

RFP - Related Technical Instruction: Question(s) and Answer(s)

Question #1-3:

Received: December 14, 2022

Responded: December 19, 2022

Question #1:

- Which Cloud vendors are we targeting with the training? We are vendors with AWS, Microsoft, Google Cloud and others and all of their curriculum and pricing varies even for the same exact job titles. We can also do multi-cloud or vendor agnostic training if needed, but we would need this before putting together a sample schedule.

Response #1

- We are specifically looking for AWS Cloud technology training.

Question #2:

- Would it be possible to also get some more information about the specific job roles that were mentioned in the RFP? Were there any other job roles that weren't mentioned that would be needed as well (Data Engineer for example)?

Response #2

- Please review the attached standards - [Cloud Operations Specialist 1](#), [Cloud Operations Specialist 2](#), [Cybersecurity Analyst](#), and [Software Developer](#).

Question #3:

- Are all of the programs to last exactly 10 weeks or is there room to expand or contract the program based on the role/vendor?

Response #3

- The 10-week reference was simply an example to provide total hours of the training program. Refer to the attached occupational standards for minimum required Related Technical Instruction hours.

Question #4-5:

Received: December 14, 2022

Responded: December 19, 2022

Question #4:

- Should we submit two RFPs for each discipline we'd like to be considered for? In this case, Cybersecurity and Software Development.

Response #4:

- Yes, you may submit two RFPs; one for each occupational role.

Question #5:

- Can you clarify the resumes required for instructors? Since instructor assignment would be based on delivery schedules, would sample resumes suffice?

Response #5:

- A sampling of resumes from your instructor pool will suffice.

Question #6-9:

Received: December 30, 2022

Responded: January 3, 2023

Question #6:

- What is the typical educational background for most participants? High school graduates? College graduates? Other?

Response #6:

- To be eligible for the Apprenti program, individuals need to be at least 18 years old, eligible to work in the US, and have a high school education. Applicants are not required to have a degree to apply. Apprenti typically does not become aware of this information until after candidates have been selected by an employer.

Question #7:

- Do your employer partners expect people in the COS track to have any specific certifications following the 10 week RTI?

Response #7:

- As indicated in the occupational standards, the required certifications are CompTIA Network+ by the end of RTI, CompTIA Linux+ at the 6 month point during OJT, and a cloud platform specific certification by OJT graduation. However, some hiring partners might not require the certifications and agree to provide comparable training to fulfill the competency requirements. We expect training providers to include content required for an apprentice to sit and successfully pass those exams in the course curriculum.

Question #8:

- Is it more important for students to pass a certification test or to acquire job skills?

Response #8:

- One is not more important than the other. The certifications serve as a way for apprentices to display their proficiency in the knowledge gained during RTI to their employer. The knowledge acquired during the RTI phase of the apprenticeship is a base set of skills that can be applied during OJT where the majority of hiring partner specific job skills will be acquired.

Question #9:

- Could you tell us more about the student selection process (for the purpose of building the curriculum)?

Response #9:

- Applicants register and complete Apprenti's competency assessment. Applicants who pass the assessment are moved into the eligibility pool. When apprenticeship opportunities with a participating hiring partner are available, applicants will be invited to interview with Apprenti staff. Applicants who interview with Apprenti become candidates, and, if selected, move on to employer interviews. Acceptance into the Apprenti program is contingent on being interviewed, selected, and hired by the hiring company.

Question #10-13:

Received: January 3, 2023

Responded: January 5, 2023

Question #10:

- Is recruiting state specific or National?

Response #10:

- Apprenti operates nationwide. Specific recruiting efforts are determined by the location of on-the-job (OJT) training.

Question #11:

- Competency Schedule - Are certifications a requirement of the provider or the apprentice?

Response #11:

- As indicated in the occupational standards, the required certifications are listed in the competency schedule. These are a requirement of Apprenti's registered apprenticeship with the Department of Labor.

Question #12:

- Schedule request clarification - that is for our program correct?

Response #12:

- Yes, please include a sample schedule of your program. Please separate into (1) instructor-led lecture and discussion (2) supervised lab time, and (3) unsupervised "open" lab or homework time expectations.

Question #13:

- Evaluation Criteria - clarification on delivery

Response #13:

- The RFP proposal will evaluate the Administration / Delivery (weight 20%). Please describe your delivery methods - the kinds of instructor and student activities contained in your curriculum.

Question #14-15:

Received: January 4, 2023

Responded: January 5, 2023

Question #14:

- Using the Software Developer outline as an example (but question is for all occupations), there is a minimum of 728 hours of related instruction. Do your employment partners have the expectation that this will be all instructor led? We deliver both fully immersive and blended programs and as you would expect there is a significant difference in the level of investment required for each program.

Response #14

- Apprenti requires related technical instruction to be instructor led.

Question #15:

- Sticking with software development as an example, there is a competency checklist and Appendix A-2 (Related Instruction Outline). While using the competency checklist as the guideline for accomplishing tasks, how do you wish us to leverage (appendix A-2) the outline provided? There is a significant list of topics that are addressed and the pace of a learn to code academy is typically designed to maximize content retention and proficiency. For example our team can deliver a program, build labs while following the outline exactly as shown. Or we can use a full-stack program design that is based off of the competency checklists leveraging tools and concepts that accelerate proficiency. Is the related instruction outline a "checklist" of things that need to be addressed in RTI per program guidelines with the DOL? Any additional clarity on how you would expect the outlines provided to be leveraged would be greatly appreciated.

Response #15

- The competency checklist is a guideline utilized during the on the job training phase of apprenticeship. We expect the related technical instruction to provide baseline knowledge for the apprentices to build on and meet the competencies during on the job training.
- The related technical instruction outline is an example of the minimum training requirements needed for the occupation.

Question #16:

Received: January 5, 2023

Responded: January 5, 2023

Question #16:

- EDA (Economic Development Assistance) - since that is a Federal regulation that is something our legal would review to determine correct?

Response #16:

- What and whether you send something to your legal team is your organization's decision.

Question #17-18:

Received: January 6, 2023

Responded: January 9, 2023

Question #17:

- Is your RFP looking for proposals for a Full-Time Program only or would you suggest we include both our Full-Time and Part-Time capabilities for software development?

Response #17:

- Apprenti is seeking proposals for full-time programs.

Question #18:

- What is Apprenti looking for regarding a copy of the current business license? Are you looking for documentation on which states we are registered to do business in or our Tax ID (or something else)?

Response #18:

- Apprenti is requesting documentation that shows you [Training Provider] are legally registered to conduct business.