MNWB

January 28th, 2026

Metro North WIOA Youth RFP Review Committee - 1st Meeting | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams

Metro North WIOA Youth RFP Review Committee - 1st Meeting
Agenda

MNWB Staff: Chris Albrizio-Lee, Natalia Salagornik, Danielle Osterman, Jay Green, Ed Carrington

Review Committee Members: Reed Brockman, Rachael Running, Richard Dalton, Danyal Najmi, Rick Laferriere

Notetaker: Jay Green

Agenda Items	Discussion Points	Next Steps
• Introductions	• Natalia introduced the members in attendance from MNWB staff. • All other non-MNWB staff spoke and introduced themselves.	
• WIOA and WIOA Youth Overview	• Natalia shared the origin of WIOA. More focused on out of school population, close to 75% participants. Prioritized for job seekers who have barriers to employment.	
• Purpose of RFP	• Natalia spoke on purpose for WIOA Youth in school and out of school. To select providers and ability to implement a comprehensive service. Selected providers will need to do data entry into MOSES.	

• Metro North Vision	• Natalia shared vision on implementation, design, and develop strategies. Meet government accounting and expense requirements.	
• Priority populations	• Natalia outlined the priority populations for the committee.	
• WIOA 14 Elements	• Four out of fourteen elements youth must have access to for our region. Still have access to all other elements too. Tutoring, Paid and unpaid work experiences, labor market surveys, follow up services.	
• Local Policies	• Local policy allows youth training funds to be used. • Support service policy is designed to provide more support to help remove barriers.	
• MNWB Role	• MNWB role includes File review, Eligibility verification, Technical Assistance, In person site visits. Evaluate providers' performance along with annual monitoring and biweekly support.	
• Funding Considerations	• 75% funding for Out of School, work experience 20%. • FY26 funding breakdown was discussed with ISY and OSY.	

	• Committee member asked a question about where the money allocated goes or is going.	
• Eligible Bidders	• Some examples for who is eligible: Higher Education, Community Organizations, Labor Organizations, Staffing or Talent companies.	
• Evaluation Criteria	• Org structure/Capacity, service strategy, past Performance and planned outcomes. • Budget Narrative • Total Points available	
• Review of RFP	• Documents will be sent out to committee and have till tomorrow for questions. • Discussion over who Is Chair.	.
• VOTE	• Dick Dalton had a motion for co-chair to be Reed Brockman and Rachael Running. • Motion to approve them as co-chairs. • Dick Dalton first, Rick Laferriere, second. • Roll call vote, **All approved.** • **Reed Brockman and Rachel Running approved as co-chairs.** • Committee members asked some questions about who will apply and how. Natalia	

	provided some clarity and answers on that to committee members. • Committee Members will have to be aware of each applicant to prove they have enough capacity along with what they bring to the region. Members went over the rubric and discussed key metrics. • Committee members went over some strategies on how applicants deliver service and what to look for best practices. • What metrics are to be on the lookout for when it comes to each applicant's orgs. Living wage? Health Insurance for the org's workers? **Who they are as an employer was important topic discussed.** • Danielle spoke on how we built out past performance sections, for that section take it as face value for what they write. • If we add information, we want to frame that as beneficial. • What is intent of program? Questions to ponder? Do we put more weight on getting hired? Or is that not optimal for each organization? • **OPTIMAL INTENT QUESTION: ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCE OR IS IT EMPLOYMENT.** • Rachael spoke on whether ABCD is funded, what does staff look like. Bulk of questions are more staff capacity rather than working at said bidders' organization. • One idea could be to add open ended question in the narrative after 1C. • Reed spoke on once proposals come in that members should be spending some time doing homework and getting the extra feel of the org in an unbiased way. • Final Feedback by tomorrow 12pm (Jan 29th). RFP scheduled for a Feb 2nd release.	.

• Evaluation Timelines	**March 11th, 1pm**, to evaluate the proposals was confirmed. • Timelines were shared for the remaining road map dates. Group agreed **2-4pm on April 13th to review proposals.**	
• Release of RFP	• Current performance of current providers to be included in summary packet for the Board meeting. Open meeting law was discussed. Any discussions made by committee need to happen at official meetings. Adding a single open ended question *" What makes you an outstanding employer ".* • Rachael Running asked question, " We value applicants that are good employers, in what ways are you meeting the needs of your staff, benefits coverage." • Questions included this year around professional development during the year. Building off that section or opening set of questions where we ask them about org mission etc., we add one question there related to Rachel's point. • Supportive wages, health benefits to ask of the bidders. • **"We value supporting organizations that provide high quality employment opportunities, can you describe your orgs turnover rate, wages (livable income), and benefits over the past couple of years." (Chris Albrizio-Lee spoke above here)** • **Looking for these orgs to expand? Do we force them to answer these questions? OR can we let them add more if they want. How do they position themselves as an org with more info. Committee members said they would not mind reading more if it points out a more descriptive outline.**	

	• Page limit could be added from 14 to 15-page limit.	
• Motion to Release FY27 WIOA Youth RFP • **VOTE (Roll Call)** • Motion Passed	• **Motion to approve by Dick, Seconded by Rick.** • **All approved.** • **Motion passed.** • RFP update will take place this week to add a question suggested by Rachel. Committee members will all receive them at the same time from Natalia. • Next step for calendar invites on **March 11th and April 13th between 2-4pm.** **Motion to adjourn: All approved. 3:22pm.**	