

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

To implement a statewide Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Rating System, to evaluate and validate the ratings submitted by Grow NJ Kids programs.

TAKE NOTICE that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Division of Family Development (DFD) hereby announces the availability of the grant program funds described herein.

Program Name: Implement a Quality Rating system of independent raters to evaluate and validate the ratings submitted by Grow NJ Kids programs.

Purpose: This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), DFD for the purpose of awarding one contract for the provision of a Rating Entity, to support the early care and education programs participating in Grow NJ Kids. The focus of the RFP is to provide a comprehensive, rigorous rating and monitoring process for systemic and unbiased observations of programs enrolled in Grow NJ Kids.

Available Funding Amount: A bidder will submit a proposal for statewide services. Funding of \$1.0 million through the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) is being made available through DHS/DFD for the RFP. Continued funding for the contracts resulting from the RFP are subject to the availability of funds.

Who Can Apply/Bidder Qualifications:

To be eligible for consideration for the RFP, the bidder must satisfy the following requirements:

- The bidder must be a non-profit or for-profit entity or governmental entity;
- For a bidder that has a contract with DFD in place when the RFP is issued, that bidder must have all outstanding Plans of Correction for deficiencies submitted to DFD for approval prior to submission;
- The bidder must be fiscally viable based upon an assessment of the bidder's audited financial statements. If a bidder is determined, in DFD' sole discretion, to be insolvent or to present insolvency within the twelve (12) months after bid submission, DFD will deem the proposal ineligible for contract award;
- The bidder must not appear on the State of New Jersey Consolidated Debarment Report at <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/revenue/debarment/debarsearch.shtml> or be

suspended or debarred by any other State or Federal entity from receiving funds;

- The bidder shall not employ a member of the Board of Directors in a consultant capacity;
- Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, a for-profit bidder and each proposed subcontractor must have a valid Business Registration Certificate on file with the Division of Revenue. (This statutory requirement does not apply to non-profit organizations, private colleges and universities, or state and municipal agencies);
- The bidder must attend the Mandatory Bidders conference as described in the RFP.

Proposal Procedure: Effective January 8, 2021, the RFP is available at www.state.nj.us/humanservices/providers/grants/rfprfi/index.html and www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/. A proposal must be submitted that comports with the RFP requirements and instructions.

Proposal Receiving Office:

Department of Human Services
Division of Family Development
6 Quakerbridge Road
Mercerville, New Jersey 08619
DFD.RFP@dhs.nj.gov

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. on February 22, 2021.

Notification Date: Bidders will be notified on or before June 2, 2021.



Carole Johnson, Commissioner

January 7, 2021
Date