



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2876, **Agenda Item #:** 89.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Skillpoint Alliance to provide workforce development services, for a term of one year in an amount not to exceed \$287,833.

(Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this procurement, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Economic Development Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Operating Budget of the Economic Development Department.

Purchasing Language:

Professional Service.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov <<mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov>> or to Marian Moore, at 512-974-2062 or Marian.Moore@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Marian.Moore@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract with Skillpoint Alliance is for job training and education programs for underserved populations. The mission of Skillpoint Alliance is to facilitate and sustain industry-led workforce development solutions, while addressing the need to develop local talent and provide educational opportunities leading to college and career success for our citizens. Skillpoint Alliance programs play a major role in driving the Central Texas economy by offering opportunities for the underserved population to fill much-needed jobs, preparing the workforce for today's technology-focused world and using project-based learning to ensure the high-tech workforce exists for the growing technology sector. Its high-impact programs represent an investment in Central Texas' greatest resource: its human capital.

Gateway is a rapid job training and education program administered by Skillpoint Alliance, preparing participants for entry-level employment in as little as four to twelve weeks. Gateway courses involve a mix of hand-on and lecture-style instruction that directly translates to the tasks and skills graduates will be asked to perform on a daily basis when they are hired. Students will spend forty hours per week in class, with the same punctuality and etiquette expectations of a job. Participants will also learn soft skills like preparing a resume, acing a job interview, communicating professionally with colleagues, planning for their career, and working in a team. With leadership from industry partners, every course includes training that is directly connected to what Central Texas employers are seeking in their employees. Each training provides entry to a career that will lead to upward mobility and increased wages.

The current contract for these services with Skillpoint Alliance expires September 30, 2021.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.