

**RFP 19-019**

**The New York State Center for School Safety (CFSS) Technical  
Assistance Center  
Q&A**

**Question 1**

**Page 1: Can NYSED define the scope of the statement “responding quickly and efficaciously to emergency situations that may arise”? Specifically, we would like example(s) of emergency situations where NYSED would want the bidder to respond relative to school safety emergencies and crisis situations involving law enforcement?**

**Answer:** The Center and its staff may be called upon to assist the department in responding to incidents at a state or national level related to school or student safety, violence, school climate, or discrimination and may include helping Department staff develop guidance or assemble resources or best practices for school and/or district use; or to respond to emergent situations at schools and districts that involve, but are not limited to, issues of school safety, school violence, school climate and discrimination by providing on-site technical assistance and guidance to schools, staff, or parents on behalf of or in concert with NYSED staff. CFSS is not expected to respond on-site to active incidents involving law enforcement.

**Question 2**

**Page 12, Deliverables and/or Project Description: Is there an expectation or preference for the Technical Assistance Center (“Center”) and Safe and Supportive Schools Program (SSSP) to be supported by separate websites and technology platforms?**

**Answer:** No. The web presence for the Center and SSSP can be supported on the same platform.

**Question 3**

**Page 12, Deliverables and/or Project Description: Any existing technology or websites in place that are expected to be leveraged for the Center?**

**Answer**

Yes, NYSED will work with the current vendor to transition some or all existing web-based materials on [www.nyscfss.org](http://www.nyscfss.org) for the development of a new website in the event a new vendor is awarded the contract.

**Question 4**

**Page 12, Deliverables and/or Project Description: To what degree would an operating entity be expected to (or have the flexibility to) develop new or different resources**

**relative to those the Center already offers on its website and to the education community across the state (as opposed to maintaining what is currently posted on the website)?**

**Answer:** With NYSED’s approval, existing materials offered on the current website and to the education community across the state can be updated, replaced or supplemented with resources developed by the successful bidder. The website must be updated monthly and/or revised as requested by NYSED.

**Question 5**

**Page 12, Deliverables and/or Project Description: In reference to training and professional development, is a certain level of accreditation expected for the training staff in order to substantiate professional development hours for the education community?**

**Answer:** The minimum expected number and qualifications of staff are described under Staffing Requirements (pp 8-9) of the RFP and in the Technical Proposal, Project Description (pp 26-27) and will be rated on the proposed staff’s credentials and experience and how well they will align with the deliverables they will be assigned to support or complete. The ability of the bidder to provide Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) credits to participants of professional development sessions is not required but is desirable.

**Question 6**

**Page 12, Deliverables and/or Project Description: Can NYSED describe any requirements, licenses/certifications or experience required for the individuals designing and delivering the specified professional development?**

**Answer:** The minimum expected number and qualifications of staff are described under Staffing Requirements (pp 8-9) of the RFP and in the Technical Proposal, Project Description (pp 26-27) and will be rated on the proposed staff’s credentials and experience and how well they will align with the deliverables they will be assigned to support or complete.

**Question 7**

**Page 14, Deliverables and/or Project Description: Can NYSED describe how the operating entity’s staff would be expected to interact with NYSED staff?**

**Answer:** See RFP page 13, Deliverable #4 Collaboration.

**Question 8**

**Who would be the operating entity’s point of contact at NYSED?**

**Answer:** NYSED currently has professional staff within the Office of Student Support Services who are the point of contact for the CFSS. Names of staff will be provided upon execution of the contract.

**Question 9**

**How many NYSED staff are dedicated to work with the Center, and how might this change over the coming five years, if at all?**

**Answer:** Current staffing in the Office of Student Support Services is four professional staff assigned to this work. Staffing levels are subject to change.

**Question 10**

**Page 16, Deliverables and/or Project Description: In the event of new school safety-related legislation is passed during the five-year term of the contract, how would NYSED approach potential changes to priorities and/or agreement with the operating entity?**

**Answer:**

During the five-year contract NYSED fully anticipates that there will be new school safety related legislation passed yearly and the expectation is that the vendor will work with NYSED to respond to any legislative priorities as a part of this contract. The work plan will be updated in response to requests from NYSED, as necessary, to be responsive to new legislation or regulations, emergencies and providing crisis intervention, or District needs as identified by NYSED.

**Question 11**

**Page 3, Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Participation Goals Pursuant to Article 15-A of the New York State Executive Law: How important or valuable are national certifications for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE), Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBE), Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses (SDVOB) suppliers (i.e. WBENC, NMSDC, VA) as it relates to the NYS requirements?**

**Answer:** National, city (NYC included) and other state certifications do not apply towards the NYS M/WBE goal. The only certification that can be counted towards the 30% goal is the New York State certification from Empire State Development. The M/WBE Coordinator is available to assist bidders throughout the procurement process and can be reached at [MWBE@nysed.gov](mailto:MWBE@nysed.gov).