

English as a Second Language Training Pilot – FAQ's

1. Is there a scoring rubric? Are you going with the lowest cost or are you considering other factors?

A: The review is based on the responsiveness to the RFP – cost is not the driving factor. The participating manufacturers are also reviewing to provide their recommendation and to match with their interests.

2. Do you have a ballpark on the funding availability? There's a big difference between \$3,000 and \$300,000 in terms of the type of program that could be developed!

A: We hope to fund three pilots with an approximately amount available of \$40,000. If proposals chosen to be funded exceed that amount, we will consider additional funding sources to support the pilot.

3. How are you defining the difference between short-term and long-term trainings?

A: There was not hard and fast definition provided by employers. Generally, a short term is a 2-4 week time frame long term would be 4 -12 weeks or more.

4. Is there a place where FAQs will be stored? Will there be a conference call to discuss the RFP?

A: FAQ's will be posted at <https://www.mascpa.org/education-training/next-gen-partnership/>.

5. Who is delivering the trainings both during the pilot and afterwards; the provider or the manufacturer?

A: The provider will deliver the trainings during the pilot. We would consider “train the trainer” models so that employers could deliver in the future, but that is not required; the provider may deliver the training after the pilot as well.

6. The RFP states, “Describe the process by which the provider of the ESL Programs will customize the company's workplace environment, job description, tasks, responsibilities, and safety standards.” Could you explain what is meant by customizing these items? Are you referring to making these items accessible to language learners?

A: To clarify, each company is a unique work environment and for this pilot the employers noted that they would need “customized” programs. This question refers to how the provider will work with the company to understand the company's needs in the workplace. The process in working with the employer to understand and meet their requirements in those listed items.

7. The RFP says, “The pilot training program must be completed by June 1st, 2020.” Do both the curriculum and training need to be completed by June 1st, or does just the curriculum need to be completed by then?

A: This grant ends on June 30th, 2020. An extension could be considered for this grant or other scenarios to extend the date of the providers program. Proposals will not be disqualified solely based on the program date exceeding the completion date.