



Request for Proposal
AccelerateMS Contract for Technical Assistance with Return on Investment

Background

The Office of Workforce Development, known commonly as Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS), requests proposals from qualified strategic data and planning firms or contractors (vendors) to provide technical assistance in conducting a comprehensive analysis of Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Workforce Return on Investment (ROI) in Mississippi. Additionally, we require support in visually presenting the data gathered to facilitate informed decision-making and policy formulation. This RFP outlines the scope of work, requirements, timeline, and submission guidelines for interested parties. AccelerateMS will provide the needed state-level data.

Scope: The selected third-party entity will be responsible for the following tasks:

- a. Conducting a thorough analysis of the ROI of Career and Technical Education and Workforce programs in Mississippi in K-12 and community colleges, focusing on their alignment with the needs of local businesses and industries.
- b. Identifying key performance indicators (KPIs), definitions, and data points necessary for evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of listed programs.
- c. Collaborating with AccelerateMS to define clear and actionable research questions and objectives.
- d. Collecting, synthesizing, and analyzing relevant data from multiple sources, including but not limited to, State Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS), employment statistics, wage data, industry demand projections, and credentials of value.
- e. Developing visual representations (e.g., charts, graphs, infographics, maps, dashboards) of the findings to enhance understanding and facilitate decision-making by stakeholders.
- f. Presenting the analysis and visualizations to AccelerateMS and relevant stakeholders in a clear, concise, and compelling manner.
- g. Providing recommendations for programs offering adjustments at the K-12 and Community College level that best meet the needs of the Mississippi industry.

Deliverables: The deliverables for this project include:

- a. A comprehensive report detailing the analysis of CTE and Workforce ROI, including findings, methodologies, and recommendations.
- b. Visual representations of the data analysis, designed to effectively communicate key insights and trends.



- c. A presentation summarizing the findings and recommendations for dissemination to stakeholders.
- d. Any additional materials or documentation deemed necessary for understanding and utilizing the findings.
- e. Initial report due to AccelerateMS no later than December 15, 2024.

AMOUNT: It is anticipated that the annual amount of the contract shall not exceed \$80,000 unless agreed and approved in writing by the Executive Director of AccelerateMS and the Office of the Attorney General.

TIMELINE: The timeline of this contract will be from the date of signature by all parties until June 30, 2025.

RESPONSE: Please provide a detailed summary of staff expertise related to the items described above, proposed work to be completed, and proposed budget for the scope of work. **Responses must be emailed to info@acceleratems.org on later than 12:00 noon CT on Friday, August 19, 2024.**