STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Service Agreement for Resources for Career and Technical Education Faculty
FY 2018-19

Request: The State Board is requested to approve an amount not to exceed $200,000 for a one year contract with the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) of Waco, Texas, for the purposes of maintaining and refining the North Carolina Network for Excellence in Teaching (NC-NET), delivering six NC-NET academies, facilitating a faculty practicum, supporting network websites, providing support for pathway projects, providing support for career counselors, and establishing a professional learning community developed by CORD and additional resources around career pathways to enhance the online delivery of professional development to career and technical education faculty and staff.

Strategic Plan Reference(s):
Theme: Clear And Supported Pathways For Student Progress And Success
Goal 2: Provide a continuum of education, training, advising, and support to help learners make informed decisions that lead to credentials and careers.
  • Objective 2.1. Provide timely and accurate career exploration and academic planning opportunities.
    o Strategy 2.1.2. Develop and support effective career planning practices for faculty and staff.

Theme: Economic And Workforce Impact
Goal 3: Ensure the educational pipeline prepares a workforce possessing the interest, knowledge, skills, and abilities to meet the needs of employers, now and into the future.
  • Objective 3.2. Offer relevant, high-quality instructional programs that meet the needs of business and industry for existing and future jobs.
    o Strategy 3.2.1 Provide accessible, affordable, and high-quality professional development to faculty and staff to stay informed about labor market and student support trends

Background: Established in 2004, the NC-NET website (http://www.nc-net.info/) serves as a clearinghouse of professional development resources. CORD acquires and develops content suitable for career and technical education faculty. CORD also hosts the project on its server, and catalogs, and disseminates quality programming shared by all North Carolina Community Colleges.

Rationale for Contract: In 2007 and 2013, the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education monitoring team commended NCCCS for providing a “high-quality, comprehensive, and readily available” method for career and technical education faculty to obtain professional development through the NC-NET initiative.

By continuing the partnership with CORD, NCCCS receives access to resources on occupational research around career pathways, employability skills, stackable credentials and industry...
certifications, access to national curriculum improvement projects such as “Mapping Upward Institute”, as well as expertise in career and technical education that would not be readily available to NCCCS without purchasing expensive memberships, confronting complex copyright issues, and purchasing expensive hardware and software.

For FY 2018-19, tasks are proposed for development, delivery, and support by CORD in the areas of professional development delivery, content development, technical assistance, marketing/ dissemination, and technology support including hosting of NC Perkins Moodle (http://www.ncperkins.org/).

**Method of Procurement:** In accordance with the procurement practice of the State of North Carolina, approval was sought by outside purchasing authorities. The Division of Purchase and Contract has approved the contract.

**Contract Amount and Time Period:** The total contract for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 shall not exceed $200,000.

**Fund Availability:** Federal funding is contingent upon Title I of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.

**Contact Persons:**
Robert J. Witchger, Director, Career and Technical Education