

## RFP Questions and Answers

### San Diego Behavioral Health Apprenticeship Network

**Q1: Our organization does not plan to apply to be the Lead Agency on this project, but we are interested in being a behavioral health partner agency. In that case, is it correct to assume that we do not need to respond to this RFP and that once the Lead Agency is established we will have an opportunity to connect with the lead agency for potential partnership opportunities?**

**A1:** Correct. Only organizations interested in serving as the lead agency need to submit a proposal for this RFP. Once a lead agency is selected and has established operations, PIC/Trailhead will host a series of workshops for employers and other partners to facilitate connections to the apprenticeship network.

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**Q2: Will you accept applications from agencies currently going through the certification program?**

**A2:** Lead agencies must meet at least one of the criteria in *Section A.5.a Eligible lead agencies* AND all the criteria in *Section A.5.b Required experience of a lead agency* to be eligible for contract award. If those criteria are met, the depth and breadth of that experience, including information about the status of apprenticeship standards waiting for approval by either the US Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship Standards or the California Division of Apprenticeship Standards, will be taken into consideration by the review panel through the scoring process.

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**Q3: Our for-profit organization provides apprenticeship management solutions on a national level as a registered sponsor and an intermediary. We are a group apprenticeship sponsor in Florida and are currently well into the process of becoming a group national apprenticeship program sponsor; we are just awaiting the final approval of the Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship. The timeline for approval with the OA has been ongoing for more than a year but we have been told that we are close to approval. The apprenticeship program will be operated in California once approved. The eligibility for the project states that current apprenticeship sponsors are eligible to become a lead entity. If our organization does not have its national standards approved yet, can we still bid on this project?**

**A3:** For profit organizations are eligible for contract award as a lead agency if they meet at least one of the eligibility criteria in *Section A.5.a Eligible lead agencies* AND the criteria in *Section A.5.b Required experience of a lead agency*. Based on the information provided in the question and subject to verification, serving as an approved registered apprenticeship sponsor in Florida would meet the qualification under *Section 5.a.VI, State-registered or federally recognized apprenticeship sponsors*.

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**Q4: Does having a Medi-Cal provider number qualify an employer to be added to the list of Eligible Behavioral Health Employers Listed in Attachment B: Eligible Behavioral Health Employers.**

**A4:** Employment sites that are not currently listed in *Attachment B: Eligible Behavioral Health Employers* that would like to be considered can submit an email to [Elevate@trailheadstrat.com](mailto:Elevate@trailheadstrat.com) to begin the review process. The priority is for organizations that a) provide behavioral health services to residents in San Diego County b) be a not-for-profit community based organization or a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and c) primarily serve clients who are enrolled or eligible for Medi-Cal and/or Medicare.