

GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda

Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

By Hybrid Meeting

at 3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor meeting room A

or via Zoom at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ks1CsOdGTkagNMS4pbTSoA

The presiding officer will be present at the meeting location listed above to convene this meeting.

1. Call to Order

Dr. Bobbie Henderson, Chair

2. Committee Member Roll Call

Roll call of committee members.

3. Public Comment

Anyone wishing to make a public comment may do so by appearing in person or by joining online via the link listed above or by dialing 1-877-853 5247 or 1-888-788 0099 (Webinar ID 837 5902 1330; Passcode: 303176)

4. Workforce Solutions System 2023 Early Education Quality Services

Discussion and possible action on the Workforce Solutions System 2023 Procurement for Early Education Quality Services.

5. Workforce Solutions System 2023 Employer Services

Discussion and possible action on the Workforce Solutions System 2023 Procurement for Employer Services, Employer Services Marketing and Consulting and Employer Services Talent Development.

6. Adjourn

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Workforce Board will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending meetings. Requests should be received 24 hours prior to the function by contacting Deborah Duke at 713.993.4522 or deborah.duke@wrksolutions.net.

Procurement Committee

Early Childhood Quality

Background

The Board provides a variety of services to improve quality in early childhood education. These services include child care referrals to for families, professional training, and other supports for child care workers and businesses, and assessing and mentoring child care business seeking to achieve quality recognition through the Texas Rising Star(TRS) program.

Currently, Collaborative for Children manages our Early Education Quality efforts. Earlier this year, the Board approved a three-month extension of the contract with Collaborative for Children while a new procurement took place.

Current Situation

This year, the Early Education Quality RFP (Request for Proposal) asked proposers to bid on managing TRS, Parental Support, or both. We received proposals from three organizations: the University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston Collaborative for Children, and the Rupani Foundation. The Rupani Foundation was considered non-responsive because it did not submit its complete proposal in time. In addition to the standard scoring used for RFP consideration across the system, we also conducted interviews with qualifying respondents as part of the evaluation process.

Early Childhood Quality		
Ranking	Company Name	Total Score
1	University of Texas Health Science Center	1955
2	Collaborative for Children	1495

University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHSC -Houston) scored the highest of the two proposals received. The University of Texas Health Science Center operates The Children’s Learning Institute (CLI). CLI provides comprehensive training and certification programs for all Texas Rising Star (TRS) assessors and mentors for the State of Texas. UTHSC staff have many years’ experience working with TRS providers and managing TRS work.

Collaborative for Children ranked second. The Collaborative for Children works to improve the learning opportunities for children in the first five years of life. The organization has managed Early Childhood Quality for the Board since 2003.

Collaborative for Children currently provides technical assistance, consulting, and best practice support for early education providers to increase the number of TRS providers in the region.

Action

Based on the evaluation of proposals, staff recommends authorization of a contract with the University of Texas Health Science Center – Houston for up to \$11,000,000.

The contract will be renewable for up to three additional years depending upon satisfactory performance, availability of funds and review and approval by the Board.

Procurement Committee

Employer Service

Background

Our Employer Service contractors serve our primary customers, employers. We outreach and market our services in a variety of ways, provide consulting services on variety of topics, help employers identify workers, and help employers through talent development to train and upskill potential and incumbent workers.

Currently, two service providers manage the Employer Service Division. Adaptive Construction Solutions (ACS) provides marketing and consulting while Employment & Training Centers (ETC) provides talent development for employers. These two partners work together to introduce new employers to the workforce system while building customized solutions that fit the needs of our employers.

Adaptive Construction Solutions and Employment & Training Centers were selected in a previous solicitation for this service in 2021. The Board asked that we reprocur these services for the fiscal year starting October 1, 2022. Requests for proposals (RFP) were issued in May 2022.

Current Situation

Staff evaluated the responses to the Marketing and Consulting RFP and ranked them with the following results:

Marketing and Consulting		
Ranking	Company Name	Total Score
1	Educational Data Systems, Inc.	1185
2	Employment & Training Centers	1175
3	Adaptive Construction Solutions	1155

Staff recommended contracting with both Educational Data Systems (EDSI) and Employment and Training Centers (ETC).

Staff evaluated the responses to the Talent Development ETC with the following results:

Talent Development		
Ranking	Company Name	Total Score
1	Employment & Training Centers, Inc..	1210
2	Adaptive Construction Solutions	1205
3	The Kaiser Group DBA Dynamic Workforce Solutions	1140

Board staff recommended contracting with both ETC and ACS for Talent Development.

At its August meeting, the Procurement Committee rejected both staff recommendations. Instead, the Committee recommended, and the Board approved, contracts with the two incumbent contractors for employer services for up to six months to allow the Procurement Committee time to interview the proposers and make recommendations to the Board at its October meeting.

On September 19th, Procurement Committee members interviewed all proposers described above.

Next Steps

The procurement committee will discuss all available information with the intent to make a recommendation to the board regarding our employer services contracts.