

Career Pathways IV Questions and Answers

Question 1: What is the link to the Career Pathways IV Request for Proposals?

Answer: The Career Pathways IV (CP IV) Request for Proposals (RFP) is posted on New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance website.
[Procurement/Bid Opportunities | OTDA \(ny.gov\)](#)

Question 2: Are Boards of Cooperative Educational Services of New York State (BOCES), local governments or municipalities eligible to apply for this funding?

Answer: Organizations eligible to apply for funding under this initiative are limited to nonprofit and community-based entities. Local government entities, municipalities and for-profit entities are not eligible to apply

Question 3: Are vocational training centers for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities qualified to apply for this program?

Answer: Organizations that are nonprofit and community-based entities are eligible to apply for funding under this initiative. Preferred applicants will be entities with experience providing employment and training services to youth ages 18 through 23, and those with experience serving individuals eligible for TANF services as stated in Section III.B (Page 9) of the CPIV RFP.

Individuals eligible to participate in the CP IV program must be eligible under federal TANF requirements and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Unemployed or underemployed young adults between the ages of 18 through 23, who meet the TANF 200% of federal poverty level certification requirements;
- Public Assistance (PA) recipients, including Family Assistance (FA) and federally-funded Safety Net Assistance (SNA) recipients (former FA recipients who have reached their 60-month limit on TANF and transitioned to SNA). Individuals in two-parent cases with children receiving SNA and noncustodial parents receiving SNA may also be eligible; and/or
- 16 or 17-year-old heads of household who meet the TANF 200% of federal poverty level certification requirements.

Please note:

Not-for-profit organizations must Register as a vendor in the Statewide Financial System and successfully Prequalify to be considered for an award. Not-for-profit vendors that are not prequalified will NOT be allowed to submit their bid response for consideration.

Nonprofit applicants must be registered and in good standing with the Charities Bureau of the Attorney General's Office and have their Vendor Responsibility Profile available

and current on the NYS Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC) VendRep System at [File Your Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire | Office of the New York State Comptroller \(ny.gov\)](#)

Question 4: Section III.D. (Page 12) indicates that selection priority will be given to organizations that, among other criteria, will focus on serving 18 through 23-year-old unemployed or underemployed individuals who reside in a county that has an average unemployment rate which exceeds the average annual unemployment rate for its associated labor market region. If a county's unemployment rate does not exceed the unemployment rate for its associated labor market region, is that organization still eligible to apply for CP IV? For example, using the data from New York State Department of Labor are organizations serving Erie County eligible?

Answer: To be eligible for five priority points, applicants must serve unemployed or underemployed youth between the ages of 18 through 23 years of age who reside in a county with a higher-than-average unemployment rate than that for its applicable labor market region. Using the current data available from the New York State Department of Labor, [Labor Data-Department of Labor \(ny.gov\)](#), the unemployment rate for the Buffalo-Niagara Falls Region in July 2024 was 4.5%. Applicants proposing to serve individuals residing in Niagara County would receive five priority points. Applicants proposing to serve only individuals residing in Erie County would be eligible to apply but would not qualify for this priority feature.