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**RFP – Occupational Skills Training: Certified Peer Recovery Specialist**

***Bidder Questions***

**Is the published grant amount an error? If not, then what is the expectation for how the successful provider will close the gap between cost and grant provision?**

The published grant amount is correct. While MOED does not require selectees to leverage additional resources in order to meet described outcomes, they are strongly encouraged to do so. If leveraged resources are included, they should be clearly outlined in the budget document and detailed in letters of support.

**Can the requirement for forty-five (45) participants be negotiated?**

Yes. We have received permission to reduce the minimum number of participants to be trained under this contract to 30.

**Is there any flexibility in this timeline?**

No.

**Will MOED be coordinating locations for participants to complete the required service hours for certification?**

No. MOED can provide support during this process, but service hour location coordination is ultimately the responsibility of the contracted organization.

**Will MOED be covering the $125.00 application fee for participants?**

No. Bidders may include application fees for certification exams as part of their proposed budget, but MOED does not have additional separate funding available for testing fees.

**It should be noted that those in recovery are not eligible to apply for the CPRS until they have achieved 2 years of sobriety. Given this, it is not recommended that participants begin the certification process without 12-18 months of sobriety when they begin the process.** **Does the RFP recognize this restriction and allow that participants will necessarily need to have achieved an extensive period of sobriety prior to undertaking the CPRS process?**

Yes. The RFP stipulates that we expect providers will deliver Certified Peer Recovery Specialist training accredited by the Maryland Addiction and Behavioral-health Professional Certification Board (MABPCB) and consistent with its framework, including the eligibility requirements relating to sustained sobriety.