



Prepare RI Experiential Learning Online Navigator

Request for Proposals, Julissa Disu- Director of Youth Career Readiness Programs

April 2024



Agenda

Overview

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Proposal Submission Format

**Evaluation & Selection
Process**

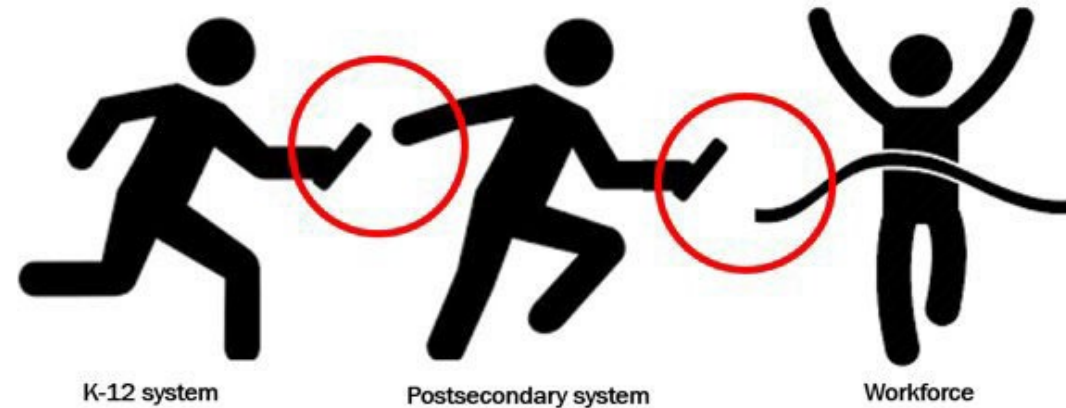


Overview of RFP



Topic 1

The path between the K-12 education system, the postsecondary education, and the workforce is like a relay race. It is frequently hard to hand off the baton between systems, leading to gaps, which is a major obstacle to students' success in college and career.



PrepareRI creates a connected and aligned system for college and career readiness, with supports to reengage opportunity youth that get disconnected from the system.





Statewide Intermediary Role:

Build out,
maintain &
support an online
platform using a
domain provided
by the GWB

Promote the
platform (and the
intermediary's
services) among
groups of
stakeholders

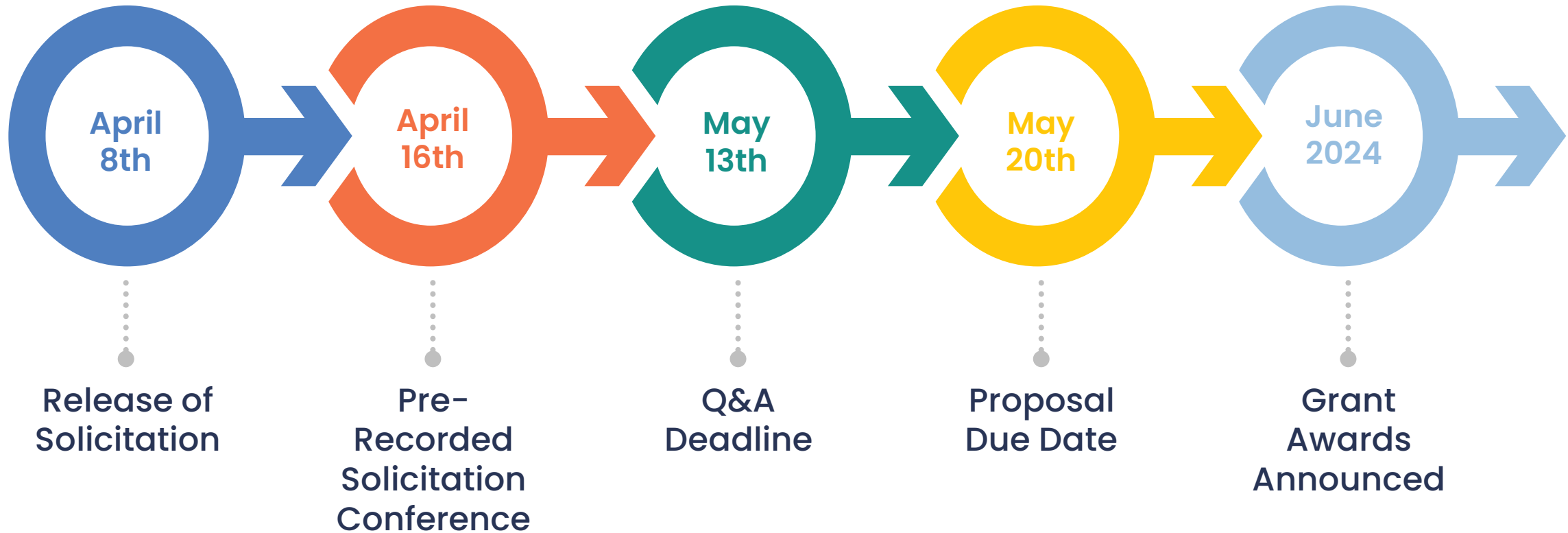
Act as a
concierge/coordinator
for schools & CBO's
that wish to pursue
opportunities offered
by employers &
respond to gen.
questions & inquiries

Regularly check in
with the GWB and
Prepare RI Core
Team to support
statewide career
exploration, WBL
and academic
readiness goals &
initiatives.



Award Information

Solicitation Timeline



Who is Eligible to Apply?

- Strong K-12 school engagement
- Strong employer engagement
- Working knowledge of career exploration, WBL & academic readiness efforts
- Strong administrative & fiscal capacity

What Funding is Available?

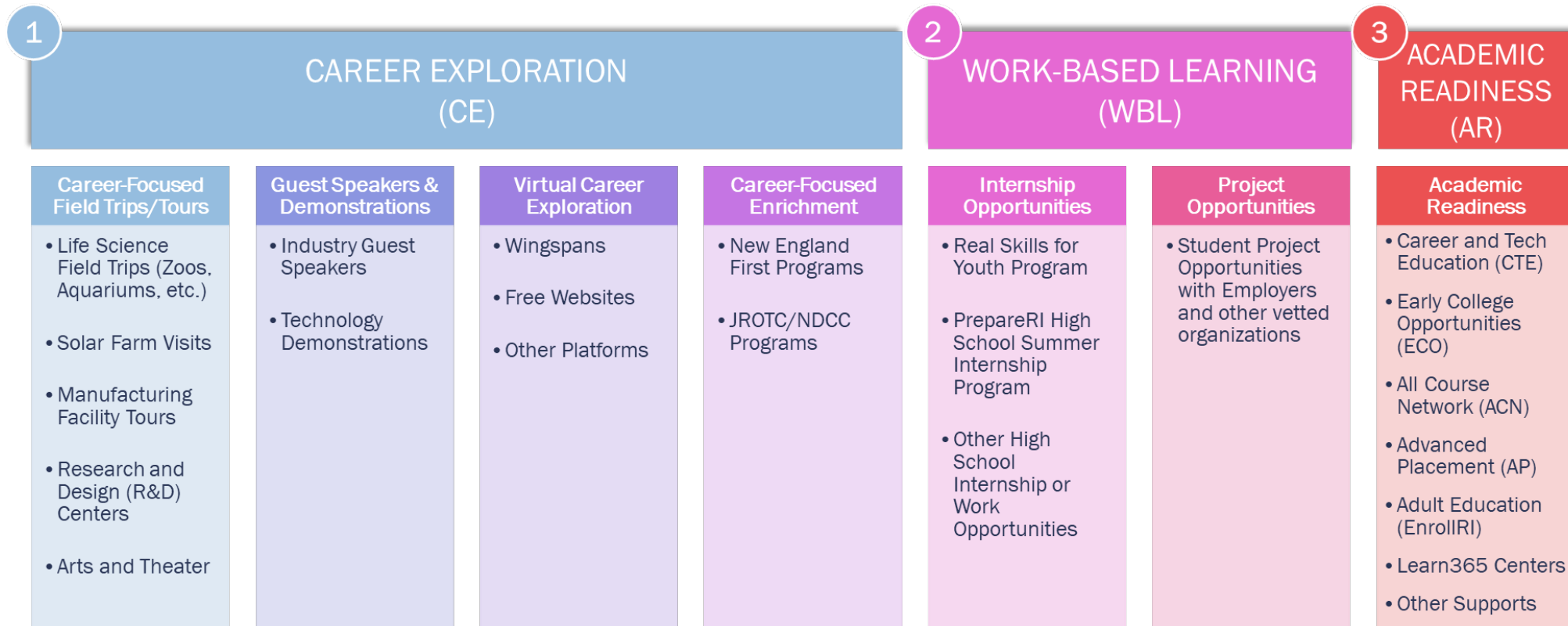
- The total available funding for Year 1 of this effort (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) is \$300,000.
- One (1) awardee will be identified through this competitive solicitation/RFP process.
- The award is subject to the availability of funds and the execution of a contract between the selected recipient and the GWB.



Major Project Elements

Scope of Work

- 1) **K-12 Schools and Youth-Serving Community-Based Organizations (CBOs):** The platform will provide a mechanism for K-12 schools and youth-serving CBOs to identify high-quality career exploration, work-based learning, and academic readiness opportunities for students/youth.
- 2) **Employers and Other Industry Organizations:** The platform and intermediary will provide a vehicle for employers, industry associations, and other organizations to efficiently and equitably connect with K-12 schools and youth-serving CBOs to offer high-quality career exploration and work-based learning opportunities.



Prioritization of Critical Components and Workload



Initiative Priorities	Intermediary's Role	Anticipated Workload
<p>Priority #1: Career Exploration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collect, receive, vet, post, and promote high-quality career exploration opportunities in diverse industries (especially in GWB priority areas). 1) Maintain up-to-date contact information for partner organizations and audit posted opportunities regularly. 1) Act as a concierge/coordinator for schools and CBOs that wish to take advantage of the career exploration opportunities offered <u>by employers</u>. Frequent organizations such as zoos and aquariums may be contacted directly by schools/CBOs. 	<p style="text-align: center;">High</p>
<p>Priority #2: Work-Based Learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collect, receive, vet, post, and promote high-quality work-based learning opportunities in diverse industries (especially in GWB priority areas). 1) Maintain up-to-date contact information for partner organizations and audit posted opportunities regularly. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderate</p>
<p>Priority #3: Academic Readiness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Incorporate and help promote Academic Readiness opportunities associated with PrepareRI and other state initiatives and partners as appropriate. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Low</p>

Performance Milestones (Year 1)

Proposed Timeline	Intermediary's Role
<p>July 1, 2024-December 31, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with educators, CBOs, and employers to determine how to make the online platform and intermediary services as user-friendly as possible. • Build out the online platform with input from the PrepareRI Core Team. • Inventory existing PrepareRI programs with the PrepareRI Core Team to serve as initial content for the online platform. • Begin cultivating career exploration opportunities through outreach to organizations and employers.
<p>January 1, 2025</p>	<p>Online platform goes live and is ready for the online submission of opportunities from employers and other organizations as well as requests/inquiries from schools and CBOs.</p>
<p>January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively promote the platform and the intermediary's services among the following stakeholders with an eye towards equity and high-priority occupational areas with input from the PrepareRI Core Team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12 schools and youth-serving CBOs (targeting educators, counselors, and administrators) • Employers and Industry Associations • Organizations offering high-quality career exploration/work-based learning opportunities.

The goal over time is to have ALL schools and CBOs educated on the existence of this platform

- **K-12 Schools and Youth-Serving Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)**
 - Coordinate with the PrepareRI Core Team to disseminate information on the platform to K-12 schools and youth-serving CBOs.
 - Present to key stakeholder groups such as the Governor's Workforce Board, the Rhode Island Superintendents' Association, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, etc.
 - Directly engage with educators and counselors from a minimum of 2 K-12 schools and 2 youth-serving CBOs every month through either in-person or virtual sessions.
- **Employers and Other Industry Organizations**
 - Engage with a minimum of 2 industry associations or Chambers of Commerce each month to explain and promote the platform.
 - Directly engage with a minimum of 2 employers each month, especially those in high-priority industries to promote the platform and cultivate high-quality opportunities.
 - Work with the PrepareRI Core Team to identify and outreach to other organizations offering high-quality career exploration and work-based learning opportunities.



Proposal Submission Format

Proposal Narrative



Mission Alignment (10 points)



Experience Engaging with Employers (10 points)



Experience Engaging with K-12 Schools/Youth Serving CBO's (10 points)



Experience Collaborating with Government Entities (10 points)



Experience with Platform Development (10 points)



Project Implementation Plan & Timeline (20 points)



Project Staffing Plan (10 points)



Organizational, Administrative & Fiscal Capacity (10 points)

Additional Required Components

Budget & Budget Narrative:

- Brief description of each budget item and what role the item will play in the execution of the grant in your budget narrative (**See Appendix A**)
- Your proposed budget for how you plan on allocating these funds (**See Appendix A**)

Other Documents:

- **Taxation Letter of Good Standing:** The applicant must submit a current Letter of Good Standing from the State Division of Taxation. If this letter is not available in time for proposal submission, the applicant may submit proof of request.
- **Fiscal Agent Assurances Form:** (**See Appendix B**) for the required form. This form is signed by the applicant to affirm that they will comply with all applicable regulations, policies, guidelines, and requirements of the GWB and the State of Rhode Island and have the fiscal capacity to administer the grant.
- **Copy of Applicant W-9 Taxation Form:** (**See Appendix C**) Downloadable online



Evaluation & Selection Process

- GWB staff will perform an initial screening of applications to ensure that submission requirements were met, and all required sections were included. An Evaluation Committee consisting of members of the PrepareRI Core Team (example: RIDE, RIOPC, and GWB) will review and score proposals.
- If necessary, oral presentation of the proposal may be required to clarify content in the proposed plan.
- Final selection of the award recipient will be at the discretion of the GWB Executive Director in consideration of the recommendations made by the Evaluation Committee.

All proposals must be submitted in PDF format, electronically, to Julissa.Disu@dlt.ri.gov by

May 20, 2024 no later than 4:00pm, EST.

The Budget, Budget Narrative, and other attachments must be either contained within the primary PDF or included in the same e-mail as separate attachments if needed.

Please use 'PRI Experiential Learning Online Navigator Proposal' as the Subject of your email.

LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE DENIED.

Questions?

Please contact Julissa Disu
Director of Youth Career
Readiness Programs

Julissa.Disu@dlt.ri.gov

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C: 401-439-5995