# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# **Adult Education 2023-2025 Optional C&I Competition**

March 1, 2023

Set#1

**C1-Q. We run a small program and spend less than $10,000 a year for C&I services. May we keep this small amount budgeted for C&I with our 1.0 Adult Education application without penalty?**

C1-A. Yes. There is no stated lower limit of C&I funds that must be requested if the applicant opts to include C&I services with their 1.0 submission. The VDOE recognizes that services to correctional facilities have been extremely limited over the past few years due to the pandemic and facility staffing shortages. An applicant will not be penalized for planning for limited service in FY23-24. Continuation awards provide flexibility to increase the percentage of formula funding to C&I if the situation changes. See other questions and answers in this set.

**C2-Q. If we opt to not apply for C&I funds in the current 1.0 application, will we be able to request C&I funds in the next two years through our continuation applications?**

C2-A. No. The competition will determine providers for 3-year awards. If an applicant would like to offer C&I services in any of the three years, the application must be submitted indicating C&I services will be offered in each of the three years.

**C3-Q. Will our submission receive a lower score if we opt to not provide C&I services?**

C3-A. The VDOE will take the optional C&I criteria into account when evaluating and scoring applications. Applicants will not be penalized for not opting to include C&I services in their regional application to opportunity 1.0.

**C4-Q. We have a successful C&I program and could use more funding to support expansion to our C&I programming. If we apply for C&I in opportunity 1.0, are we eligible to apply for the C&I only competition to receive additional funds?**

C4-A. Eligible applicants to opportunity 3.0, C&I only, will be the same list of eligible applicants found on page 4 of the current package, per federal statute. This list is inclusive of many types of entities and consortia of such entities that can demonstrate effectiveness in serving the adult education eligible adult education population. Should a consortium apply, demonstrated effectiveness screening tools from each member of the consortium are required. Demonstrated effectiveness data need not be limited to C&I students. Please note that the funds made available for the 3.0 opportunity will be very limited.

**C5-Q. What would be the benefit of including C&I in 1.0 as opposed to just applying for 3.0 and keeping all of our 1.0 funding in adult education?**

C5-A. The VDOE cannot comment on applicants' strategy, however, please see the other questions and answers in this set. The amount of funding available for opportunity 3.0 will be very limited. The decision to opt to include C&I in a regional application or not to do so will apply for the three-year grant period.

**C6-Q. If we apply for a regional adult education program through opportunity 1.0, are we required to apply for opportunity 3.0?**

C6-A. No. An applicant for a regional program may or may not opt to provide C&I services within the designated region. An applicant may or may not apply as part of opportunity 1.0 or 3.0.

**C7-Q. Is there a minimum amount an applicant to opportunity 1.0 must allocate to C&I?**

C7-A. No, there is no stated minimum for C&I to be included in opportunity 1.0. See other questions and answers in this FAQ set.

**C8-Q. Our facility currently offers correctional education. Can we apply to use these funds for those services?**

C8-A. A federal requirement is that federal funds should ***supplement and not supplant*** state or local funds, see the fiscal section of the State Assurances in the application package. An applicant may not apply for funds that will pay for services that are currently being funded by state or local funds. Services proposed in opportunity 3.0 must be a continuation of federally-funded services, an expansion of existing state- or local-funded services, or for new services.

**C9-Q. How much additional funding will be made available for the Opportunity 3.0 competition?**

C9-A. The federal statute allows for up to 20 percent of the required 82.5 percent reserved for programming to be awarded for correctional education. The VDOE will determine the additional amount to be made available after we receive the submissions in Opportunity 1.0 and calculate how much of the formula funded allocations is requested for correctional education.