

Truancy RFP Ongoing Q&A's

Q. As per the Request for Interest & Request for Proposal, I understand that a parental education component serves as the foundation for the clinical component, however, what type of intervention services are you specifically looking at for the children...therapeutic and/or case management services?

A. The Request for Proposal states that, "Truancy Prevention Services should be time limited and intensive with a strong parental education component". The parental component is not described in the RFP as the foundation for the clinical work.

We are seeking a proposal for direct child welfare services to families with truant children and youth, with a preference for models that are trauma informed, and promising, well supported or evidence based. This is anticipated to be a clinical service that has both counseling and case management components and is collaborative with schools, district courts, and service providers.

Q. The RFP references "13 Delaware County School Districts" (first sentence on page 2). However, when I resource, 17 school district counties show up: Marple Newtown S.D., Rose Tree Media S.D., Springfield S.D., West Chester Area S.D., Unionville - Chadds Ford S.D., Garnet Valley S.D., Chichester S.D., Penn Delco S.D., Chester - Upland S.D., Wallingford - Swarthmore S.D., Ridley S.D., Interboro S.D., Southeast Delco S.D., William Penn S.D., Upper Darby S.D., Haverford S.D., and Radnor Township S.D. Will it be possible to confirm which school districts are expected to be included in services per this RFP?

A. Thank you for the correction concerning the number of school districts, there are 17 school districts. Two of them, West Chester area and Unionville-Chadds Ford largely serve students in Chester County but do serve a portion of students in Delaware County. The services should include students who reside within Delaware County. This includes children who attend Cyber schools.

Q. What is the maximum dollar amount permitted through this RFP?

A. Please submit what is a reasonable budget.

Q. Will one provider be selected or will potentially several providers be chosen?

A. It is our preference to select one provider to serve the County, however, this will not be determined until the proposals are in and have been reviewed.

Q. Is this a rebid?

A. This has not been previously bid out.

Q. Is anyone currently providing these services?

A. Yes

Q. Is there base funding available?

A. All funding is provided through the Alternatives to Truancy Prevention (ATP) Grant through the County's Child Welfare Needs Based Plan and Budget.

Q. Do you anticipate the funding will be available past the 1.5 years?

A. Yes

Q. Is there a commitment from other funders to continue this or is there any expectation that other funding may be available outside of the grant?

A. The County's Child Welfare Needs Based Budget has paid for this via the ATP Grant mentioned above, and before through Act 148, for many years. There is no expectation of other funding outside of the Grant and the County match for the Grant. The amount of money in the grant and the existence of the grant is dependent upon the State Legislature's budget for child welfare services. However, services to prevent truancy are part of state mandated child welfare services provided by the counties and funded by the State and counties. Therefore, it is anticipated that this funding will continue.

Q. How will services be invoiced (program funded or FFS)? If it is program funded, how are services invoiced monthly (i.e. based on actual expenses or a percentage every month)?

A. The proposals should state whether the intent is for program funding or fee for service funding. If program funded, the costs must be based upon actual expenditures. Services are invoiced monthly and with actual costs reviewed periodically and adjustments made.

Q. How much funding is available?

A. Please submit what is a reasonable bid.

Q. Is there a match requirement?

A. There is no match requirement for the provider of the services. The County contributes a match to the state and federal funds contained in the grant.

Q. How many hours per week per family/youth for family visits and for how long do they serve truant cases?

A. The RFP does not define a specific length of time for services, but that services should be time limited and intensive. Hours per week spent with the youth and family are dependent upon the needs of the youth and family and the model used by the provider.

Q. Does Delco HSA have a preferred assessment tool currently in use?

A. No, the agency does not have a preferred assessment tool.

Q. For budget preparation, what is the reimbursement preference...hourly, per diem / per day, or monthly allocation based on 1/12th (Or 1/18th with 18-month contract) of the total budget with quarterly adjustments? Please submit what is a reasonable bid.

A. Both unit funded and program funded proposals will be considered.

Q. Are there current Delaware county school districts which have staff/programs handling truancy?

A. Several school districts have school social workers or staff that address truancy, but all school districts refer to the Truancy Program.

Q. Are there preferred evidence-based or promising practices that the County is interested in pursuing for this truancy program?

A. The county has not specified a preferred evidence based model or promising practice.