 23:

Is there planning and training time figured into the school year? If so, when and how much?

- a. Could this look like what teachers are allotted for the school year a week before school starts a PD days?
- b. If so, how would that look so not to conflict with the schools training schedule if the After-School Program were to employ teachers at that school?

Answer:

The time and resources dedicated to professional development opportunities for staff is at the discretion of each individual agency/program. Please see addendum acknowledgement #1 regarding interference with program services.

Question 24:

Do we need a letter from the current principal, he may not be the principal next year?

Answer:

It is not required.

Question 25:

Is this a 10, 11, or 12 month program?

Answer:

12 month program.

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Question 26:

Can 2 organizations co-write the Proposal? Work together?

Answer:

Only one agency can contract with JWB for the program. However, agencies can collaborate or subcontract to complete services.

Question 27:

The minimum of 7% of student participants, how many student is that?

Answer:

In school year 2019-2020, Azalea Middle School has a total enrollment of 923. The 7% threshold of total enrollment is equal to 65 students.

Question 28:

Thank you for giving us the number of students expected to participate. The performance measures are ambitious (yeah). However what are the consequences for not meeting the expectations? The 75% of participants with no more than (1) school suspension and the 70% of participants will attend 70% or more of program days. This might self-select some of the students who need this program the most.

Answer:

JWB is expecting that JWB and the Provider will learn a lot during the first year, and that the Provider may need to adjust programming. Performance measures may be adjusted in subsequent fiscal years, but all MSAs are expected to strive and meet the standards set forth in this RFP.

Question 29:

What are expectations for evaluation components for physical activity and healthy living and leadership development? This is not mentioned in your performance measures.

Answer:

These are desired service requirements that will not be contractually measured.

Question 30:

If an agency is on any disciplinary action whatsoever, will this disqualify an agency?

Answer:

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See addendum acknowledgement #1.

Question 31:

When you say full year, do you mean fall to fall?

Answer:

Outcomes are evaluated within and across fiscal years. In FY21, for example, FSA related measures will evaluate growth from SY 2019-2020 to SY 2020-2021 (i.e. two scores, from consecutive years, will be obtained). For FY21 (the first year of the award cycle), SY 2020-2021 school attendance data will be analyzed. Program attendance will be evaluated in alignment with JWB's FY21 calendar (10/01/2020-09/30/2021).

Question 32:

Our agency is an LLLC, however, our agency uses a fiscal sponsor which is a 501(c)(3) as our fiscal agent. The 501(c)(3) agency will be the one contracting for the grant and the LLC will be completing the program. Is this allowable under this RFP?

Answer:

As per section 1.13 of the RFP, Round 1 Minimum Criteria, the Proposer must be a 501(c)(3) at the time of submission, be a government entity or be a higher learning institute. However, the Proposing agency may subcontract with another agency to complete services. This must be identified in the Proposal.

Question 33:

Our agency is under the \$500,000 operating budget, is our agency still eligible for this RFP?

Answer:

See section 2.5, Qualifications, in the RFP.

Question 34:

Does the program have to be for an entire 12 month period as well as 5 days every week classes in the morning and evening and what is the daily time commitment expected for the morning sessions and evening sessions.

Answer:

See response to Question #25 regarding the 12 month period. Please see addendum acknowledgement #1 regarding program hours and days.

Question 35:



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Our instructors have a level 2 clearance with Pinellas County School District, however, not everyone on the team has a Florida Educators Certificate. Are these individuals still allowed to instruct the participants for the program?

Answer:

See response to Question #10.