

ADDENDUM #1 Workforce Boulder County Workforce Boulder County Innovation Funds RFP # 7271-21

October 19, 2021

The attached addendum supersedes the original Information and Specifications regarding RFP # 7271-21 where it adds to, deletes from, clarifies or otherwise modifies. All other conditions and any previous addendums shall remain unchanged.

Please note: Due to COVID-19, BIDS will only be accepted electronically by emailing purchasing@bouldercounty.org.

1. Question: Is it \$1,029,444 per year to be distributed or for the total amount through Dec. 2024?

ANSWER: \$1,029,444 is the total amount through December 2024.

2. Question: Do you have a sense on how many projects you hope to fund?

ANSWER: We expect 5 to 10 projects.

3. Question: Do you have an average grant award or any guidance on amount of request?

ANSWER: We expect projects to cost approximately \$50,000 and \$250,000.

4. Question: Is a nonprofit organization able to be the applicant organization?

ANSWER: Yes.

5. Question: What is the maximum allowed award amount?

ANSWER: There is not a set maximum, yet we are looking for a diversity of requests.

6. Question: Is there a specific format in which the grant application narrative should be submitted?

ANSWER: While the format is not specific, preference is to submit the Application in Word or PDF format. Project Narrative not to exceed ten (10) pages (excluding the Budget Table (Excel spreadsheet) and three (3) Letters of Support. The request should clearly indicate the community need, your proposed innovation & impact, partnerships, sustainability, equity, governance, and amount requested & budget detail.

7. Question: Is there a pre-approved list of credentials and/or certifications that will meet the definition of reskilling, upskilling or next-skilling?

ANSWER: For the Reskill, Upskill and Next Skill funding the following statement below applies.

Pursuant to 24-46.3-603 (1)(j), the State Council determines that local workforce areas may support individuals to pursue training in any program that leads to an in-demand or growth occupation that is identified in the Colorado Talent Pipeline Report, the WIOA Combined State Plan, or Local or Regional WIOA Plans. Any credentials earned that increase an individuals' employability for these industries and occupations are considered eligible for funding and should be counted towards the overall results of the RUN program.

8. Question: What is the decision date?

ANSWER: Late November 2021.

9. Question: When will grants need to begin implementation?

ANSWER: January 2022.

10. Question: Will project proposals for new programs allow for ramp up time in the schedule of activities? For example, 3-6 months.

ANSWER: Yes.

11. Question: Do all project participants have to apply for an opening through Connecting Colorado?

ANSWER: If the project serves individuals, the individuals need to have a record in Connecting Colorado for Innovation Grant data and recording purposes. Workforce Boulder County will work with grant recipients and subrecipients (as applicable) to train on utilization of Connecting Colorado and provide ongoing technical support.

12. Question: What outcomes are used if the outcome-based pay-for-performance contract is utilized. Would it be contract specific based upon the proposal?

ANSWER: Each awardee with have a contract with Workforce Boulder County, which will include the expected outcomes.

13. Question: Are there specific documentation requirements for 'case notes' indicating participant self-attested eligibility?

ANSWER: If the funds are used to support individual participants, the participants need to have a record in Connecting Colorado for Innovation Grant data and reporting purposes. Workforce Boulder County will work with grant recipients and sub-recipients (as applicable) to train on utilization of Connecting Colorado and provide ongoing technical support.

14. Question: Can we propose a training program that would train individuals with the intent of offering future employment with our organization?

ANSWER: As long as this does not create a conflict of interest with Workforce Boulder County programs and services or other community programs. Proposals should complement and take into consideration current employment & training programs within Boulder County.

15. Question: Is there a maximum allowable allocation percentage for hiring personnel to manage the proposed program?

ANSWER: While there is not specific limit to personnel costs, all costs must support (through the Budget Narrative and Budget template) innovation and outcomes, demonstrating a program design that will build in-demand skills, connect workers and learners to quality jobs, and drive employer engagement in talent development. There is a specific limit to "Administration" costs, not to exceed 10% of total budget request.

16. Question: Is it possible to obtain more information about the framework that will be used by the external evaluation (section L of the RFP) to assist in preparing the grant proposal?

ANSWER: This is currently under development by the evaluation panel, based off the scoring matrix indicated in the RFP, as follows:

| Description | Points |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Need: How and why the applicant designed this project, based on data and evidence | 10 |
| Innovation : How the proposal supports innovative, locally driven solutions to respond to community needs | 20 |
| Proposed Impact : How the proposal will improve outcomes for workers and students and/or increase employer engagement | 15 |
| Partnerships : What support does the applicant have from community organizations such as local chambers of commerce, non-profits, businesses, or faith-based organizations | 10 |
| Sustainability: How the applicant will continue the project after the grant term expires | 5 |
| Equity : How the proposal will improve education and economic outcomes for underserved populations or communities | 15 |
| Governance : How the applicant will ensure appropriate administration, monitoring, reporting, and compliance for the grant | 15 |
| Proposed Budget: How budget meets Request for Proposal priorities, inclusion of allowable costs, illustrates thoughtful plan for spend-down and expense allocation by end of grant term | 10 |
| Total Possible | 100 |

Submittal Instructions:

Submittals are due at the email box <u>only</u>, listed below, for time and date recording on or before **2:00 p.m. Mountain Time on October 29, 2021**.

Please note that email responses to this solicitation are limited to a maximum of 50MB capacity.

NO ZIP FILES OR LINKS TO EXTERNAL SITES WILL BE ACCEPTED. THIS INCLUDES GOOGLE DOCS AND SIMILAR SITES. ALL SUBMITTALS MUST BE RECEIVED AS AN ATTACHMENT (E.G. PDF, WORD, EXCEL).

Electronic submittals must be received in the email box listed below. Submittals sent to any other box will NOT be forwarded or accepted. This email box is only accessed on the due date of your questions or proposals. Please use the Delivery Receipt option to verify receipt of your email. It is the sole responsibility of the proposer to ensure their documents are received before the deadline specified above. Boulder County does not accept responsibility under any circumstance for delayed or failed email or mailed submittals.

Email <u>purchasing@bouldercounty.org</u>; identified as **RFP # 7271-21** in the subject line.

All proposals must be received and time and date recorded at the purchasing email by the above due date and time. Sole responsibility rests with the Offeror to see that their bid is received on time at the stated location(s). Any bid received after due date and time will be returned to the bidder. No exceptions will be made.

The Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, and to accept the bid that, in the opinion of the Board, is in the best interest of the Board and of the County of Boulder, State of Colorado.



RECEIPT OF LETTER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

| October 19, 2021 |
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| Dear Vendor: |
| This is an acknowledgment of receipt of Addendum #1 for RFP #7271-21, Workforce Boulder County Innovation Funds |
| In an effort to keep you informed, we would appreciate your acknowledgment of receipt of the preceding addendum. Please sign this acknowledgment and email it back to purchasing@bouldercounty.org as soon as possible. If you have any questions, or problems with transmittal, please call us at 303-441-3525. This is also an acknowledgement that the vendor understands that due to COVID-19, BIDS will only be accepted electronically by emailing purchasing@bouldercounty.org . |
| Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. This information is time and date sensitive; an immediate response is requested. |
| Sincerely, |
| Boulder County Purchasing |
| Signed by: Date: |
| Name of Company |
| End of Document |