

State of Iowa Juvenile Court Services



June 20, 2025

Responses to Questions received regarding Reentry Aftercare Services RFP JUV-26-TS-05-001

1. 4.3 A (Page 21) Would the agency agree that there may be instances where a referral cannot be accepted due to safety concerns or capacity limitations, and that such situations would be addressed collaboratively on a case-by-case basis between the agency and the contractor?

Answer: JCS would consider collaborating with the Successful Respondent on a case-by-case basis for both safety concerns and capacity limitations. Regarding safety concerns, JCS would expect the assigned JCO and the provider to explore additional safety measures that could be put into place to keep everyone safe while at the same time ensuring quality services. In reference to capacity limitations, JCS would work with the Successful Respondent to ensure priority cases are receiving services before determining if a referral wait list is needed.

2. 4.3 C d. (Page 23) Would the agency agree that the contractor provide either the book version or electronic link to the youth but remove the requirement of reviewing materials weekly?

Answer: Yes, JCS is open to negotiating removal of the requirement of reviewing TIPS materials weekly with the Successful Respondent if there is a plan for the provider to meet with the youth weekly and provide an identified service.

3. 4.3 C e. ii. (page 23) Will the contractor be invited to the discharge YCPM or have access to the ACT plan once it is developed by the YCPM service provider?

Answer: Yes, the expectation of the YCPM service provider is to provide the treatment team with a copy of the ACT plan within 7 business days of the meeting. The Successful Respondent would be considered a part of the treatment team.

4. 4.3 C g. (page 23) Would the agency be amendable to changing the language to state the below as it would not be the contractor's responsibility to complete Casey Life Skills but rather the QRTPs?

Answer: Yes, JCS is willing to negotiate with the Successful Respondent to amend the language to state the Successful Respondent will work with the assigned JCO to ensure they receive a copy of the Casey Life Skills results.

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5. 4.3 D d. (page 24) Would the agency permit the contractor to implement their own evidence-based program (e.g., On the Way Home) and its recommended dosage for this contract, with the understanding that the JCO and provider will work together to adjust the dosage as necessary while maintaining fidelity to program standards and EPICs?

Answer: JCS is open to the bidder(s) submitting proposals identifying their own evidence-based program that will meet the identified expectations of the RFP. JCS expects the assigned JCO and the Successful Respondent to review the progress frequently therefore, it is assumed as youth increase progress that doses will be adjusted. However, JCS expects that the delivery service of the model to be followed to fidelity.

6. 4.3 D I. (page 25) Would the agency accept the providers survey process, that includes surveying youth, families and JCO during the staff's certification on the model? If no, will the agency accept aggregated information from the surveys to protect the client and employees privacy?

Answer: Yes, but conditionally. JCS would like to review the survey results to assist the Successful Respondent in determining any trends, successes, and areas of need. JCS would not expect for names of youth and staff to be shared. JCS would like to approve the survey questions and the format in which the survey results are shared.

7. 4.3 E. b. (page 25) Would the agency consider utilizing multiple forms of communication—such as emails, texts, Microsoft Teams Chat, and phone calls—for updates to JCO instead of relying solely on verbal updates?

Answer: Yes, JCS would approve of communication through email, Microsoft team chats, and phone calls. Text messages would not be appropriate for providing updates on a youth's progress. Any other lines of communication would need to be approved through JCS and documented within the awarded contract.

8. How many full-time staff did recent contractor have to cover this contract? How many full-time staff would Juvenile court foresee a contractor to need?

Answer: The current provider has one supervisor and three direct care staff. JCS would rely on the Successful Respondent to determine the appropriate staffing patterns based on the requirements of the evidence-based model they utilize while meeting the needs of referred youth.

9. How many transmittal letters has Iowa Judicial Branch receive for this RFP?

Answer: Three letters of Intent to Bid have been received.

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10. Is anyone currently providing this service in the Fifth Judicial District?
- If yes, what model/curricula is the current contractor using to deliver this service?

Answer: Yes, Boys Town is the current provider. The model that is being utilized is On The Way Home. The service is provided for the entire Fifth Judicial District.

11. The RFP includes that Reentry Aftercare Services are evidence-based. Is there a specific model/curriculum that must be utilized to provide services?

Answer: There is not a specific model/curriculum that must be utilized. However, the model must have achieved a 'promising scientific rating' or greater on the California Clearing House for evidence-based practices. The provider must document in their proposal which evidenced-based curriculum they propose to utilize to provide reentry aftercare services.

12. Is it required that all referred youth be provided services at the time of referral or is a waitlist allowed?

Answer: Please see question 1 above.

13. Is there a maximum caseload size per Reentry Aftercare direct care staff?

Answer: Please see question 8 above.

14. Are there any educational requirements for Reentry Aftercare direct care staff?

Answer: The Successful Respondent will be required to follow the educational requirements of the approved evidence-based model/curriculum.

15. The RFP includes that respondents must *Make contact with the Reentry Aftercare youth and their family/caregivers within 10 days of the referral from JCS*. Would a virtual or phone meeting satisfy this requirement or must the contact be made in-person?

Answer: The Successful Respondent will need to make initial contact via phone with the Reentry Aftercare youth and their family/caregivers within 10 business days of the referral from JCS. The intent of JCS, however, is that youth and families have a face-to-face meeting with the Successful Respondent within 30 days of referral or the first home visit, whichever comes first.

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16. Will proposed Reentry Aftercare Services be offered to youth who are transitioning from QRTP to SAL or only those youth transitioning home?
- If this does apply for youth who are transitioning to SAL, and a respondent currently provides SAL services, can that SAL Caseworker provide Reentry Aftercare Services, or only those proposed staff that are listed within the bid proposal?

Answer: JCS is open to bidders submitting proposals that can serve youth transitioning out of QRTP, without limiting service to youth transitioning home.

If the Successful Respondent has an evidence-based model/curriculum that would also serve youth transitioning to SAL or another planned living arrangement, JCS is open to a SAL caseworker providing the Reentry Aftercare Services. However, it is expected that the Successful Respondent's staff providing the service be trained in the evidence-based model.

17. Will respondents be expected to serve youth in locations outside of the Fifth Judicial District? (i.e. the youth is placed in a QRTP, the State Training School or another JCS court ordered residential setting outside of the Fifth Judicial District prior to returning home and must receive Reentry Aftercare Services in that location prior to discharge)?

Answer: Yes, JCS expects the Successful Respondent to meet with the youth in their out-of-home placement prior to discharge. Per Technical Specification D.d. of the RFP, the Successful Respondent will conduct "a minimum of two weekly face-to-face visits". Please also see response to question #2 above.