

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

#### Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-003994

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

#### Question

##### PaTH - Selection of training panels

"How many companies applied to be part of the training panels for PaTH?  
How many were actually selected?  
What criteria was used to select the panels? "

#### Answer

The Department received 118 responses to the Request for Proposal for the PaTH Employability Skills Training Panel. 77 Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) were offered a position on the panel. 69 RTOs have been appointed to the panel with the remaining 8 declining the offer.

RTOs were selected through a competitive tender process. Responses to four selection criteria were assessed. The selection criteria covered: Governance and capability, experience in delivering training to young people, ability to design and deliver effective Employability Skills Training and Meeting the training needs of employers. See **Attachment A** for excerpt from the RFP on responding to selection criteria.

## **Responding to Selection Criteria**

Respondents must include a response to each selection criterion listed in this section on the relevant forms. Responses that are not received on the correct form may, at the Department's sole discretion, be excluded from the evaluation process. This is the minimum content and format requirement.

The response must address all selection criteria.

Each selection criterion will be assessed on a pass/fail basis. Only responses that receive a 'pass' for all selection criteria will be assessed for value for money. See Section 3.3—Value for Money for further information.

When responding to these selection criteria, respondents should address each of the sub-criteria under the heading. Some sub-criteria relate to a specific training block and are required for only for those responses seeking to deliver the relevant training block. Failure to address each of the sub-criteria may have a negative impact on the assessment of a respondent's response in relation to the selection criterion. Respondents should also include any information they consider will support their responses to the selection criterion.

### **Selection Criterion 1**

Governance and capability

Evaluation: Pass/Fail

Character Limit: 15,000

Requirement: In preparing a response to this criterion, respondents should describe:

- a. their governance, risk management and reporting frameworks that will support the delivery of EST
- b. the qualifications and experience of their staff that are relevant to their delivery of EST
- c. their capability to deliver training in the proposed Employment Region(s) and/or location(s) to meet initial and ongoing demand for EST from April 2017

### **Selection Criterion 2**

Experience in delivering training to young people

Evaluation: Pass/Fail

Character Limit: 15,000

Requirement: In preparing a response to this criterion, respondents should describe:

- a. the strategies they plan to use to engage and retain young people in the EST training block(s)
- b. their past experience in designing and delivering training to young people, including those from vulnerable groups and diverse backgrounds, especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander job seekers, carers and young people living with a disability
- c. their strategy to support young job seekers in the intensive training block(s) including how they will address barriers to participation for job seekers from vulnerable groups and those with a partial participation requirement

### **Selection Criterion 3**

Ability to design and deliver effective employability skills training

Evaluation: Pass/Fail

Character Limit: 15,000

Requirement: In preparing a response to this criterion, respondents should describe:

- a. their approach to the design and delivery of the EST training block(s) including:
  - i. innovative learning models
  - ii. experiential learning, and
  - iii. ability to include units of competency.

Responses to (a) should cover each of the training block(s) the respondent is applying to provide.

- b. their strategy to deliver:
  - i. training in a work like context (for training block 1), and
  - ii. industry awareness experiences (noting that these are optional in training block 1 and mandatory in training block 2)
- c. how the respondent will assess job seekers' learning outcomes in particular:
  - i. demonstrating how they will assess competence in each element in the Core Skills for Work Developmental Framework for training block 1, and/or
  - ii. demonstrating how they will assess learning outcomes for training block 2
- d. how the respondent will monitor, review and report on the effectiveness of the EST, including how feedback from employers regarding service quality, innovation and continuous improvement will be implemented.

#### **Selection Criterion 4**

Meeting the training needs of employers

Evaluation: Pass/Fail

Character Limit: 15,000

Requirement: In preparing a response to this criterion, respondents should:

- a. Demonstrate capacity to develop and deliver effective training courses that meet the needs of one or more industries or a broad range of employers.
- b. If applying to deliver training block 1, provide a strategy for identifying opportunities for young job seekers to undertake work experience (including PaTH Internships) relevant to the Employment Region(s) which form part of this response.
- c. Provide two examples that demonstrate that the respondent has engaged with industry, employers and/or employer networks to develop and deliver effective training to job seekers.
- d. Provide at least two and no more than four written endorsements from industry groups/associations or employers the respondent is proposing to work with to support claims that effective training will be delivered to meet the needs of industry or employers. These should be submitted on the Employer or Industry Endorsement Form.

#### **Value for Money**

Where a response is assessed as passing each of the above selection criteria, it will be evaluated for value for money.

The Department will consider a range of factors when determining value for money including but not limited to:

- responses to the selection criteria
- a comparison of prices offered in the responses
- a comparison of Employment Region coverage

- the overall diversity of training across each Employment Region
- additional training content including provision of industry required training in the proposed price
- any relevant risk to the Australian Government

### **Referees**

All respondents must provide contact details of at least two and no more than six referees who are able to verify the respondent's claims in the selection criteria.

The Department reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to contact the nominated referees to seek clarification of information provided in a response, or make its own enquiries to verify claims made in a response (including, without limitation, contacting a person who is not nominated as a referee by the respondent).

Current employees of the Department cannot be a referee for a respondent.