

Climate Survey Support Questions - As of May 3, 2019

Note: No additional questions were posed during the Bidder's Call on 5/8/2019

1. Are you able to offer a budget range you are working with?
The RFP seeks to provide the best climate survey tool, report, and support to the campuses in Ohio. The total award amount is subject to the final state biennial operating budget of the 133rd General Assembly.
2. How can we access the bidder's call? Is there a conference line?
This information has been provided at www.ohiohighered.org/ccr/resources under the webinars section as well as on the DAS Procurement page.
3. Our company is in Indiana. Can we participate in this contract as a foreign corporation?
Executive Order 2019-12D prohibits the use of public funds for services provided outside the United States, including by subcontractors.
4. Does our Indiana-based company have to be registered with the Ohio Secretary of State's office in order to enter into the contract for this project?
Any vendor doing business with a state agency is required to have a vendor identification number through the Ohio State Supplier system (www.supplier.obm.ohio.gov).
5. What is the anticipated budget for this project?
The RFP seeks to provide the best climate survey tool, report, and support to the campuses in Ohio. The total award amount is subject to the final state biennial operating budget of the 133rd General Assembly.
6. For data analysis, can we use Tableau instead of SPSS?
The RFP states that selected vendor(s) must have access and knowledge of SPSS and/or Survey Monkey Pro or other appropriate survey tool or methodology. It also states that the vendor(s) must be able to port information from campuses' own data collection systems into a statistical analysis system (i.e. SPSS system) and analyze campus climate data using a statistical analysis system (i.e. SPSS) and provide a report.
7. ODHE has used "benchmark questions" since the start of the CCC, this request is for assistance with that data, correct? That is, there is not a call to update the questions and this is not to support data analysis of additional data that schools may be collecting along with the benchmark questions?
This RFP seeks to provide the best climate survey tool, report, and support to the campuses in Ohio to successfully evaluate their campus climate with regards to sexual and intimate partner violence. The ODHE benchmark questions must be included with the other climate survey questions. ODHE will provide the benchmark questions to the vendor(s).

8. Is this request for another round of data collection for campus climate survey or using existing climate survey data?

The RFP lists a deliverable to assist up to 87 campuses in disseminating their climate surveys and providing data analysis of the results.

9. Once the climate surveys are conducted, to provide support for using the data for development of action plans?

The RFP includes a deliverable for assisting up to 87 campuses in developing actions plans based on the data analyzed.

10. Is the vendor expected to assist with implementation and evaluation of the action plans, or is the vendor expected to assist only with action plan development?

The RFP includes a deliverable for assisting up to 87 campuses in developing actions plans based on the data analyzed.

11. Is there a perceived conflict of interest for an Ohio IHE to provide the survey and action plan support services as outlined in the RFP?

Conflicts of interest must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with Counsel.

If so, is this an insurmountable obstacle precluding an IHE from being awarded the contract?

ODHE General Counsel does not foresee any conflicts of interest per se. Further discussions will be needed if the individual IHE is evaluating their own work.

12. Is ODHE seeking expertise from a practitioner of sexual assault prevention and response or is ODHE seeking a researcher with expertise in sexual assault/intimate partner violence?

The RFP states it is preferred that vendor(s) demonstrate practical subject matter expertise with regards to issues of sexual and intimate partner violence in a college/university environment.

13. Page 10, #7 – List the types of services the vendor(s) offer for sexual and intimate partner violence support services. Please define “support services”.

ODHE is seeking to understand how the vendor demonstrates, or has demonstrated, the practical subject matter expertise requested in the RFP.

14. Page 2, last paragraph... The Chancellor’s actions and this RFP are in anticipation of the state biennial operating budget of the 133rd General Assembly. Does this mean that this scope of work is not yet approved for funding?

Yes.

Is pending?

The state biennial operating budget is currently being worked on by the 133rd General Assembly.

15. Can your office work with the same vendor in consecutive years, such as One Student? Yes.

Is there a penalty on our application? No.

16. Is there an annual budget or a budget for the project?

The total award amount is subject to the final state biennial operating budget of the 133rd General Assembly.

Will any of these numbers be made public?

The final state biennial operating budget is a public record.

17. Page 11 as for “Number of plans supported and average size of plans supported”. Does “plans” refer to action plans of IHEs?

Plans refers to other similar type projects.

18. The RFP indicates the vendor should have access and knowledge of SPSS and/or SurveyMonkeyPro or other appropriate survey tools or methodology. Is there a preference for SurveyMonkeyPro or is ODHE open to the tools proposed by the vendor as the best ones to use in service of your goals?

In addition to the RFP section mentioned in the question, the RFP also states the vendor(s) must be able to port information from campuses’ own data collection systems into a statistical analysis system (i.e. SPSS system) and analyze campus climate data using a statistical analysis system (i.e. SPSS) and provide a report. The vendor(s) choice of tool must not impede the collection of climate survey data for Ohio campuses. It should also not come with an additional cost to the campus.

19. Will the selected vendor have the ability to access student enrollment data, specifically information like student emails for survey and data collection purposes?

ODHE will only pay for the services provided to each campus. The vendor(s) will need to work directly with each campus, and their General Counsel where appropriate, to determine what the vendor(s) will, or will not have access to during the project.

20. Please list any and all stakeholders, beyond students, the ODHE envisions being important from a data collection perspective.

Recommendation #1 of the Changing Campus Culture report calls for campuses to “use data to guide action” as related to efforts to better respond to and prevent sexual violence. To that end, it will be up to each individual campus to work with the vendor to determine the appropriate stakeholders to support these efforts.

21. Will it be possible to obtain permission to text/contact students or anyone else we need to reach on their mobile phones? We know there are laws around expressed consent for mobile phone communication and want to better understand the role ODHE envisions text may play and related permissions needed for using that as a data collection method.

ODHE will only pay for the services provided to each campus. The vendor(s) will need to work directly with each campus, and their General Counsel where appropriate, to determine what the vendor(s) will, or will not have access to during the project.

22. We understand the funding set aside from the state is \$2 MN to cover a variety of services and needs related to this important initiative. Is there a target allocation for the services being sought in this RFP?

The initiative was originally funded with \$2 million, but is not currently funded at that level. The RFP seeks to provide the best climate survey tool, report, and support to the campuses in Ohio. The total award amount is subject to the final state biennial operating budget of the 133rd General Assembly.

23. Related, has a portion of the \$2MN funding already been spent on other needs related to the initiative?

No money has been spent on other needs as the 133rd General Assembly has not finalized the state biennial operating budget.

24. Please describe how much weight you will place on a vendor's experience, or potential lack of direct experience, in past work focused on the topic of campus sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and related support services as you evaluate proposals.

A lot. Demonstrating practical subject matter expertise with regards to sexual and intimate partner violence in a college/university environment is a critical competency in order to help campuses translate the data results into action steps to support the remaining recommendations in the Changing Campus Culture report.

25. Would a vendor's lack of direct experience working on the issue of campus sexual assault, intimate partner violence and related support services be disqualifying in your evaluation of proposals?

Potentially. The proposed budget language directs the Chancellor to develop model best practices for preventing and responding to sexual violence on campus. ODHE considers it a best practice for the vendor to demonstrate practical subject matter experience with regards to sexual and intimate partner violence in a college/university environment in order to help campuses translate the data into action.

26. In Exhibit II, Section A, Question 7, you request the types of services the vendor offers for sexual and intimate partner violence support services. Is the expectation to work with a partner who offers these kinds of services directly?

The RFP states it is preferred that vendor(s) demonstrate practical subject matter expertise with regards to issues of sexual and intimate partner violence in a college/university environment.

27. In Exhibit II, Section B, Question 2, you ask about "number of plans and size of plans supported" – by plans do you mean clients? If not, can you please clarify what is meant by plans in this section?

Plans refers to other similar type projects.

28. Is ODHE working with an incumbent partner on this initiative and in regard to the service being sought in the RFP?

No proposals have been received to date. ODHE has worked with two different vendors in the past to offer these same services to campuses.

29. Page 4 of the RFP states that, "Services must be completed by December 31, 2021" – should this state December 31, 2020?

December 31, 2020 is correct, not December 31, 2021. The change has been made to the RFP posted on both the ODHE and DAS websites.

30. Is it sufficient to list a per campus cost for vendor services? Or is a deliverable breakdown required?

A deliverable breakdown is preferred.