*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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June 2019

Dear Adult Education Provider:

I am pleased to issue the Department’s FY 2020 Adult Education Request for Proposals (RFP). This funding opportunity is available to both currently funded eligible adult education (AE) programs which can apply under Option 1, 2, or 3 and for adult education providers not funded by DESE which can apply under Option 3. This is an opportunity to expand adult education services and reduce the current waitlist for services. This funding will be available for services starting in the fall 2019.

Priority will be given to applicants that demonstrate innovation in their program design and service delivery; collaboration with local WIOA “shared customer” partners; past effectiveness *(meeting and/or exceeding MSG targets for currently funded adult education programs)*; an active waitlist for services they are applying for; serving hard to serve populations such as out-of-school youth and/or homeless; organizations providing services to high percentages of parents of infants, toddlers and preschool and school-age children; capabilities to support or refer individuals to supporting state or federal resources such as SNAP+ or service need of child care benefits program; and integration of digital learning delivery models. In addition for adult education in correctional institutions the priority will be given to programs that demonstrate serving individuals who are likely to leave the correctional institution within five (5) years of participation in the program.

Funding levels are detailed in the RFP and subject to performance and contingent upon state appropriation. Questions related to this RFP will be addressed at the bidders’ conference or can be sent to ABERFP@doe.mass.edu. All questions and answers will be posted to the [Adult and Community Services webpage](http://www.doe.mass.edu/acls/rfp/).

Sincerely,

Wyvonne Stevens-Carter

Adult Education State Director