



A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter[®] network

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

For

PROPOSAL READING SERVICES

ISSUE DATE: May 9, 2024, 3:00 p.m. (CST)

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS: May 24, 2024 by 12:00 noon (CST)

Proposal Submission to:

**Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board
Attention: Rosie Lozano, Interim Executive Director
216 W Main Street, Suite B if hand-delivered or by courier service
P.O. Box 760, Uvalde, TX 78802 (if mailed)**

Workforce Solutions is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. RELAY TEXAS: 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) and 1-800-735-2988 or 7-1-1 (voice). Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB's) are encouraged to apply.

Babel Notice

This document contains vital information about requirements, rights, determinations, and/or responsibilities for accessing workforce system services. Language services, including the interpretation/translation of this document, are available free of charge upon request.

Este documento contiene información importante sobre los requisitos, los derechos, las determinaciones y las responsabilidades del acceso a los servicios del sistema de la fuerza laboral. Hay disponibles servicios de idioma, incluida la interpretación y la traducción de documentos, sin ningún costo y a solicitud.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. GENERAL INFORMATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....3
PURPOSE.....3

PART II. SERVICES REQUESTED

SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED.....3
EVALUATION CRITERIA (RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS).....4

PART III. SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES5
PROCUREMENT CONDITIONS & GENERAL TERMS.....5
CONTRACT REIMBURSEMENT TERMS.....6

PART IV. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND PREPARTION

PART V. RULES GOVERNING THE RFQ PROCUREMENT PROCESS

PART VI. ATTACHMENTS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

ATTACHMENT A - CERTIFICATION BY RESPONDENT.....14
ATTACHMENT B - REFERENCES FORM.....17
ATTACHMENT C - CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING, DEBARMENT....18
ATTACHMENT D - TEXAS CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX CERTIFICATION.....21
ATTACHMENT E - STATE ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION.....22
ATTACHMENT F - DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST.....23
ATTACHMENT G - ORIENTATION TO COMPLAINT PROCEDURES.....25
ATTACHMENT H - UNDOCUMENTED WORKER CERTIFICATION.....27

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS MIDDLE RIO GRANDE BOARD

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR PROPOSAL READING SERVICES

PART I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Background Information

Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board (WFSMRG) is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that oversees workforce development programs in the nine (9) county Middle Rio Grande region consisting of Dimmit, LaSalle, Zavala, Maverick, Val Verde, Uvalde, Real, Edwards and Kinney counties. WFSMRG is comprised of approximately 28 Board members. The majority of the members are from the private sector. The balance of the membership of WFSMRG is composed of representatives of educational agencies, literacy organizations, organized labor, rehabilitation services, community-based organizations, economic development agencies, the state human service agencies, and the public employment service. WFSMRG is responsible for the planning, evaluation and oversight of workforce related programs in the region. WFSMRG primarily receives funding from the US Department of Labor through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

Purpose

WFSMRG will issue a formal solicitation under a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) method for the Management and Operations of the Workforce Solutions of the Middle Rio Grande Board Career Center Delivery System, and Rapid Response Services.

Under this proposal reading solicitation, WFSMRG will be selecting individuals for the evaluation of the above-mentioned proposal. Based on the individual's qualifications, respondents will be considered for the task of reading and evaluating proposals. In addition, one of the proposal readers for the assigned team will be selected by WFSMRG to act as Lead Evaluator.

The overall evaluation process will be facilitated by WFSMRG. However, the lead evaluator will be responsible for briefing and instructing selected independent evaluators on the process for the evaluation and scoring of the proposals and the coordination and documentation of the evaluation results.

PART II. SERVICES REQUESTED

Services To Be Provided

The RFQ solicitation seeks to secure individuals with expertise in various workforce areas of operations to effectively review proposals submitted as a result of the WFSMRG procurement of the Career Center Delivery System, and Rapid Response Services. Selected respondents will be responsible for reading the proposals assigned, and evaluating and scoring each one. The evaluation will include at a minimum: scoring of the proposals, providing written comments on each of the proposals (i.e., strengths and weaknesses), and assisting in crafting team final recommendations in a format that ranks all assigned proposals.

The Readers duties are as follows:

- Read, evaluate and score the proposals for the Management and Operations of the Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board Career Center Delivery System and Rapid Response Services;
- Provide written recommendations to the assigned Lead Evaluator and WFSMRG management team;
- Assist Board staff in developing One Stop Contract

The Lead Evaluator will be selected based on qualifications, credentials, and availability. The responsibilities will include, but not be limited to:

- To read, evaluate, and score the proposals received for the Management and Operations of the Career Center Delivery System and Rapid Response Services.
- Develop in coordination with WFSMRG Board staff, the evaluation and rating forms;
- Act as point of contact for their team regarding questions on the evaluation of the proposals;
- Provide status updates to designated workforce board professionals and committees;
- Attend board and/or committee meetings, as requested;
- Coordinate with independent readers to evaluate all proposals submitted;
- Facilitate evaluation review team;
- Work with WFSMRG Board staff;
- Submit and present written recommendations ranking all prospective awardees to WFSMRG Board staff, and/or the WFSMRG Board of Directors for their respective review;
- Submit and present written recommendations to Committees or Board members, as requested;

- Complete any assignments as requested or directed by Board management to ensure procurement compliance with all State and federal guidelines and laws.

USB flash drives or external links containing digital copies of the proposals will be sent over-night to the retained readers on or about 5 days after RFP submission deadlines. Subsequently, readers will be allowed to evaluate the proposals off site through a one-week period. WFSMRG expects all readers to be available for scheduled conference calls during the Boards designated timeframes. Readers will be expected to submit their evaluation forms and notes to WFSMRG prior to the conference calls. The review team will conference call to discuss the proposals and formulate the overall recommendation for contract award. It is expected that the conference calls may take up to one to three hours. Additional conference calls with designated evaluators may also be required for follow-up questions and wrap-up.

The individual selected as the Lead Evaluator, a timeline will be provided which indicates the dates and time in which they will need to be available. The Lead evaluator must be available to travel to Uvalde, Texas, upon request. The Lead Evaluator will also participate in conference calls with the team evaluators and WFSMRG Board staff, upon request.

WFSMRG reserves the right to make any scheduling changes required to accomplish the evaluation process and/or for any subsequent related meetings.

Evaluation Criteria (Respondent Qualifications)

The evaluation of respondent's qualifications will be based on the following factors:

- years of experience providing similar services;
- qualifications, education and credentials;
- direct knowledge, working with workforce boards and/or programs;
- availability to perform services.

PART III. SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES AND CONTRACT INFORMATION

Submission of Responses

RFQ Requestor: Workforce Solutions of the Middle Rio Grande Board
Contact Person: Rosie A. Lozano, Interim Executive Director
Contact Number: (830) 486-7507

Deadline for submission is **May 24, 2024**. At the conclusion of the selection process, all respondents will be notified of the Board's decision on the selection of readers.

Submission of Responses: Respondents may send their response by e-mail to rosalind.lozano@wfsmrg.org , by mail or hand delivered. Respondents must make sure their responses are complete with all required signed attachments.

When submitting a response, it is required that respondents have the necessary professional experience, prior training and applicable professional judgment to perform the activities proposed as requested by this RFQ.

Procurement Conditions and General Terms

Responses received will become part of WFSMRG official files without further obligation to the respondent.

WFSMRG is under no legal obligation to execute a contract resulting from this RFQ and intends the materials provided herein only as a means of identifying and considering various contractor alternatives and the general cost of services derived.

WFSMRG reserves the right to vary the provisions set forth herein any time prior to the execution of a contract. This RFQ does not commit WFSMRG to pay for any costs incurred prior to the execution of the contract.

WFSMRG reserves the right to negotiate the final terms of any all contracts with successful respondents. Items that may be negotiated include, but are not limited to, type and scope of activities, implementation schedule, and cost. Contracts negotiated as a result of this RFQ may be extended, modified, or de-obligated in the manner set forth in the contract in order to attain the objectives of WFSMRG.

WFSMRG reserves the option to renew the agreements for one additional year. Contract renewals are subject to satisfactory performance, successful negotiations of the contract terms and conditions, and availability of funds.

WFSMRG will require all selected readers contracted for services sign a Conflict of Interest/Non-Disclosure Statement. The statement will contain specific restrictions and requirements for conflict of interest and confidentiality of information as it pertains to the WFSMRG procurement and proposal reading process. Potential respondents must be aware that

apparent or potential conflict of interests must be disclosed prior to contracting for services.

Contract Reimbursement Terms

WFSMRG follows the State Coordination of Travel rule and the GSA's federal Domestic Maximum Per Diem Rates.

Travel costs may include lodging, meals, airfare, car rentals, and mileage, as appropriate. Travel reimbursements will not exceed the current State travel rates. Reimbursement requests for lodging, airfare, and car rentals will include receipts for actual cost.

Transportation expenses will be reimbursed only for the quickest and most economical means of transportation to reach the desired location. An individual choosing to take another means of transportation will be reimbursed only at the cost of the quickest and least expensive means of transportation. Car rental, taxis, and other forms of ground transportation must comply with this policy of quickest and most economical means. Coordination of travel must occur when two, three, or four authorized travelers travel on the same dates with the same itinerary to conduct the same business. When coordination of travel is required, WFSMRG may reimburse only one of the authorized travelers for mileage.

Costs for travel must have prior written approval from Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board. Due to unforeseen circumstances, WFSMRG may need to re-schedule meetings. Consequently, WFSMRG will make every effort to provide prior notice to contractors. However, if applicable, we advise contractors not to purchase non-refundable airfare tickets. Workforce Solutions will not be responsible for reimbursing contractors for any unused non-refundable airfare tickets.

WFSMRG will pay the readers completed work based on the following payment structure:

Type of Proposal Reader	Cost Per Proposal*
Proposal Reader	\$600.00
Lead Evaluator	\$700.00

*Flat cost rate per proposal for off-site reading, evaluation, and scoring

**Compensation time will only apply to actual hours on-site at the WFSMRG administrative office, if needed

***Lead Evaluator will be compensated for additional hours, as needed

If during the evaluation process, it is determined by the Lead Evaluator that more time is needed to complete the evaluation process; WFSMRG will consider increasing the cost per proposal. Additionally, WFSMRG may consider reimbursing selected respondents for travel time to and from the WFSMRG offices, as necessary and reasonable. The reimbursement rate for mileage allowed must comply with the effective IRS rate. All costs must be documented when necessary. All readers working off-site (i.e., not at the WFSMRG offices) will be paid a rate of \$30.00 per hour for conference calls that are determined to be necessary by WFSMRG.

PART IV. RESPONSE FORMAT AND PREPARATION

Responses may be submitted electronically via e-mail, mail or hand delivered. Each respondent must make sure the response is complete with all required attachments. All forms submitted must be signed and dated, as appropriate.

The Respondents will be required to provide three (3) business references. Reference information will require the following information: name of reference; name of organization/company, address of reference, day-time telephone number, fax number, if available and e-mail address. Attach list of references as Attachment B of your response. References will be checked and verified.

PART V. RULES GOVERNING THIS RFQ PROCUREMENT PROCESS.

Utilizing procurement standards set forth in the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts (FMGC), the rules promulgated by the Office of the Governor under the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards (UGCMS), and the applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing grant funds for this procurement, WFSMRG is hereby soliciting responses for Proposal Readers from qualified individuals.

Important Note:

In order to afford all respondents an equal opportunity to respond to this RFQ, other than to obtain a copy of the Request For Qualifications package or submit written questions, communication with WFSMRG staff or any WFSMRG Board member in reference to this RFQ is prohibited unless prior written approval is obtained from the WFSMRG President/Executive Director. Failure to comply with

this provision may be grounds for disqualification of your response, at the sole discretion of WFSMRG.

Respondents shall not, under penalty of law, offer to provide any gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value to any officer, member, employee or agent of the WFSMRG for the purpose of or having the effect of influencing favorable disposition toward their own proposal or any other proposal submitted hereunder.

The following additional instructions are provided:

1. **Eligible Respondents:** Eligible respondents include qualified individuals, businesses, for-profit organizations, and non-profit organizations, including but not limited to community and faith-based organizations, and nonprofit agencies. The eligible respondents include institutes that have the ability to provide services as described in this RFQ. Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB's), community-based organizations, minority, disadvantaged, and women's businesses are encouraged to submit responses.
2. **Explanations:** Any explanation or technical assistance desired by a potential respondent regarding the meaning or interpretation of these instructions or any other document in the RFQ must be requested in writing to WFSMRG and postmarked or faxed on or before the question and answer deadline. Oral explanations will not be given.
3. **Information Required:** Each respondent shall furnish the information required by the RFQ. The respondent shall complete and sign the Certification by Respondent form and such other forms and certifications as may be required in the RFQ. All the documents submitted by the respondent shall collectively constitute the respondent's proposal.
4. **Submission of Responses:** Respondents must submit their response to WFSMRG at the address indicated on the cover sheet of this RFQ or by e-mail. Responses may be submitted by email, mail or delivered in person; but in any event must be received by WFSMRG on **May 24, 2024.**
5. **Modification or Withdrawal of Responses:** Responses may be modified or withdrawn by written or faxed notice received by WFSMRG prior to the deadline for submission of responses. A response may also be withdrawn in person by a respondent or his or her authorized representative prior to the deadline for submission, provided that the respondent's identity is made known and he/she signs a receipt for the response. In no event may the respondent modify responses after the

submission deadline unless modification is requested by WFSMRG as a condition of response clarification or contract consideration/ negotiation.

6. **Deadlines:** Respondents will be required to submit all written requests for explanations or technical assistance and all responses in a timely and correct manner on or before the deadlines set by this RFQ. WFSMRG will not assume any responsibility for requests not answered due to postal delays or any other problems encountered in transmitting requests for assistance, nor shall WFSMRG be liable for responses not submitted by the deadline due to such delays.
7. **Firm Responses:** An individual authorized to bind the response must sign all responses and the response shall constitute a firm offer for at least 120 days from the deadline for submission of responses. The response must also provide a name, title, address and telephone number of the individuals with authority to negotiate and contractually bind the response.
8. **Property Rights in Responses:** All responses received shall become the property of WFSMRG. Any material submitted to WFSMRG with responses shall not be returned. Trade secrets or other confidential information that qualifies for an exemption under the Texas Open Record Act must be clearly marked and identified as confidential information through the use of brackets, underlining or other easily recognizable means. Workforce Solutions will act within the limits of the law to maintain the confidentiality of such records.
9. **Texas Open Record Act:** All responses and work products, including but not limited to respondent's identity, evaluation instruments and reader comments by the respondent to the Board in connection with any agreement under this procurement are subject to the Texas Open Record Act, also known as Public Information Act.
10. **Evaluation of Responses:** All responses will be evaluated by the WFSMRG according to the evaluation criteria specified in the RFQ. The evaluation process will be in accordance with applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations. WFSMRG will award the contract based upon the most responsive response satisfying the objectives of WFSMRG and which is determined to be the best value and most advantageous to the WFSMRG and other factors considered.
11. **Grievance and Protest Procedures:** WFSMRG will notify each respondent of the final selection. If a respondent wants to submit an inquiry or protest the award process, a letter regarding the matter should

be forwarded to Workforce Solutions within five (5) working days after notification of the contract award. The letter should be mailed to the attention of: Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board, P.O. Box 760, Uvalde, Texas 78802. Workforce Solutions will take prompt action to respond. A response will be forthcoming from WFSMRG within ten (10) working days of the receipt of the inquiry or protest.

The written protest must include the following information:

- a) identification of specific procurement complaint;
- b) the grounds for the complaint including a list of the acts or omissions by WFSMRG which form the basis of the complaint;
- c) the basis for the respondent's interest in the procurement; and
- d) date on which the respondent received notice of the outcome of the procurement.

12. **Pre-Award Interview/Survey:** Respondents may be requested to participate in an interview after submission of their response at the direction of WFSMRG. WFSMRG may also contact any individuals, agencies or employers listed in the response as references, or contact others with experience or knowledge of the respondent's previous performance and qualifications. If required, respondents selected for award of a contract may be subject to a pre-award survey. This may include, but is not limited to, site inspection, a review of proposer's record-keeping procedures, management systems, and accounting and administrative systems. By submitting a response to this RFQ, all respondents authorize WFSMRG to proceed with a verification of references, pre-award interview and/or survey.

13. **Reservation of Rights:** WFSMRG expressly reserves the right to:

- a. reject or cancel any or all responses;
- b. waive any defect, irregularity or informality in this procurement process or to make changes to this solicitation;
- c. extend the deadline for submission;
- d. reissue the Request for Qualifications;
- e. negotiate a resulting Contract with one or more of the qualified respondents responding to this RFQ;
- f. vary the provisions of the Contract documents at any time prior to the execution of a contract if such variance is deemed to be in the best interest of WFSMRG;

- g. increase or reduce the amount of funding available for the program which is the subject of the RFQ; and
- h. utilize procurement of the services outlined in accordance with federal, state and local policies.

WFSMRG shall not be liable to any respondent for the costs incurred or performance rendered before commencement of the contract period or after termination of the contract. All costs directly or indirectly related to the preparation of the response to this RFQ, or any oral or written presentation required to supplement such response, shall be the sole responsibility of the respondent. WFSMRG is not under any legal requirement to execute a resulting contract and any award of a contract is expressly contingent upon WFSMRG receiving adequate funds from the Texas Workforce Commission and other funding sources for such purpose.

14. **Negotiation of Contract:** WFSMRG reserves the right to negotiate the final terms of all contracts with successful respondents. Items that may be negotiated include, but are not limited to, type and scope of activities, implementation schedule and number of responses. Contract(s) negotiated as a result of this RFQ may be extended, modified or obligated in the manner set forth in the Contract General Terms and Conditions in order to attain the program objectives of WFSMRG.

The contents of a successful response may become a contractual obligation, if selected for award of a contract. Failure of the respondent to accept this obligation may result in cancellation of the award. No plea of error or mistake shall be available to a successful respondent as a basis for release of proposed services at stated price/cost. Any damages accruing to WFSMRG as a result of a respondent's failure to contract may be recovered from the respondent.

A contract with a selected respondent may be withheld, at WFSMRG's sole discretion, if issues of contract or compliance, or questioned/disallowed cost exist, until such issues are satisfactorily resolved. WFSMRG may withdraw award of a contract if resolution is not satisfactory to WFSMRG.

15. **Contract Type/Period:** Any contract(s) that may be awarded as a result of this formal solicitation will be awarded on a cost reimbursement basis (unless otherwise specified in this RFQ). Respondent(s) selected to provide services will be paid on a cost reimbursement basis and will be required to document and submitted a record of actual expenses in accordance with state and federal requirements. This solicitation is for a contract period ending December 31, 2024.

16. **Contract Renewal:** This solicitation is to end December 31, 2024. Any contract(s) executed as a result of this solicitation may be renewed for one additional year at the discretion of WFSMRG.

17. **Contingency of Funding:** Respondents are being requested for activities specified in this RFQ. Funding for these services and activities is contingent upon actual receipt of adequate funds from the Texas Workforce Commission, or other WFSMRG sources of funds.

18. **General Terms and Conditions:** Any contract(s) executed as a result of this RFQ will include General Terms and Conditions, which may be obtained by submitting a written request to WFSMRG.

Specifications: Respondents are expected to examine the RFQ, specifications, and all forms, attachments and related documents contained in the RFQ. Failure to do so will be at the respondent's risk. Responses submitted on other than WFSMRG forms or with different terms or provisions may be considered as non-responsive.

PART VI. ATTACHMENTS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH EACH RESPONSE

Attachment A: Certification by Respondent (attached your resume).

Attachment B: References

Attachment C: Certification Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension, and other responsibility matters, and Drug Free Workplace Requirements.

Attachment D: Texas Corporate Franchise Tax Certification

Attachment E: State Assessment Certificate

Attachment F: Disclosure of Interests

Attachment G. Orientation to Complaint Procedures

Attachment H. Undocumented Worker Certification

ATTACHMENT A
CERTIFICATION BY RESPONDENT
PROPOSAL READING SERVICES

I. IDENTIFICATION OF RESPONDENT

Name of Individual Responding: _____

Name of Firm (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Is your firm registered with the state General Services Commission as a HUB: YES _____ NO _____
(if you are registered as a HUB, please attached a copy of the HUB Certification as part of Attachment A)

II. (Please indicate availability)

Will only read and evaluate proposals

Will act as Lead Evaluator

III. QUALIFICATIONS, EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

Please attach updated resume with the Attachment A " Certification by Respondent" Form. The resume must include the name, address and dates of current employers, as well as name, address, and dates of employers for the last five (5) years. When listing the employers, please note all employers other than short-term (i.e., less than 3 months) consulting jobs.

Your resume should include the following information that is related to the services provided only to demonstrate that you are familiar with our industry. The jobs listed on your resume should list: (1) the years you performed the services, (2) a detailed description of the services provided, (3) the specific programs involved in, such as WIA/WIOA youth, etc., (4) estimate annual program budget of the program, and (5) the service provider under contract for services.

Have you done any monitoring and if so, please list the following: Boards and contractors you have monitored by each year that WFSMRG should consider as part of your qualifications.

How many years have you or your firm been providing evaluation services.

List by year the number of times you and/or your firm have provided evaluation services. Also list the board or company where you have performed evaluation services. Additionally, list information on the role and type of services you evaluated.

IV. AVAILABILITY TO PERFORM SERVICE

Will you or your firm be available during the proposal review timeframe of May 28, 2024 through December 31, 2024? YES _____ NO _____

V. SIGNATURE

Signature of Respondent: _____

Date Certification by Respondent Form Submitted: _____

ATTACHMENT B

REFERENCES

Failure to provide and include the following information with your response by the submission date may result in disqualification from further consideration for an award resulting from this solicitation. You will need 3 references. Each reference will be contacted for evaluation purposes. Any reference that does not respond in a timely manner will result in a score of zero.

Reference information must include:

- Company Name
- Contact Name
- Address, City, State, Zip
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Types of Services Provided
- Contract Term (To/From Dates)

ATTACHMENT C

CERTIFICATONS REGARDING LOBBYING, DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS, AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS

Lobbying: This certification is required by the Federal Regulations, implementing Section 1352 of the Program Fraud and Civil Remedies Act, Title 31 U.S. Code, for the Department of Education (34 CFR Part 82), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 93).

The undersigned contractor certifies that:

- (1) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.
 - (2) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying”, in accordance with its instructions.
 - (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.
-

Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters: This certification is required by the Federal Regulations, implementing, Executive Order 12549, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98),

Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668 and 682), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned contractor certifies that neither it nor its principals:

- (1) Are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
- (2) Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, State or Local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- (3) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in Paragraph (2) of this certification; and,
- (4) Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract had one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default.

Where the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective recipient shall attach an explanation to this certification.

Drug-Free Workplace: This certification is required by the Federal Regulations, implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, 41 U.S.C. 701; for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668 and 682), and Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned contractor certifies that it shall provide a drug-free workplace by:

- (a) Publishing a policy statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the consequences of any such action by an employee;
- (b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the Contractor's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug abuse violations in the workplace;
- (c) Providing each employee with a copy of the Contractor's policy statement;
- (d) Notifying the employees in the Contractor's policy statement that as a condition of employment under this contract, employees shall abide by the terms of the policy statement and notifying the Contractor in writing within five days after any conviction for a violation by the employee of a criminal drug statute in the workplace;
- (e) Notifying the Commission within ten days of Contractor's receipt of a notice of a conviction of an employee; and,
- (f) Taking appropriate personnel action against an employee convicted of violating a criminal drug statute or require such employee to participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

These certifications are a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction.

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT D

TEXAS CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, state agencies may not contract with for Profit Corporation that are delinquent in making state franchise tax payments. The following certification that the corporation entering into this contract is current in its franchise taxes must be signed by the individual on Form 203, Corporate Board of Directors Resolution, to sign the contract for the corporation.

The undersigned authorized representative of the corporation contracting herein certifies that the following indicated statement is true and correct and that the undersigned understands making a false statement is a material breach of contract and is grounds for contract cancellation.

Indicate the certification that applies to your corporation:

_____ The Corporation is a for-profit corporation and certifies that it is not delinquent in its franchise tax payments to the State of Texas.

_____ The Corporation is a non-profit corporation or is otherwise not subject to payment of franchise taxes to the State of Texas.

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT E

STATE ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION

The undersigned authorized representative of the corporation contracting herein certifies that the following indicated statement is true and correct and that the undersigned understands making a false statement is a material breach of contract and is grounds for contract cancellation.

The corporation certifies that:

_____ It is current in Unemployment Insurance taxes, Payday and Child Labor law monetary obligations, and Proprietary School fees and assessments payable to the State of Texas.

_____ It has no outstanding Unemployment Insurance overpayment balance payable to the State of Texas.

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

**ATTACHMENT F
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

It is the fiscal policy that all persons or firms seeking to do business with WorkSource provide the following information. Every question must be answered. If the question is not applicable, answer with "NA".

FIRM NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

FIRM IS:

- 1. Corporation () 2. Partnership ()
- 3. Sole Owner () 4. Association ()
- 5. Other () _____

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONS

If additional space is necessary, please use the reverse side of this page or attach separate sheet.

1. State the name of each "non-managerial employee" of Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC) having an "ownership interest" constituting 5% or more of the ownership in the above named "firm" or who is an officer, director, employee, or consultant employed or associated with your organization:

I.	Name	Job Title and Section (if known)
-----------	-------------	---

2. State the names of each "managerial employee" of Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC) having an "ownership interest" constituting 5% or more of the ownership in the above named "firm" or who is an officer, director, employee, or consultant employed or associated with your organization:

II.	Name	Title
------------	-------------	--------------

-
-
3. State the names of each "board member" of Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC) having an "ownership interest" constituting 5% or more of the ownership in the above named "firm" or who is an officer, director, employee, or consultant employed or associated with your organization:

III. Name	Board, Commission, or Committee
------------------	--

4. State the names of each employee or officer of a "consultant" of Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC) who worked on any matter related to the subject of this contract and has an "ownership interest" constituting 5% or more of the ownership in the above named "firm" or is an officer, director, employee, or consultant employed or associated with your organization:

Name	Consultant
-------------	-------------------

CERTIFICATE

I certify that all information provided is true and correct as of the date of this statement, that I have not knowingly withheld disclosure of any information request; and that supplemental statement will be promptly submitted to WFSMRG Board, as changes occur.

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT G

ORIENTATION TO COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

The policy of WorkSource is to resolve complaints in a fair and prompt manner. Workforce Solutions administrative directive on GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE establishes the guidelines for the resolution of grievances/complaints and requires this orientation sheet be received and acknowledged by all individuals or organizations providing services to Workforce Solutions under contract or agreement.

Acts of restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal towards complainants exercising their rights to a file a grievance under Workforce Solutions policy are prohibited. A complainant is the individual or organization filing a grievance/complaint. A respondent is the individual or organization against whom a grievance/complaint is filed. Inquiries regarding the resolution of grievances should be addressed to:

Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board
ATTN: EO Officer
P.O. Box 760
Uvalde, Texas 78801
Telephone: (830) 591-0141

Every effort should be made to resolve your grievance at the optimum management level. The Workforce Solution's EO Officer is available to assist, as necessary, in the grievance resolution process.

The time limit to file a complaint under the Workforce Solution's grievance procedure is 30 calendar days from the date of the event that leads to the filing of the grievance. A copy of the Workforce Solution's Policy and Procedure is available upon request.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IS THE LAW

The Board is prohibited from discriminating on the ground of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief, and for beneficiaries only. If you think that you have been subjected to discrimination, you may file a complaint within 180 days from the date of the alleged violation with the Equal Opportunity Officer at the:

**TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE
101 E. 15th STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78778
Telephones: (512) 936-0342; (TDD): 1-800-RELAY TX, Voice 1-800-RELAY VV.**

or you may file a complaint directly with the:

**DIRECTOR, DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL RIGHTS (DCR)
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
200 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW, ROOM N4123
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210**

If you elect to file your complaint with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), you must wait until the TWC issues a decision or until 60 days have passed, whichever is sooner, before filing with DCR (see address above). If the TWC has not provided you with a written decision within 60 days of the filing of the complaint, you need not wait for a decision to be issued, but may file a complaint with DCR within 30 days of the expiration of the 60 day period. If you are dissatisfied with the TWC's resolution of your complaint, you may file a complaint must be filed within 30 days of the date you received notice of the TWC's proposed resolution.

By my signature below, I acknowledge this orientation to Workforce Solution's complaint procedures for services providers and the statement regarding EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IS THE LAW:

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT H

Middle Rio Grande Board Workforce Development Board

UNDOCUMENTED WORKER CERTIFICATION

Effective September 1, 2007, HB 1196 amended Subtitle F, Title 10, of the Texas Government Code to add Subsection 2264. Chapter 2264 directs public agencies, state or local taxing jurisdictions, and economic development corporations (public entities) to require that any business submitting an application to receive public subsidies include in the application a statement certifying that the business, or branch, division or department of the business does not and will not knowingly employ an undocumented worker.

In the event that a business grantee is found in violation of 8U.S.C. subsection 1324a(f), consistent with the requirements of Texas Government Code subsection 2264, Boards are permitted to bring a civil action to recover any amounts owed, as well as court costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

Penalties incurred by business grantees shall be assessed damages at a rate of 20% of contract award. Said damages shall be made payable to the Board within 120 days of receiving the notice of violation.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Public Subsidy – is broadly defined Texas Government Code §2264.001 (3) as a public program or public benefit or assistance of any type that is designed to stimulate the economic development of a corporation, industry, or sector of the state's economy or to create or retain jobs in Texas. The term includes, among other things, bonds, grants, loans, loan guarantees, benefits relating to an enterprise or empowerment zone, infrastructure development and improvements designed to principally benefit a single business or defined group of businesses, and matching funds. The Commission's Office of General Counsel has found that HB 1196 does not apply to the acquisition of goods and services.

Undocumented Worker – is defined as an individual who, at the time of employment, is not lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States, or is not authorized under law to be employed in that manner in the United States.

CERTIFICATION

Contractor certifies that no undocumented workers will be employed during the execution of this contract. By the signature indicated below, the contractor verifies their understanding of the terms and conditions of this requirement.

Signature of Contractor's Representative

Date