

**Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS)**  
**Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS)**

**Questions and Answers Regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP)**

**Statewide Mentoring, Development and Leadership  
Program for Youth with Disabilities**

**Question 1:** We are very appreciative of receiving the RFP. Though we are not presently positioned to apply or respond to the entirety of the proposal, we are interested in learning if this program is going to include young people that are blind, is there a separate component for providing them with Braille, large print, or audio formatted information? KBTI specializes in those mediums, in English and Spanish, and would like to make its services available to any organization that is awarded the grant or is assigned to present the program. As you are aware, KBTI employs disabled Kansans to produce the Braille, large print and audio formats for which we are nationally contracted.

**Answer 1:** The youth mentoring, development and leadership program will serve youth with all types of disabilities, including but not limited to, youth who are blind or have a visual impairment. The successful bidder will be responsible for ensuring that all activities and materials are accessible to all youth, to include determining where and how to obtain materials in the format best suited to the needs of the youth served.

Neither SRS nor KRS provide an endorsement of any provider of media of choice.

**Question 2:** What is the deadline for the submission of questions and how will we receive the answers?

**Answer 2:** The deadline for questions has been extended to **5 p.m. October 19, 2011**. All questions must be in writing and received by SRS by this deadline. Submit questions to:  
Brie Wilkins, SRS Procurement Officer  
Docking State Office Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
915 SW Harrison, Topeka, KS 66612  
Email: [Brie.Wilkins@srs.ks.gov](mailto:Brie.Wilkins@srs.ks.gov)

Answers will be posted on the KRS website on October 21, 2011. The web address is:  
<http://www.srs.ks.gov/agency/rs/Pages/default.aspx>

**Question 3:** What is the deadline for submission of proposals?

**Answer 3:** The submission deadline has been extended to **2 p.m. November 7, 2011**. Proposals must be received by SRS by this deadline. Please refer to the RFP at <http://www.srs.ks.gov/agency/rs/Pages/default.aspx> for specific submission instructions.

**Question 4:** We are interested in applying for the Statewide Mentoring, Development and Leadership Program for Youth with Disabilities grant. We were wondering whether ADHD qualifies as a disability under this grant's qualifications.

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**Answer 4:** The following federal definition will be used for the purposes of this program: “Individual with a disability means an individual who: (1) has a physical, mental, cognitive or sensory impairment that substantially limits one or more of the individual’s major life activities; (2) Has a record of such an impairment; or (3) Is regarded as having such an impairment. (34 CFR 364.4)

Under this definition a person with ADHD, **if it substantially limits one or more major life activity**, may be classified as a person with a disability.

#### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS POSTED OCTOBER 21, 2011**

**Question 5:** Throughout my review of the RFP, I stumbled upon something that I need some clarification on. For those who submit a proposal, is it mandatory in which that agency needs to have a board of directors of which 51% are composed of individuals with disabilities?

**Answer 5:** Eligible applicants are not-for profit 501(c) (3) organizations that can demonstrate the services and/or programs supported by this award are driven by a board or consumer advisory panel whose members would be comprised of more than 50% persons with disabilities.

**Question 6:** Can agencies who focus on a specific disability be eligible to apply for the RFP?

**Answer 6:** Services funded through this grant must be available to all youth with disabilities, regardless of the type of disability. The applicant must demonstrate a viable plan to provide services and outreach across all disability populations.

**Question 7:** Can agencies who primarily serve adults with disabilities apply for the grant?

**Answer 7:** Eligible applicants are not-for profit 501(c) (3) organizations that can demonstrate the services and/or programs supported by this award are driven by a board or consumer advisory panel whose members would be comprised of more than 50% persons with disabilities. Priority will be given to organizations that demonstrate a commitment to engaging youth with disabilities who have had involvement in mentoring and youth leadership activities in an advisory capacity to the services/programs provided through this grant award. The purpose of this grant award is to provide a comprehensive youth development, leadership and mentoring program for transition-aged youth (ages 14-24) with disabilities.

**Question 8:** Can January 1-June 30, 2012 of the grant be dedicated to planning and development of the grant/project or do active mentor/mentee matches need to be made during this time?

**Answer 8:** In order to demonstrate effectiveness for continuation of grant funding, contingent upon continued appropriations, an organization would need to have active mentor/mentee matches and programming during the entire grant period, which includes the January 1- June 30, 2012 time period.

**Question 9:** Can this grant be designed to target specific communities/school districts in the state of Kansas?

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**Answer 9:** The purpose of this RFP is to provide **statewide** mentoring, development and leadership services to youth with disabilities. Applicants may design the structure and content of the program they propose to provide. This includes how, when, and where services are delivered. Program design will be analyzed as part of the competitive review process.

**Question 10:** Will the grantee be required to track students and facilitate survey questions/information after grant funding has ended?

**Answer 10:** The grant recipient will be required to track participants for three years following participation in the program for the post high school outcomes survey. It is possible that this could require tracking participants after the grant funding has ended.

**Question 11:** Can students ages 14-18 with disabilities in schools be targeted for this project and mentor/mentee matches meeting during the school year only?

**Answer 11:** The RFP allows for applicants to determine a targeted age range for their proposal, as long as it falls within the specified guidelines of persons ages 14-24. Applicants may design the structure and content of the program they propose to provide. This includes how, when, and where services are delivered. Program design will be analyzed as part of the competitive review process.

**Question 12:** For the purpose of this grant what is the definition of youth with disabilities? Can we use the Kansas Department of Education's definition?

**Answer 12:** For the purposes of this RFP, youth with disabilities are defined as persons age 14-24 who meet the following federal definition of a person with a disability: Individual with a disability means an individual who: (1) has a physical, mental, cognitive or sensory impairment that substantially limits one or more of the individual's major life activities; (2) Has a record of such an impairment; or (3) Is regarded as having such an impairment. (34 CFR 364.4). No other definitions are pertinent for the purposes of this RFP.

*October 21, 2011*