Please stand by, the webinar will begin shortly.

Department of Family and Support Services Homeless Services Low Barrier Shelter RFP

Release Date: August 8, 2023

Due Date: September 14, 2023, at 12pm



Housekeeping

- Due to the volume of participants, everyone has been placed on mute.
- Please submit questions via the question box and we will respond to questions at the midpoint and end of the presentation.
- Please use the question box to notify us of any technical issues.
- This webinar is being recorded.
- A copy of the recording will be posted on the DFSS YouTube channel with a link to the recording and a .pdf of these Power Point slides will be posted to the DFSS webpage at: https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/fss.html under the 'Alerts" and/or "Funding Opportunities" tabs. This will take up to five business days.





- Welcome and Introductions
- Purpose of the RFP
- Current State and Priorities
- Program Requirements
- Selection Criteria
 - Proposed Program
 - Performance
 - Organizational Capacity
 - Cost and budget
 - Community Involvement
 - Attachments
- Timeline
- Application Tips
- Technical Assistance for Applicants and eProcurement
- Questions

CITY OF CHICAGO



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR Low-Barrier Shelter RFQ# 9322

ISSUED BY: CITY OF CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

All proposals must be submitted via the eProcurement system.

http://www.cityofchicago.org/eprocurement
Questions concerning the RFP should be directed to:

Shannon Gedo
Project Manager

Department of Family and Support Services
1615 W. Chicago Ave, 3rd Floor West
Chicago, Illinois 60622
312-743-0175
shannon.gedo@cityofchicago.org

Brandon Johnson MAYOR Brandie V. Knazze COMMISSIONER





DFSS Homeless Services Division seeks a shelter operator to open, manage, and staff a new **low barrier shelter for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the Northside of the City** (within City boundaries north of Lake Street and west of State Street).

The contract to operate the new low-barrier shelter will be from **October 1**, **2023**, **through December 31**, **2026**, with an option to extend twice for one-year periods.

The ideal shelter respondent will:

- Provide a safe, accessible place to stay for people experiencing homelessness with 24/7 staffing and operation;
- Be able to implement low barrier policies and practices;
- Implement approaches that reflect the Chicago CoC's core values which include such values as being Housing First and trauma-informed;
- Coordinate directly with designated outreach teams and/or DFSS Homeless Outreach and Prevention (HOP) team for referrals to shelter; and
- Support clients in moving toward stable permanent housing, working with case managers and connected with other support services.





Current State and Priorities for Improvement

- Since 2016, unsheltered homelessness has been increasing nationally. In 2022, the Biden Administration released it's "ALL IN: The Federal Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness" Initiative
 - One major strategy outlined in the plan is to increase the availability of and access to emergency shelters that are low barrier and culturally appropriate.
- This federal **plan and strategy aligns with the City of Chicago's** own system goals and strategies.
 - The Chicago Plan 2.0 has long prioritized increasing permanent housing as the solution to homelessness while maintaining a strong emergency shelter infrastructure to protect households when they do become homeless in the interim.
- COVID-19 Pandemic Impact:
 - There's been a steady increase in the number of households requesting shelter through the City's 311 system- 23% increase in Q1 of 2023 compared with Q1 of 2022 pointing to the demand for shelter rising.
 - During the pandemic, shelter decompression as a public health safety measure put in place to mitigate contagion during the pandemic - leading to lower numbers of households being able to access shelter.
 - Since 2022, DFSS has been working to restore bed capacity to pre-COVID-19 levels, while maintaining safe facilities for households served.





Current State and Priorities for Improvement (continued)

- The City is working to reduce the number of unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness by improving the city's homeless outreach coordination and increasing the number of individuals who are sheltered in the city.
 - In partnership with other City departments and sister agencies, DFSS leads the City's Encampment Response Team and Strategy
 - City-wide outreach coordination and data have helped to explain why some individuals may not be interested in shelter and how to improve the accessibility to and quality of emergency shelters that meet different individuals' needs.
- > DFSS currently has one 40 bed low barrier shelter.
 - Opened in 2018, the Pilsen low barrier shelter is modeled after a low barrier shelter pilot conducted in San Francisco in 2015 which targeted those living in encampments with non-service pets, partners and possessions.
 - High demand for low-barrier shelter- 78% increase in number of residents served in 2022 compared with 2021.
- There's an increased need for low-barrier shelters in the City of Chicago to serve some of the most vulnerable individuals who face high barriers to shelter or housing, especially on the Northside.
 - Expanding low-barrier shelter access would provide more unsheltered individuals an opportunity to seek
 a safe and decent shelter, access support services, and get connected to housing opportunities.



Program Requirements

*Note: While we encourage all potential providers to apply no matter their size or location, we are looking to prioritize applications for projects that will have a **bed capacity of 30 or greater** and **those with potential shelter sites on the North side of the city**, which includes the geographic area north of Lake Street and west of State Street within the City of Chicago boundaries.

	Northside Low Barrier shelter
Program Bed Capacity	At least 30 beds
Target Population(s)	Single adult men, single adult women, and adult couples that meet the definition of experiencing unsheltered, literal homelessness.
Facility	An applicant proposed new facility. *prioritizing projects with potential sites on the Northside.
Additional Details	 Must be appropriately zoned and have the special use permitting needed to open and operate 24/7. Must commit to policies and procedures that meet a low barrier threshold for entrance and shelter. Must reflect the essential elements defined in the Chicago COC Program Model chart.
	• Must meet the elements of low barrier shelter outlined in the RFP as defined by national best practices and the current low-barrier shelter's practices in Pilsen.





Selection Criteria – Community Involvement

- DFSS seeks respondents with:
 - Expertise and/or capabilities to develop culturally competent and inclusive services to serve the target population.
 - The ability to engage, hire, retain and promote people of color and those with lived experience within their organization.
 - Diverse leadership reflective of the community served.
 - Processes in place for collecting and incorporating client feedback into programming.





Selection Criteria – Strength of Proposed Program

- Reminder: respondents should submit one application for each proposed facility.
- Responses must include information regarding:
 - A description of the proposed facility's layout, on-site amenities, and if it has the proper zoning and special use permit designations.
 - Proposed shelter policies and procedures and how they will be low-barrier and appropriate for the target population.
 - The plan for coordination with DFSS HOP team and/or DFSS outreach delegates to accept referrals and how to share information post-referral to provide continuity of client care.
 - Proposed services to be provided on site and through referrals, including supports to move clients towards stability and permanent housing.
 - The evidence base and best practices behind the proposed program.
 - How the program will address conflict and manage crises to maintain a safe environment.





Selection Criteria - Organizational Capacity

DFSS seeks respondents that:

- Demonstrate the ability to maintain a safe shelter environment, demonstrated by staffing qualifications, ratios (1:15 in RFP) and a staffing plan that is appropriate for the facility.
- Demonstrate their ability to scale staffing and assume operations on the proposed timeline.
- Have adequate systems and processes to support monitoring expenditures and fiscal controls.
- Have adequate Human Resources capacity to hire staff for this program in timely manner.





Selection Criteria – Performance Management

DFSS seeks respondents that:

- Have experience collecting, utilizing and leveraging data to inform and make improvements to your program(s) and services.
 - Have experience identifying and addressing inequities in programming or clients served.
- Have relevant and quality systems and processes in place to collect, store, and report on participant and performance data.
- Have experience tracking and reporting program outcomes.
- Have evidence of strong past performance against desired outcome goals. Program model performance indicators may include:
 - Percentage and number of households who exit shelter to permanent or more stable housing
 - Percentage and number of households who maintain or increase income, including employment or benefits
 - Percentage and number of households who are diverted from the shelter system
 - Percentage and number of households with complete CES assessments
 - Average length of stay in shelter
 - Shelter Bed utilization





Selection Criteria – Cost and Budget

DFSS seeks respondents that demonstrate:

- Fiscal capacity to implement the proposed program
- Ability to support the proposed program's total costs with other funds and in-kind contributions
- A reasonable proposed budget and bed rate and a clear rational for budget items





Selection Criteria - Attachments

- Please attach all required documents:
 - Liability insurance
 - Board member identification
 - SAM certificate
 - Certificate of good standing
 - Bylaws and articles of incorporation
 - Financial statement

- City of Chicago compliance acknowledgement
- Conflict of interest
- IRS determination letter

- Please attach your organizations budget for this program.
 - Please make sure all program requirements are addressed including meals and supplies





Selection and Transition Timeline

- Pre-proposal webinar Thursday, August 17, 2023
- Applications due Thursday, September 14, 2023
- > Successful respondents notified by Friday, September 29, 2023
- Program period begins Contract start date is October 1, 2023.
 Assume services start on November 1, 2023.



Deadlines



 Applications are due on September <u>14th</u> at 12pm



Start Early!!

- If you have never done business with the City of Chicago, register into iSupplier/eProcurement ASAP.
- Review RFP narratives and application questions closely. Remember they align with the scope and selection criteria. Use the information in the RFP for guidance in formulating your answers.
- There is a 4,000-character limit which includes punctuation and spaces. Each response is allotted 4,000 characters.
- Do not use the back button on your browser.

Save Often!!





- You can "submit" your application and later amend it up until the due date September 14, 2023, at 12:00 noon.
- Avoid the rush and possible mishaps by submitting early.Plan on submission taking 30-60 minutes.
- Late applications will not be accepted.
- Make use of the eProcurement hotline for help at 312-744-4357 (HELP).
- Please note that the hotline operates during business hours only, Monday-Friday 9-5.

Save often, submit early!



Technical Assistance!

- On the DFSS web page is a link to the RFP of interest and training documents. See "Alerts" Section on our website.
- For Questions on Registration and eProcurement Technical
 Assistance for Delegate Agencies –

CustomerSupport@cityofchicago.org or call 312-744-HELP (4357)

Training Materials (Documents and Videos) – https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dps/isupplier/online-training-materials.html



How to accept an amendment





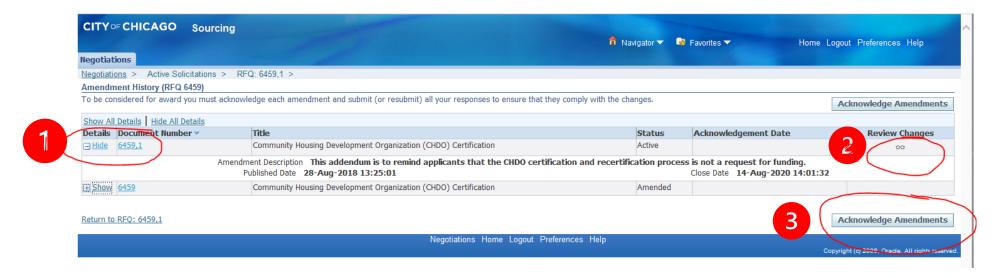
- If the RFP you are interested in has been amended. In order to start an application, you will need to acknowledge and accept the amendment first.
 (Please not that the RFP shown in this and subsequent slides is an example).
 To accept the amendment, click on "View Amendment History".
- If the RFP has not been amended (yet), select "Create Quote" from the drop-down menu in the "Actions" box and click on "Go". This will take you to the application page, where you can get started.







- To begin the acceptance and acknowledgment process, to open the RFP in view only: (1) click on the Document number. (2) To review the amended changes to the RFP, click on the infinity or eyeglass icon. (3) To acknowledge receipt and understanding of these changes and proceed, click on the "Acknowledge Amendments" button.
- > By acknowledging the amendment, you are indicating that you are aware of the changes made to the RFP in the amendment.

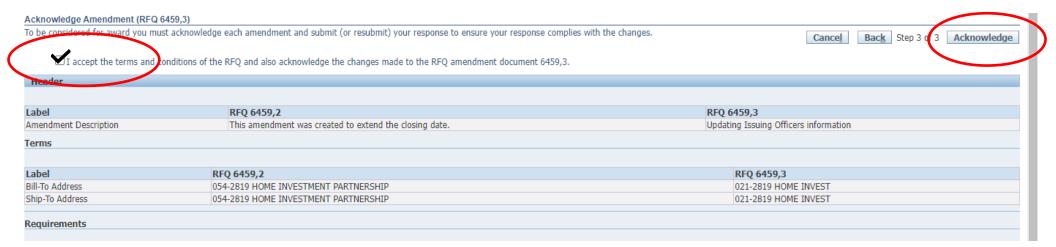




Low Barrier Shelter



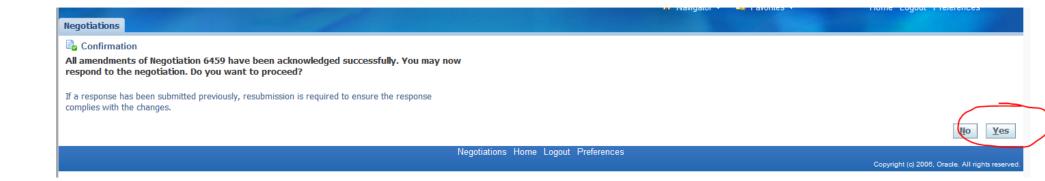
When you get to this screen, click on the "I accept..." check box and then click on "Acknowledge"



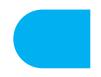




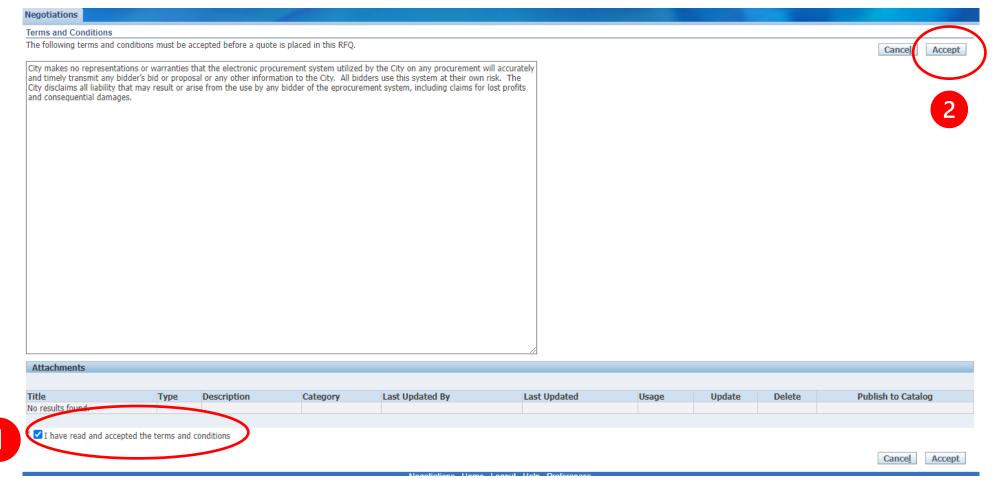
Click on "Yes" to indicate that you confirm your acknowledgement of the amendment.







- Finally, (1) click on the checkbox that you accept the terms and conditions and then (2) click on "Accept" to accept them.
- > This is the final step in acknowledging and accepting the amendment.





Low Barrier Shelter

How to submit an application





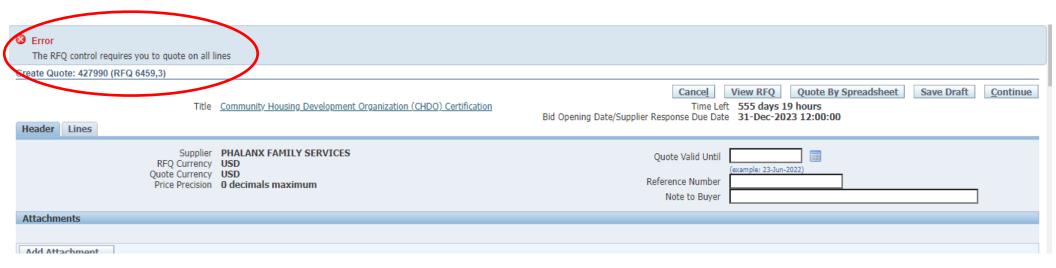
When you are ready to submit, start by saving your draft one last time.
Then click Continue.

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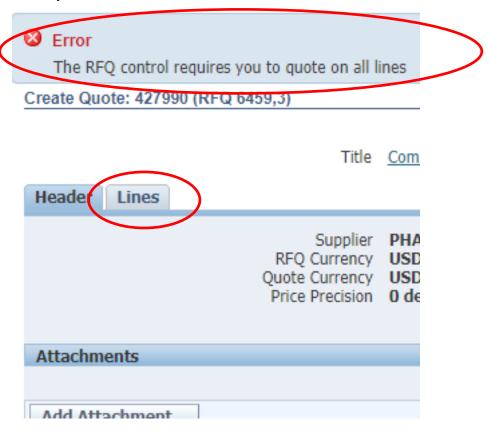
If you are missing information, you will be given an error message on the top of the page.







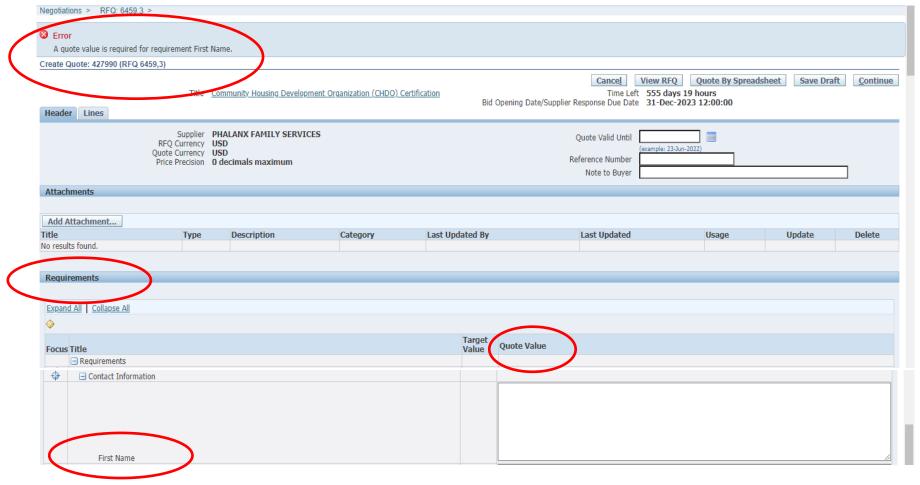
- Usually the error messages direct to something left undone in the application.
- In the last example, the error message indicated that the lines (found under the lines tab) had not been filled out.







In this example, the error is about an unanswered question in the application (or Requirements section). The Quote Value refers to your (in this case, missing) answer.







Once your application is free from errors, you are ready to proceed and submit! At this point, clicking "Continue" should put your application into the "Review and Submit" phase.







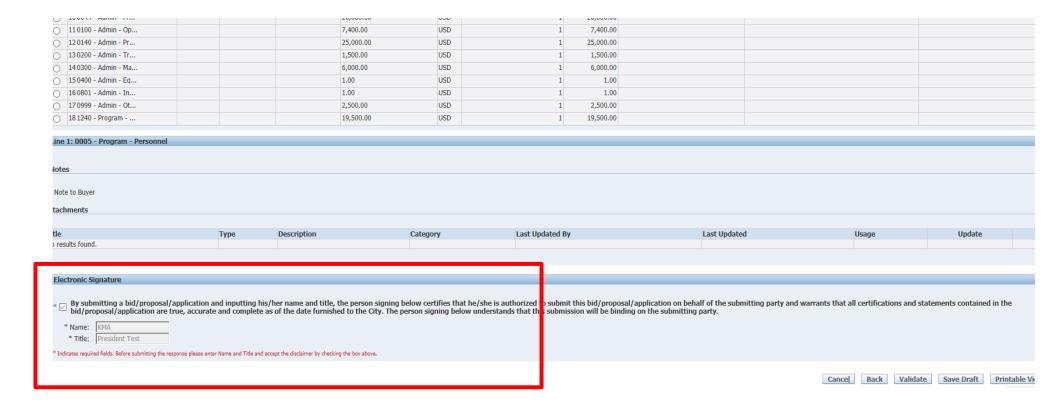
This is your last chance to review all your data and confirm that it is accurate. Check your attachments and scroll to the bottom of the screen to see all your responses.

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Legal Organization Name							Super Leaders Academy Nation
Address							18555 E. 32nd St
City							Chicago
State							IL
Zip							60699
Telephone Number							845-251-XXXX
Federal Employer Identification Number							84-992289
DUNS Number							92-8992-5110
Head of Agency Name							Jane Doe
Head of Agency Title							Executive Director
Head of Agency Contact Telephone							845-251-XXXX
Head of Agency E-mail Contact Chief Finance Officer Name							JaneDoe@superLeadersAcademy.com
Chief Finance Officer Name Chief Finance Officer Title							Terry Doe Jr. Finance Officer
Chief Finance Officer Title Chief Finance Officer Telephone							845-251-XXXX
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At the bottom of the screen you will be asked to provide an electronic signature. Be sure to fill in the signature before checking the box!







Then click "Submit".

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Make sure that you see this submittal confirmation screen. The eProcurement system will send a confirmation email within 24 hours of your submission. Please call or email me if you desire confirmation prior to then.





For program questions
Shannon Gedo
(312)-743-0175
Shannon.Gedo@cityofchicago.org

For non-programmatic questions contact:

eProcurement Hotline at:

312-744-HELP (4357)

Customersupport@cityofchicago.org