*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Jeff Wulfson*Acting Commissioner* |  |
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Adult and Community Learning Services

January 22, 2018

Dear Applicant:

I am pleased to release the FY2019-FY2022 Open and Competitive Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the Adult Education (AE) Professional Development (PD) System.

This RFP contains revisions to the current PD system that create alignment with new Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS) policies and priorities, and position the PD system to better support AE programs. The revised PD system is more streamlined, consisting of five grant-funded PD centers and coordinated by the ACLS PD Specialist. The funding for the PD system is more concentrated on priority PD areas such as:

* strengthening curriculum and instruction at ESE-funded AE programs in alignment with the *College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education* and the *Massachusetts Professional Standards for Teachers of Adult Education*, and with a dual emphasis on instructional practices with immediate application to classroom practice, and increased academic rigor for all students;
* supporting instructional leadership in the context of mathematics and adult numeracy, English language arts, and English for speakers of other languages curriculum and instruction;
* addressing the needs of adult learners with learning disabilities and difficulties;
* conducting ongoing formative assessment, as well as summative and diagnostic assessment, and using assessment results to inform and differentiate instruction;
* supporting and strengthening AE programs in the areas of program management and educational leadership; career pathways, including IET and IELCE program design and implementation; and digital literacy; and
* finding new ways to engage practitioners in high quality PD that promise the greatest positive impact on educator practice and ultimately, student success.

This RFP presents opportunities for PD innovation, new collaborations, and increased support for AE practitioners. I invite you to take advantage of these opportunities.

Sincerely,

Jolanta Conway

Adult Education State Director