



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

October 2023

The Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS) is soliciting school year service proposals for “Student Mental Health Services” from qualified organizations from October 16, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Submission deadline: 10:00 a.m. on the 6th day of October 2023. Location for submission of proposals:

Dauphin County Technical School
Attn: Maria Zaharick, Director of Operations
6001 Locust Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Proposals should clearly indicate “Student Mental Health Services” on the outside of the envelope. Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

The Request for Proposal for Student Mental Health Services specifications may be obtained from Deb Homoki at dhomki@dcts.org as well as the School’s website at www.dcts.org. Any questions should be directed to Deb Homoki by email at dhomki@dcts.org. Responses will be posted on the aforementioned website.

The Joint Operating Committee reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive, at its discretion, any irregularities, mistakes, omissions, or informalities relative thereto.

No proposal may be withdrawn before 60 days after the date of the opening of the proposals. Tentative plans call for the Joint Operating Committee to review the proposals and to take action to award a contract at its regular meeting on October 11, 2023.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

I. RFP PROCESS AND STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES OVERVIEW

1. Background and Objectives

DCTS is seeking Proposals from providers qualified and experienced in providing student mental health services. The vendors will have direct contact with students to provide mental health services to assist school personnel in identifying issues, including, mental health and other behaviors and factors, that pose a barrier to a student's learning and school success. These services must be provided by a licensed mental health provider.

DCTS will use the objective criteria specified within this proposal to review the proposal and will select vendor(s) that meets the requirements of the proposal. A provider shall not perform services for DCTS without a fully executed agreement. If a provider has a sample agreement, please submit the agreement with the proposal. A provider will be compensated by DCTS for services satisfactorily performed in accordance with contract requirements.

School-Year Mental Health Services will include the following:

1. One person to provide Student Mental Health services in-person.
2. Student Mental Health Services will be utilized for days when the students are in session.
3. Accept and facilitate referrals from School Counselor Teams for mental health services. Students with Student Assistance Program and/or who received Mental Health Support through DCTS during the 2023-2024 school year will be given first priority.
4. Provide counseling supports services to students identified by the school counselors. Sessions provided will be skill building in nature with a focus on anxiety, build resilience and teaching stress reduction, mindfulness, CBT, and other appropriate coping skills, social and emotional strategies and techniques.
5. Provide feedback, updates, and/or assistance to parents/guardians on student's services as recommended.
6. Provide psychoeducational and facilitation of the group process and individual support for students.
7. Provide psychoeducational resources to school personnel, students, families and the community.
8. Services will begin October 16, 2023 and end June 5, 2024 between the hours of 8:30am and 2:00pm for the days when students are in session as directed by the Principal.

2. Term of Agreement

DCTS is interested in establishing a stable relationship with the awarded vendor(s). To do this, DCTS would like to develop an agreement from October 16, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Either party may terminate this agreement for any reason at any time by giving sixty (60) days written notice to the provider of its intention to terminate as of the date specified in the notice. If the provider fails to perform duties to the satisfaction of DCTS, or if the provider fails to fulfill in a timely and professional manner their obligations under this agreement, or if provider violates any of the terms or provisions of this agreement, then DCTS shall have the right to terminate this agreement effective immediately upon DCTS giving written notice thereof to the provider.

3. Selection Criteria

This proposal award will be made to the provider submitting the best responsive proposal satisfying DCTS requirements, price factors considered.

DCTS will evaluate each provider's proposal in the areas of the proposed plan, experience, service capabilities, product quality, cost, and best value on the predetermined evaluation criteria below.

DCTS will evaluate each proposal received based upon the following criteria:

- **30 Points - Program Plan:** The adequacy and completeness of the plan offered addressing the Scope of Services.
 - Clearly defined components of service delivery and implementation
 - Evidence of counseling services and supports
 - Clear explanation of organizational structure and contacts
- **40 Points - Provider's Capabilities:** The demonstrated ability of the Provider to provide services.
 - Vendor experience and level of knowledge
 - List of references
 - Resume(s)
 - Ability to provide all necessary materials and supplies
 - Explanation of how the vendor is organized and how its resources will be utilized
 - Adequate staff to serve an organization as large as DCTS, which has approximately 1,200 students
- **30 Points - Financial Proposal:** Reasonable and customary fees for providing services

4. Terms and Conditions

The terms and conditions of this proposal are that DCTS:

- Reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.
- Reserves the right to waive any irregularities or informalities and select the best proposal in the opinion of DCTS.
- May render the proposal invalid due to unauthorized modifications of proposal specification forms or terms.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

5. Instructions for Submission of Applications

- Submission deadline: 10:00 a.m. of the 6th day of October, 2023. Location for submission of proposals:

Dauphin County Technical School
Attn: Maria Zaharick, Director of Operations
6001 Locust Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17109

A provider must submit an original application, one (1) copy of the proposal, in a sealed envelope, clearly marked "Student Mental Health Services." Late applications will not be evaluated.

- Proposals must be signed by an official authorized to bind the provider to the provisions of this RFP.
- DCTS will not accept faxed or electronic submission of proposals.
- Provider(s) must submit for school year.

6. Schedule

1. Proposals received by Dauphin County Technical School: October 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
2. Award announcement: October 11, 2023
3. Contract Start Date – October 16, 2023

7. Directions for Completion of Application

All applicants must provide applicant information using the standard forms provided in Attachment A – Applicant Contact Information and Attachment C – Certification of Proposal Documents. A secondary packet of information should be submitted to support the information requested in Attachment B – Additional Information to be Provided.

II. SCOPE OF SERVICES

This section describes the services DCTS intends to use as a customer. DCTS is seeking experienced and credentialed therapists to provide Student Mental Health services for identified students.

- Vendors are required to provide any materials, technology, and office supplies.
- DCTS internet and student access is provided as determined by service agreement and the scope of work.
- The services are based on referrals from the school's School Counselor for identified students.
- The therapists will provide follow-up with parents and students as permitted

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

- The therapist will provide postvention assistance to School Core Teams, students, family and Faculty when confronted with significant events that would adversely affect the school and community; i.e. student death or other tragic event, as needed or requested by the DCTS.
- The SAP Liaison will provide educational groups offered for students through the School Counselor Teams.
- The therapists will provide educational resources to school personnel, students, families, and community members as requested within the limits of staff availability.

Insurance

DCTS will require the provider, at the provider's expense, to provide professional liability, general liability, and workers compensation insurance as required in the general conditions of these specifications and to name the DCTS as an additional insured. The provider is required at all times during this contract period to provide insurance coverage as follows:

1. General Liability Coverage \$1,000,000
2. Professional Liability Coverage \$1,000,000
3. Workers Compensation Each Accident \$ 1,000,000
4. Workers Compensation Each Disease/Per Employee - Statutory Limit
5. Workers Compensation Each Disease/Policy Limit - Statutory Limit

Right to Monitor and Audit

DCTS shall have the right to monitor all work performed, as well as to review all records and procedures to ensure that the expenditure of funds is in conformity with this agreement and applicable Federal and State regulations.

Providers are required to provide a copy of a certificate of liability insurance to DCTS prior to commencement of services.

Record Retention

Provider shall maintain and preserve all records related to this agreement in its possession (or will ensure the maintenance of such records in the possession of any third-party performing work related to this agreement) for a period of not less than seven (7) years from the service date of this agreement or until all State audits are complete, whichever is later.

Confidentiality/Privacy

Personally Identifiable Information ("PII") is defined as an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of the following data elements including, but not limited to: social security number, passport number, credit card number(s), clearances, bank numbers, biometrics, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, criminal, medical and financial records, educational transcripts, etc.

To the extent that the work under this Agreement requires the provider to have access to PII, the provider shall, after receipt thereof, treat such PII as confidential and safeguard such information from unauthorized use and disclosure. Provider agrees to execute a Confidentiality Agreement protecting PII, when necessary, and further agrees not to appropriate such PII for its own use or to

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

disclose such information to third parties unless specifically authorized by DCTS, in writing. If and when provider becomes aware of, or should reasonably have been aware of a breach of PII, Provider shall notify DCTS within two (2) business days

The parties specifically agree to take such action as is necessary to implement the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the HITECH Act, the Privacy Rule, the Security Rule, and other applicable laws relating to the security and confidentiality of protected health information.

Non-Exclusive Agreement

Provider understands that this is not an exclusive agreement, and DCTS shall have the right to negotiate with and enter into agreements with others providing the same or similar services to those provided by provider, or to perform such services with provider's own forces.

Human Relations Act

The provisions of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, Act 222 of October 27, 1955 (P.L. 744) (43 P.S. Section 951 et. seq.) of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania prohibit discrimination because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age, sex, national origin, handicap or disability, by employers, employment agencies, labor organizations, providers and others. The provider shall agree to comply with the provisions of this Act as amended that are made part of this specification. Your attention is directed to the language of the Commonwealth's non-discrimination clause in 16 PA Code 349.101.

Clearances

All provider staff members, who will work with DCTS students, must have all of the required Federal and State Criminal and Child Abuse clearances in effect during the duration of this contract. Original documentation of these clearances must be presented to the appropriate personnel who will make appropriate copies for DCTS records. All new or substitute individuals must provide this documentation before working with the students. At the time of this request for proposal, required clearances include:

1. Act 34, Section III of the Public School Code (Criminal Record Check)
2. Act 151, Chapter 63 of 23 PA Consolidated Statutes (Pennsylvania Child Abuse History)
3. Act 114 (F.B.I. Fingerprinting Clearances)
4. Act 168 (Sexual Misconduct/Abuse Disclosure Release)

Provider agrees to comply with the provisions of Act 168 of 2014, Employment History Review Law and, to the extent applicable, Act 126 of 2012, Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting Training.

Compliance with Policy/Law

Provider shall comply with all policies, procedures and regulations of DCTS as established and amended from time to time as well as all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Right to Know Law, 65 P.S. 67.101 et seq., regarding possession of public records by agency providers. In the event DCTS receives a request for access to a public record that is in the possession of Provider, DCTS shall notify the

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Provider of the request and Provider shall provide DCTS with the requested record in a timely manner so as to enable DCTS compliance with the Pennsylvania Right to Know Law.

III. FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Dauphin County Technical School is anticipating the use of federal grants to fund this contract. The following requirements must be met by qualified vendors.

Awarded Vendor Violation or Breach of Contract Terms

Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$150,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils), as authorized by 41 USC 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate. Provisions regarding Awarded Vendor default are included in the Contract Documents. Any Contract award will be subject to such Contract Documents. The remedies under the Contract are in addition to any other remedies that may be available under law or in equity.

Termination for Cause or Convenience

For any purchase or contract in excess of \$10,000 made using federal funds, the Awarded Vendor agrees that the following term and condition shall apply: The Eligible Entity may terminate or cancel any Purchase Order under the Contract at any time, without cause, by providing seven business days advance written notice to the Awarded Vendor. If this Agreement is terminated for convenience in accordance with this paragraph, the Eligible Entity shall only be required to pay Awarded Vendor for goods or services delivered to the Eligible Entity prior to the termination and not otherwise returned in accordance with Awarded Vendor's return policy. If the Eligible Entity has paid the Awarded Vendor for goods or services not yet provided as of the date of termination, the Awarded Vendor shall immediately refund such payment(s). The Eligible Entity may terminate or cancel any Purchase Order under the Contract with cause pursuant to Section XIII.6.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all Eligible Entity purchases or contracts that meet the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 shall be deemed to include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and implementing regulations at 41 CFR Part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor." The equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b) is hereby incorporated by reference. The Awarded Vendor agrees that such provision applies to any Eligible Entity purchase or contract that meets the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60- 1.3 and the Awarded Vendor agrees that it shall comply with such provision.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Debarment and Suspension

Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government-wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR Part 1966 Comp. p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR Part 1989 Comp. p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. The Awarded Vendor certifies that the Awarded Vendor is not currently listed on the government-wide exclusions in SAM, is not debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies or declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. The Awarded Vendor further agrees to immediately notify the Eligible Entity with pending purchases or seeking to purchase from the Awarded Vendor if the Awarded Vendor is later listed on the government-wide exclusions in SAM, or is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies or declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 USC 1352)— Contractors who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used federally appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 USC 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-federal award. As applicable, contractors who apply agree to file all certifications and disclosures required by, and otherwise comply with, the Byrd Anti Lobbying Amendment (31 USC 1352).

Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Contract Act

Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 USC 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and sub-grants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 USC 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). When required, the Awarded Vendor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Procurement of Recovered Materials

For Eligible Entity’s purchases utilizing federal funds, the Awarded Vendor agrees to comply with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act where applicable and provide such information and certifications as the district may require to confirm estimates and otherwise comply. The requirements of Section 6002

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the EPA at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery, and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Profit as a Separate Element of Price

For purchases using federal funds in excess of \$150,000, the Eligible Entity may be required to negotiate profit as a separate element of the price. See, 2 CFR 200.323(b). When the Eligible Entity makes a reasonable determination that such information is required by applicable law, the Awarded Vendor agrees to provide information and negotiate with the Eligible Entity regarding profit as a separate element of the price for a particular purchase. However, the Awarded Vendor agrees that the total price, including profit, charged by the Awarded Vendor to the Eligible Entity shall not exceed the awarded pricing.

General Compliance and Cooperation with Eligible Entity

In addition to the foregoing specific requirements, the Awarded Vendor agrees, in accepting any Purchase Order or contract from the Eligible Entity, it shall make a good-faith effort to work with the Eligible Entity to provide such information and to satisfy such requirements as may apply to the Eligible Entity's purchase or purchases including, but not limited to, applicable recordkeeping and record retention requirements and contract cost and price analyses required under the Uniform Grant Guidance.

For example, the Eligible Entity must perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of \$150,000, including contract modifications. Such a cost analysis generally means evaluating the separate cost elements that make up the total price, while a price analysis means evaluating the total price without looking at the individual cost elements. Thus, the Awarded Vendor agrees to make a good-faith effort to work with the Eligible Entity to complete such a cost or price analysis in order to comply with applicable law.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

ATTACHMENT A - APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

WEBSITE ADDRESS: _____

FAX NUMBER: _____

ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE 6th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023. Location for submission of proposals:

**Dauphin County Technical School
Attn: Maria Zaharick, Director of Operations
6001 Locust Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17109**

DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

ATTACHMENT B - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED

1. Provide a description of the provider’s experience in performing the required student assistance services in a school setting. Describe what type of provider you are, type of service history (counseling services, counseling school aged students, years of experience, etc.). Provide resumes of the individual or staff to be assigned to work with DCTS, including their areas of expertise, years of experience, and licensure and/or teacher certification.
2. Describe your customer service philosophy, standards, and structure and how they will be provided to DCTS. Include the contact information for the dedicated customer service representative(s) for the DCTS.
3. Service Costs – DCTS will consider proposals for school year.

	Year 1
	10/16/23 - 06/30/24
Student Assistance Program Services (School Year)	

4. Have the employees you would be assigning to this contract had continuing education training to enhance their skills for working with school aged children?
5. Have you previously had or do you currently have contracts with other school systems in Pennsylvania? If yes, identify those school systems for the purpose of providing a reference. Provide contact information and description of services.
6. Are you currently or have you within the last 10 years, been involved in litigation regarding Student Mental Health services? If yes, provide details.
7. Has your company ever had a client cancel a contract mid-term or not renew a contract at the end of the term? If yes, please provide specifics.

DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

ATTACHMENT C - CERTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS

The provider certifies by signing this document that they:

- a. Have carefully read and fully understand the information in the PROPOSAL.
- b. Have the capability to successfully undertake the scope of work herein and complete the responsibilities and obligations of the proposal being submitted.
- c. Represent that the information contained in the PROPOSAL is true and correct.
- d. Did not in any way collude, conspire or agree, directly or indirectly, with any person, firm, corporation, review committee member, PROPOSAL employee or other proposer in regard to the amount, terms or conditions of this proposal.
- e. Acknowledge that the DCTS has the right to make any inquiry it deems appropriate to substantiate or supplement information supplied by the proposer.

Company Name _____

Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Title _____

Date _____