

4/8/22 Bidders Conference questions and answers for Quality Parenting Centers

1. Will you please post a list of agencies who submit a letter of intent with the areas they are looking to serve?
 - Yes
2. Please confirm that the annual visits for Bridgeport is 6200 and the annual funding is \$1,232,774.
 - Annual visits for Bridgeport is 6150
 - Funding is \$1,232,774
3. This RFP requires the use of the Visit Coaching Model. Will the state provide training in this model or facilitate a connection with the trainers?
 - Yes
4. I am specifically interested in the numbers on this RFP related to the Bridgeport area office. These numbers are significantly different from the previous RFP, yet there are no other changes to the program specifications. What is the reason for the number of visits being increased so significantly?
 - During the previous posting for QPC, we included all offices that did not have a QPC which resulted in our inability to offer the full coverage for the Bridgeport Area office need of 6150. The decision to cover all the visitation needs for Bridgeport was made for this posting which resulted in going out to bid for three offices instead of five.

Previous Bidders Conference questions and answers for Quality Parenting Centers

1. Is Transportation inclusive of parents and children?
 - Yes. Parents may access public transportation if available. Caregivers may assist in providing transportation for children to and from the center if available.
2. Are certain positions required or are we just required to ensure the tasks are managed within the positions that we propose? ie scheduler or driver
 - The staffing model proposed by the applicant is an area that will be evaluated.
3. Is there an opportunity to combine sites or is there an expectation that each area office will have a dedicated QPC site?
 - The goal of the RFP is to ensure each Area Office has access to a QPC site
4. How do you see this program intersecting with RTFT?
 - The RTFT program serves families with a goal of reunification. The QPC accepts all permanency goals. If the family is receiving QPC services and making progress during Family Time and with their case plan goals, the family could be transitioned to RTFT.
5. Are there any site specifications that are required for the provisions of QPC services?

- It is important all sites offer a home-like setting for parents to interact with their children. The RFP specifically references access to a waiting area, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 4-5 visitation rooms, and a recreational area. This will be an area of consideration within the RFP.

6. Are there any educational requirements for those that supervise visits or the supervisor?
 - The RFP indicates the supervisor have a bachelor's degree in the Human services field. No other educational requirements are included in the RFP and will be an area of consideration upon review.
7. Has DCF developed a staffing model to cover the required hours and visits within the budget limitations of the grant?
 - The staffing model is outlined in the RFP and will be an area of consideration when reviewed.
8. What is the length of service requirement?
 - Up to 6 months with an opportunity to extend if warranted.
9. You mentioned active sites. Any challenges that have taken place in the start up of the service? Transportation, staffing schedules, resources?
 - All social service agencies are experiencing challenges with hiring staff during the pandemic. The QPCs are facing similar challenges hiring coaches and drivers.
10. We have been a credentialed service provider for DCF. In anticipation of this RFP, we are in the process of forming a nonprofit. Are we still eligible to apply even if the non profit status is not complete?
 - We will accept and review proposals from agencies that are not fully endorsed as Non-Profit. We would expect that in the workplan section, a clear description/outline of where your application is in the process and a timeline of anticipated approval. We cannot approve the award if the nonprofit status has not been fully granted at the time of execution.
11. Are the DCF transportation contracts available for this transportation need?
 - No, they are not. The QPCs are expected to provide transportation.
12. Does a specific site need to have been identified/procured at the time of application? Or can an organization apply while still working to identify a facility?
 - A site does not need to be secured/finalized at time of application.
13. The first QPCs were limited to residential facilities. Where is the equity in this application process?
 - We will not accept applications that propose a conversion of an existing congregate care setting that is not already scheduled to close.
14. Does the site need to be close to an area office?
 - The proposed site should be close to the Area Office being served.
15. Explanation of proprietary corporation?
 - State statute allows all municipalities, local government or proprietary corporations to Contract with the state. Proprietary corporation includes nonprofit organizations or C Corporation and/or S Corporation if not publicly traded.
16. Do you have to be a nonprofit to qualify for RFP?
 - Please refer to Question 10.

17. I recently attending the ABH Credentialaied provider meeting and we were notified that the QPC RFP has opened to private providers. I have printed everything however I am not clear on whether or not this is only open to non-profit agencies or if private for profit agencies are eligible to apply as well. Can you provide me with any clarification?

- Please refer to question 10.

18. Is there any flexibility in hours and/or capacity requirements given the budgets/limited funding?

- The hours and capacity requirements are outlined in the RFP. Provider are allowed flexibility as long as the capacity and base hours identified are inclusive.

19. Has DCF developed/calculated a staffing model to cover the required hours and visits within the budget limitations of the grant? If so, will the department please share it as an example for applicants?

- The staffing model is identified in the RFP.

20. Is there an opportunity to combine sites/locations (e.g., Meriden-Middletown)?

- No. Separate proposals are required for each. If the same provider is awarded for both sites, we would consider the possibility of fiscally combining centers during the contract negotiation.

21. We are a recently created Non-Profit Organization. As such we do not have any data or financial records. We are also a credential provider. Should we submit that information from our for-profit service?

- The data may include your existing experience with providing supervised visitation services. We will not require you to submit your financial records as you were recently approved as a Private Non-Profit company. We would expect you to state that in your response.