

Career ConneCT RFP Conference

Proposal #: 24ECD2355

**Proposal Name: Career ConneCT Third
Party Evaluation**



Agenda

1. Meet the Staff
2. Summary and Purpose
3. Eligibility and Qualifications
4. Career Connect Program Overview
5. Proposal Outline
6. Scope of Service
7. Budget Overview
8. Evaluation Criteria and Weights
9. Important Dates and Details
10. Submission Requirements
11. Question and Answers

**CAREER
CONNECT**

Per RFP Guidelines, we are requesting all members to put their Name, Company Name, and Email in the chat to be issued follow up materials

Meet the Staff

- Presenters
 - Kristina Testa-Buzzee, Ed.D, Grants Performance Manager
 - Sarah Bourdon, Grant Manager
 - Laura Baker, Workforce Specialist & Office Administrator
 - Christine Caminito, Director of Finance
- Supporting
 - Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Ph.D., Chief Workforce Officer
 - Grace Suh, Chief of Staff
 - Tracy Ariel, Dir. Of Business & Workforce Engagement
 - Lindsey Leung, Staff Attorney
 - Jonathan Richter, Research Analyst
 - Domonique Johnson, Grants Secretary
 - Karen Quesnel, WIOA Program Manager

Summary and Purpose

RFP Summary

Design and conduct a third-party external evaluation of the Career ConneCT Program to assess its impact on participants and their transition into the labor market.

RFP Purpose

The goal of this RFP is to retain an evaluator(s) who will execute a Career ConneCT program evaluation that:

- I. Examines **participants'** experience in ARPA workforce training and assesses the impact of the program over a short, medium, and long term timeline on job training and job outcomes. OWS is seeking a specific focus on the efficacy of Career ConneCT components and what differences exist, if any, between sectors and among different demographics
- II. Examines the experience and impact of Career ConneCT for **organizations/grantees** that received grants
- III. Examines the experience and impact of Career ConneCT **employer partners**.

Components	Sectors	Demographics (including but not limited to)
Marketing and Recruitment	Business Services	Unemployed
Portal	Construction	Underemployed
Training	Green Jobs	Justice-involved
Supportive services	Healthcare	High school
Case management	Human Services	Race and Ethnicity
Job placement	Information technology (IT)	People with Disabilities
Job coaching	Life Sciences	Re-Entry
	Manufacturing	Youth, and Veterans
	Transportation (CDL)	



Eligibility and Qualifications

Eligibility

Non-governmental entities, including not for profit and for-profit firms

Qualifications

- (1) Significant experience with:
 - (a) evaluating grant-funded workforce development programs
 - (b) evaluating programs that serve marginalized populations
 - (c) working with workforce development related data
- (2) Comprehensive understanding of
 - (a) workforce boards and community-based organizations
 - (b) engaging multiple stakeholders within a statewide workforce system
 - (c) economic indicators (i.e.: living wages, benefits cliff, etc)

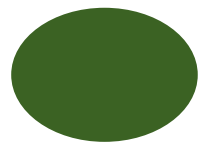
Career ConneCT Program Overview



**CAREER
CONNECT**

- ▶ Career ConneCT is the Office of Workforce Strategy's flagship short-term training model
- ▶ Career ConneCT models a nationally-recognized Best Practice in Workforce Development to Reskill and Upskill
- ▶ Key Populations: historically underrepresented racially and ethnically, women, opportunity youth, returning citizens, and individuals with disabilities.
- ▶ CT's \$70 million investment in ARPA funds to train 6,000 unemployed and underemployed for:
 - ▶ New career pathways with sustaining wages
 - ▶ New work with improved income
 - ▶ New job skills
 - ▶ Aligned to Industry-demand

No-cost Training and Placement in Growing Industries & Occupations



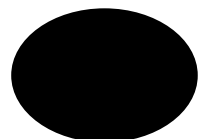
Manufacturing

Entry-level, mid-level manufacturing roles
Welding, drafting, robotics
Internet of Things, Industrial Sales



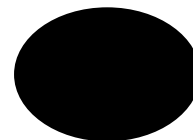
Information Technology (IT)

IT Support Front-End Development
Cybersecurity Network/Cloud Operations



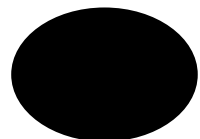
HealthCare

CNA PCT Med/Dental Asst.
-Health Info Mgmt, PT Aide
Phlebotomy Com. Health Worker
EKG, Central Sterile Processing



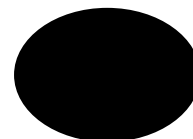
Social & Human Services

Recovery Assistant, Human Services Assistants,
Personal Care Aides, Recovery Assistants



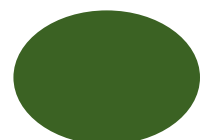
BioScience

Lab Operations Compound Mgmt
Research Support Biomanufacturing



Transportation

CDL – Tractor-Trailer and
Light Truck Drivers



Green Energy/Construction

BPI Building Analysts, OSHA, Lead Renovation, Solar
Photovoltaic, Weatherization, HVAC
Construction Readiness for Building Trades
Registered Apprenticeships



Many Others!

Remote Work
Culinary (Refugee & Immigrant Women)
Retail, Customer Service, Hospitality

Grantees

Workforce Development Boards

Community Based Organizations

Capital Workforce Partners, Inc.

Ability Beyond Disability, Inc.

Eastern Workforce Investment Board

Career Resources, Inc.

Northwestern Region
Workforce Investment Board

Charter Oak State College Foundation, Inc.

The Workplace, Inc.

CT Center for Advanced Technology Inc.

CT Center for Arts & Technology, Inc.

CT State Building Trades Training Institute

District Arts & Education, Inc.

Efficiency for All

Family Centers, Inc.

Havenly, Inc.

Marrakech, Inc.

ReadyCT

Program Components

- ▶ **Eligibility** participants must be at least 17 years of age and legally eligible to work in the United States.
- ▶ **Career ConneCT Portal & Primary Skills inventory/assessment** required for every applicant to enroll and inform providers of interest areas and support needs
- ▶ **Short-term certificate program curriculum** (5 to 20 weeks) designed with employer input
- ▶ Providers will deliver full **supportive services** as needed – Stipends, Transportation, Childcare, Housing, Technology, Accommodations, etc.
- ▶ **Employability skills** training embedded into all programs
- ▶ Program completers earn an **industry-recognized credentials**
- ▶ **Employer commitments to hire** = Job placement services and placements in entry to mid-level positions with career ladders for advancement

Select Employers

Alexion (internships)

Bozzuto's Trucking

Clifford Beers

CVS

Eversource

Halda (internships)

Hartford Health Care

La Quinta hotels

Trade Union Apprenticeship Programs

Walgreens

Waveny Health Care

Wyndham

Yale Animal Resource Center (YARC)

Yale New Haven Hospital

Proposal Outline

i. Strengths and Qualifications of Agency & Staff

ii. Scope of Services

iii. Staffing Plan

iv. Data & Technology

v. Work Plan

Milestone	Timeframe	Deliverables/Activities
[name the milestone]	[add an expected timeframe for completion]	[insert bulleted deliverables/activities for each milestone]

vi. Cultural Competence

vii. Budget & Narrative

viii. Financial Profile

Scope of Service

- Core Deliverables
- Participant Outcomes
- Grantee Outcomes
- Employer Outcomes

A large, stylized logo for Career Connect. The words "CAREER" and "CONNECT" are stacked vertically in a bold, sans-serif font. "CAREER" is in black, and "CONNECT" is in white. The text is set against a green background that is shaped like the outline of the state of Connecticut. The entire logo is framed by a thick black border.

Core Deliverables

A communication plan with status updates for OWS

A detailed evaluation workplan

An evaluation of Participant Outcomes at regular intervals, please see section (d)(i) below for guidance (deadlines for these outcomes can be discussed during contract negotiation)

An evaluation of Grantee satisfaction, please see section (d)(ii) below

An evaluation of Employer satisfaction, please see section (d)(iii) below

A summative report on findings at end of contract

An aggregate data set of all Career ConneCT program participant data

Data digitization where applicable of self-attestation forms from grantees

Participant Outcomes – based on industry and demographics

Short-term outcomes: within 1-2 months	Medium-term outcomes: within 3-6 months	Long-term outcomes: within 7 months-1 year	Longitudinal Outcomes: beyond 1 year of completion
Identify the impact of marketing on participants' choice to participate in training	Job attainment	Job attainment	Job attainment
Identify how the supportive services provided addressed barriers to training and job placement	Job persistence	Job persistence	Job persistence
Training program completion, including those that were trained as a cohort compared with those trained with individual training agreements	Initial wages	Wage growth	Wage growth
Perceptions of/attitudes towards the training program they complete	Identify if the supportive services provided addressed barriers to job placement	Additional training completion	Additional training and/or education completion
Perceptions of/attitudes towards the supportive services they received	Additional trainings pursued (pathway)		Increased economic security (or self-sufficiency)
Satisfaction with the Career ConneCT program services (training, supportive services, case management, job coaching, job placement)	Satisfaction with the Career ConneCT program completed		

Grantee Participants Outcomes	Employer Participants Outcomes
Identify program costs for that were not included in original budget, i.e., in kind, operations, etc.	Satisfaction with ability to perform skills needed to determine training
Identify how co-enrollment with other agency funding (WIOA, SNAP, etc.) was used and evaluate its effectiveness	Satisfaction with involvement in recruitment and placement
Identify capacity building opportunities for the organization	Satisfaction with job readiness of participants placed
Identify ways in which funding impacted changes in grantee organization's operations, focus or ways of providing service.	
Identification of additional or future funding for grantee training programs originally established with Career ConneCT funding	

Budget Overview



BUDGET ATTACHMENT

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete the yellow shaded cells only. Insert additional lines, if necessary.

Respondant Name:		RFP Name:	Career Connect Third Party Evaluation
Total Budget:		RFP Number:	24ECD2355

I. SALARIES & WAGES

	Direct Staff – Name & Title	Justification / Description	Total FTE	Hourly Rate	Total Hours per FTE	Salary Total Charged
1						\$ -
2						\$ -
3						\$ -
4						\$ -
Subtotal Salaries			0	\$ -	0	\$ -
	Fringe Benefits					
Subtotal Fringe Benefits						\$ -
TOTAL SALARIES & WAGES						\$ -

II. DIRECT COSTS

*Insert new lines for additional expenditure types and include description		Justification / Description	Total
1	Contractual		
2	Travel		
3	Mileage		
4	Supplies		
5			
Subtotal Direct Costs			\$ -

II. INDIRECT COSTS

*Insert new lines for additional expenditure types and include description.		Justification / Description	Total
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
Subtotal Indirect Costs			\$ -

GRAND TOTAL						\$ -
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Evaluation Criteria and Weights

Evaluation Criterion Title	Percentage of Total	What would a top score look like?
Scope of Services	25%	Detailed discussion of process by which services will be delivered with related deliverables
Project Management Plan	25%	Detailed workplan by month, task, and assigned person
Organizational Profile, Strengths, and Qualifications of Agency & Staff	15%	Demonstrated experience in producing quality and detailed program evaluations
Staffing Plan	10%	Staffing plan details the persons who will be engaged and demonstrates how the competencies of those persons will result in a quality product
Cultural Competence	10%	Demonstration of past work with diverse populations and clients
Budget, Narrative, Financial Profile	10%	Clear description of costs and hourly rate for services
Data and Technology	5%	Demonstration of past work with workforce development platforms, data sets, and concepts.

Important Dates and Details

RFP Released	Thursday, August 29, 2024
RFP Conference	<p>Friday, September 13, 2024 2pm EST</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting</p> <p>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82677306614?pwd=LYEC7yhV3e8NnQuivUgO6waprVLnfg.1</p>
Deadline for Questions	Friday, September 20, 2024, 5pm EST
Answers released	Friday, September 27, 2024, 5pm EST
Proposals Due	Friday, October 11, 2024, 5pm EST

Submission Requirements

Proposal Due Date and Time – Friday, October 11, 2024, 5pm EST

An acceptable submission must include the following:

- One (1) conforming electronic copy of the original proposal as outlined SECTION III, Items A & B.
- The proposal must be complete, properly formatted and outlined, and ready for evaluation by the Screening Committee.

Proposals must be directly sent by e-mail to

- Name: Kristina Testa-Buzzee, EdD, Grants Performance Manager
- Address: 450 Capitol Ave. 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
- Phone: 860.418.6579
- E-Mail: Kristina.Testa-Buzzee@ct.gov

Note: NO CTSource Submissions will be accepted



Q & A

