

**AMENDMENT #1
TO THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING EVENTS FOR MDRS CLIENTS
RFQ #3120003152**

Q1: Will Entrepreneurship classes be considered a Pre Employment Transition Service?

A1: Self-employment/entrepreneurship would fall under Job Exploration Counseling.

Q2: Is this RFQ for "Job Extravaganza" type events only or does it include other Pre ETS activities?

A2: This RFQ is limited to the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) activities conducted specifically at Job Extravaganza events. While the activities completed at these events are considered Pre-ETS, this RFQ does not include or authorize the provision of other Pre-ETS activities outside the scope of the Job Extravaganza events as outlined in the RFQ.

Q3: Will there be a separate RFP or RFQ for Pre ETS?

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Q4: How long should the "breakout sessions" be?

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Q5: Is Military an option to highlight for counseling on Post Secondary Education and Training Opportunities?

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- Acceptable qualifications include:
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 - At least two years or 48 college credit hours (with transcript verification); or
 - A high school diploma or GED along with verified WorkKeys® scores meeting state proficiency levels (typically a Silver Level certification or equivalent scores in Reading, Applied Mathematics, and Writing).
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2. Volunteers and Staff Working with Students

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Q12: For the individuals providing services to the students (not the contractor) does each person have to have a Bachelor's degree to work with the kids.

A12: No, individuals providing services to students at these events are not required to have a Bachelor's degree. However, to ensure consistency with state standards and maintain the quality and safety of services delivered to students with disabilities, all individuals providing such services must meet the minimum qualifications for assistant teachers as outlined by the Mississippi Department of Education.

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Company Name: CAREER DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING INST., LLC

Signature and Date: Aseelah Williams

Name and Title: Aseelah Harrison Williams, President CEO

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Company Name: Challenge Solutions, Inc.

Signature and Date: Janet Ford 7/2/25

Name and Title: Janet Ford, PhD Owner

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Signature and Date: Cindy McCaskey 7/03/25
Name and Title: Cindy McCaskey, Executive Director

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Name and Title: Brad Steffen, President & CEO

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Company Name: Goodwill Industries of South Mississippi, Inc.

Signature and Date:  07.07.25

Name and Title: Vicki Burton, President / CEO

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RFQ #3120003152**

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Company Name: Learning Zone, Inc.

Signature and Date: Pharen A. Nelson June 19, 2025

Name and Title: Pharen Nelson, Executive Director

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Company Name: Mississippi State University

Signature and Date: 
Kacey Strickland (Jul 8, 2025 09:07 CDT)

Name and Title: Kacey Strickland, Assistant VP & Executive Director

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Signature and Date: Michael Mulvihill 7/9/25

Name and Title: Michael Mulvihill, President _____

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A12: No, individuals providing services to students at these events are not required to have a Bachelor's degree. However, to ensure consistency with state standards and maintain the quality and safety of services delivered to students with disabilities, all individuals providing such services must meet the minimum qualifications for assistant teachers as outlined by the Mississippi Department of Education.

Acceptable qualifications for assistant teachers working with students include:

- An Associate's degree or higher; or

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Company Name:

Ramon Williams

Signature and Date:

Ramon Williams

Name and Title:

Ramon Williams, sole proprietor

12.
Questions and Answers

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FOR COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING EVENTS FOR MDRS CLIENTS
FFQ #3120003152**

Q1: Will Entrepreneurship classes be considered a Pre Employment Transition Service?

A1: Self-employment/entrepreneurship would fall under Job Exploration Counseling.

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A2: This RFQ is limited to the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) activities conducted specifically at Job Extravaganza events. While the activities completed at these events are considered Pre-ETS, this RFQ does not include or authorize the provision of other Pre-ETS activities outside the scope of the Job Extravaganza events as outlined in the RFQ.

Q3: Will there be a separate RFP or RFQ for Pre ETS?

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Q4: How long should the "breakout sessions" be?

A4: The "breakout sessions" should be no shorter than 30 minutes each. Services provided during these sessions are billed in units, where one unit equals one hour and a half unit equals 30 minutes. All Pre-ETS activities conducted during these breakout sessions must be clearly documented using the Pre-ETS Provision Form MDRS-VR-61.

Q5: Is Military an option to highlight for counseling on Post Secondary Education and Training Opportunities?

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Q6: Are contractors required to pay travel expenses for businesses participating in a Job Extravaganza?

- A6: Per Section 2.5 of the RFQ, "The contractor shall be responsible for covering all travel-related expenses (e.g., lodging, mileage) incurred by businesses or speakers participating in the event.
- Q7: Is a bachelor's degree required for a designated individual (peer mentor, staff member, teacher, or volunteer) who is assigned to each student group during an event? If yes, please clarify why.
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Acceptable qualifications include:
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- Q8: Is this a RFQ or is it an RFP? Language on pages reference a proposal.
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1. **Fingerprint Requirement Under Mississippi Law**

- Per **Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-17**, school districts must require criminal background checks and fingerprinting for any individual—licensed or nonlicensed—who works in a school setting.
- Charter schools and any contracted education service providers are similarly covered under **Miss. Code Ann. § 37-28-49**

2. **Volunteers and Staff Working with Students**

- **24 Miss. Code R. § 1-9.1.3** mandates fingerprinting for all employees and volunteers working with children, disqualifying individuals with criminal histories that raise safety concerns.

We will require fingerprinting for every designated individual assigned to student groups during these events. This aligns with Mississippi's statutory and regulatory requirements and demonstrates our commitment to prioritizing the safety and well-being of students with disabilities.

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Q13: Does the contractor have the authority to conduct events in the school gym with

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A13: The Provider is responsible for securing the location which could be at a school gym if approved by the school.

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A14: This RFQ is only for the Job Extravaganza events.

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Company Name: The Arc of Northwest Mississippi

Signature and Date: Rebecca Treadway 7/7/25

Name and Title: Rebecca Treadway, Executive Director

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Company Name: Institute for Disability Studies/The University of Southern Mississippi

Signature and Date:  06/19/25

Name and Title: Dr. Jerry R. Alliston, Interim Executive Director

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Company Name: Wesson Monroe, LLC

Signature and Date:  7/9/25

Name and Title: Stephanie Howze, President and CEO