
THE LACKAWANNA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**ANNUAL
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION (RFQ)
FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a fair and open process, sealed submissions will be received by The Lackawanna County Department of Human Services ("Department") at its offices at 200 Adams Avenue, 6th Floor, Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503 for provision of services to eligible individuals served by our Department. This RFQ will be used in applying for funds to provide services in Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

Respondents must submit their written requests by **4:00 p.m.** prevailing time on **Tuesday, April 12, 2011.**

Submissions received will be reviewed and evaluated by the Department, based upon such criteria as the Department, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate. The Department reserves the right to request clarification or additional information from any respondent. The Department, in its sole discretion, may accept the proposal of a respondent, may choose a respondent with which the Department will enter into negotiations, or may reject all proposals.

The Department reserves the opportunity to modify this Request for Qualifications at its own discretion and without prior notice, and to waive any immaterial defect or informality in any proposal as may be permitted by law.

A. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this RFQ for service providers is to solicit submissions from qualified agencies and/or individuals to provide professional services on behalf of the County in connection with the administration of the Homeless Assistance Program. Service areas include: Bridge Housing, Case Management, Rental Assistance, Emergency Shelter and Innovative Supportive Housing Services.

B. PROCEDURES FOR RESPONDING TO REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:

1. RFQ submissions will include four (4) copies and contain all information required within Section C. Qualifications must be submitted to the Department of Human Services, 200 Adams Avenue, 6th Fl., Scranton, PA 18503 by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 in a sealed envelope with the name of the agency or individual submitting clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. The Department assumes no responsibility for delays in any form of carrier, mail, or delivery service causing the submission to be received after the above-referenced due date and time. Submission by fax, telephone, or email is not permitted.

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2. All questions regarding this RFQ should be made in writing to the Department of Human Services, 200 Adams Avenue, 6th Fl., Scranton, PA 18503. All questions are to be submitted to the Department by Tuesday, March 22, 2011. All responses to questions will be posted on the Lackawanna County website at www.lackawannacounty.org by Tuesday, March 29, 2011.
3. **Submission Format:** Each submittal must be in sufficient detail to permit evaluation, at minimum, with respect to the areas outlined in Section C. Submittals must include the information that is specifically requested herein as well as such additional information as an agency/individual deems relevant. Submissions should adhere to the following outline:
 - a. Cover letter
 - b. Qualification Requirements (Section C)
 - i. Agency Summary (Form A)
 - ii. Scope of Services – Qualification statements (Form B)
 - iii. Other Service Contracts (Form C)
 - iv. Conflict of Interest Statement (Form D)
 - c. Appendix – Additional Supporting Documents

C. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Department is requesting agencies and individuals to provide the following information in their Request for Qualification:

1. **Agency Summary** – All summaries submitted to the Department shall include the following:
 - a) Name and address of your agency and the corporate officer authorized to execute agreements.
 - b) A brief description of your agency's history, ownership and organizational structure.
 - c) A statement of assurance that your agency is not currently in violation of any regulatory rules and regulations set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (DPW) that may have any impact on your agency's operations.
 - d) A statement that your agency is not involved in any current litigation with Lackawanna County.
2. **Scope of Services** – The Department is requesting qualification statements to provide those allowable services/cost centers under the Homeless Assistance Program in the areas of Bridge Housing, Case Management, Rental Assistance, Emergency Shelter and Innovative Supportive Housing Services.
 - a.) All submittals must detail the proposed service and the agency's qualifications and experience in providing this service.

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- b.) The name, experience, qualifications, and applicable licenses held by the individual primarily responsible for providing service and any other person(s), whether as employees or subcontractors, with specialized skills that would be assigned to provide service.

3. Other Service Contracts

- a) All submittals shall include a listing of all like or similar contracts with other Lackawanna County departments to provide this service including contract dates and amounts.

4. Conflict of Interest Statement

- a.) All submittals must state that there are no conflicts of interest to which the agency would be subject if it were to provide the requested service on behalf of the Department.

D. CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATION:

The Department will independently evaluate each submission and selection will be made upon the following criteria:

1. Experience and reputation in the field;
2. Experience and reputation in the field with respect to contracting with governmental entities to provide services on behalf of the County;
3. Knowledge of Pennsylvania's Department of Public Welfare Homeless Assistance Program and the organizational structure of the Lackawanna County Department of Human Services;
4. The administrative and programmatic capacity to manage the volume of work;
5. Availability to accommodate any required meetings of the Department;
6. Ability to meet reporting requirements and timelines for completion as set forth by the Department;
7. Other factors determined to be in the best interest of the County in the Department's sole discretion.

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CONFIDENTIALITY:

This Request for Qualifications and all submissions received in response, will remain confidential (with the exception of information that was previously public information), and will not be used for any purpose other than the evaluation of the proposals received by the Department. Each respondent, by responding to this Request, acknowledges the terms above and agrees to safeguard the details of this process and the contents of this document. If your organization does not agree to these conditions concerning confidentiality, or if you elect not to respond to this Request for Qualifications, please return this Request to the Department and retain no copies thereof.

Lackawanna County
Qualifications Based Selection Process

The statement of qualifications will be evaluated in accordance with the County's Qualifications Based Selection Process. Anyone submitting a statement of qualifications is advised to review that process, which is set forth on the County's website.