



**BIDDERS CONFERENCE: OCTOBER 6, 2016 – 8:00 A.M.  
Q & A**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**FOR**

**WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT**

**Title I - WIOA ONE-STOP OPERATOR,  
Title I - WIOA ADULT CAREER SERVICES, and  
Title I - WIOA DISLOCATED WORKER CAREER SERVICES**

**Program Year 2017-2018**

<b>Release Date:</b>	September 29, 2016
<b>Deadline for Submissions:</b>	November 14, 2016 by 4:00 p.m.
<b>Technical Assistance:</b>  Written questions only, except for oral questions at bidders' conferences. Questions must be submitted via email and Q & A will be available to bidders on the Workforce Development Board website listed later in this document. Questions will be answered in the order received.	Tracie Scott-Contreras E-mail: <a href="mailto:tscott-contreras@maderaworkforce.org">tscott-contreras@maderaworkforce.org</a>  Mandatory Bidders' Conferences October 6, 2016: 8:30 or 1:30  (Refer to <a href="#">Section III, I.</a> for bidders conference location)



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Elaine Craig stated that since the announcement and posting of the RFP to the public, Employment Development Department (EDD) draft directive WSDD 153 was released and provides information on submitting a waiver to the Governor through the County Local Elected Official (CLEO) that will allow local area workforce boards to continue to provide career services. The waiver does not include the AJCC One Stop Operator role. Ms. Craig stated that her intent is to provide the Workforce Development Board (WDB) with the waiver information and request that they approve and submit a waiver so that the WDB can continue to provide Career Services. As mandated by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), a One Stop Operator would still need to be procured in order to establish a firewall between the WDB and the Operator. A revised RFP will be let for the One Stop Operator role only as the Board will apply and try to continue to provide Career Services.

Q: Waiting until May 1<sup>st</sup> for final decision on re-letting the RFP should the waiver not be approved, would the start date still be October 1<sup>st</sup>?

A: Yes. The law says that areas have to have procured by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff anticipate that should an RFP be let for the May 1<sup>st</sup> date, the RFP document would be specific to Career Services only as the One Stop Operator RFP will have already been let.

Q: How do you define the Operator role?

A: The Operator role would be very limited by law. If the Operator is only taking care of Madera County it may not be a full time role. The Operator would need to be making sure to keep the One Stop within mandates, would coordinate with Partners, they would answer to the WDB, organize staff training, Partner meetings, referrals, and streamlining data. The One Stop Operator cannot negotiate Performance or MOUs. Central Valley workforce areas have been working together to gather information on using a regional Operator that would travel between local workforce area One Stops.

Q: What gave you the idea of a Regional Operator?

A: The concept has come up over a period of time. There were lots of conversations among the local areas who ran their One Stops on how to comply with the spirit of the law. The region is very large – from Kern Inyo Mono to San Joaquin County. Some of the areas within the region are small and so organizing together to pool resources in order to get a quality operator was considered. Larger areas, such as Fresno, are not participating in the regional effort to our knowledge.

Q: The intent is to use the current location?

A: Yes. Currently, there are plans to move the One Stop to a bigger, 30,000 square foot location in the north end of Madera. The Madera Adult School will be co-located in the building with the One Stop partners.

Q: There is a separate unit for Business Services? They also handle Rapid Response?

A: Yes. The WDB feels the Business Services and business engagement is a role they should retain.

Q: Will this RFP be retracted?

A: Yes – it's possible. Staff will be taking the information from the draft directive to the WDB seeking to gain approval retract the RFP and to apply for the Governor waiver that will allow the WDB to continue to provide Career Services.

Q: With a submission date of November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, what do you recommend organizations do about preparing a proposal?

A: The comment period for the Draft Directive closes on October 21<sup>st</sup>. There is usually still a couple of weeks before the directives become final after the closing date. This would push the date very close to the submission deadline date. Staff could ask the WDB to consider pushing the proposal deadline date a few weeks to allow for time after the directive becomes final.

Q: The WDB meets on October 27, 2016 but you may not have a response for a couple of weeks after that?

A: The WDB will meet and decide on that day.

Q: If the request is approved, it would then go to the Governor and take quite a while to do that also?

A: Yes.

Q: After the WDB approval, you would release an RFP for the One Stop Operator?

A: Yes.

Q: The future RFP would only be open to those who attended this mandatory Bidders Conference?

A: Yes. If the RFP is modified, it would only be open to those who attended the Bidders Conference today. Should the RFP be cancelled and a new RFP posted, the process would then be open to anyone who attends the Bidders Conferences for the new RFP.

Q: Will feedback be provided?

A: Yes. Bidders can email Tracie directly as stated on the RFP. The Q&A will be posted to the website.