

DEED Office of Adult Career Pathways – SFY 26/27 Southeast Asian Economic Disparities RFP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. **I'd like to attend both July 16th webinars for the Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief and Women's Economic Security Act RFPs, but I can't find the meeting times or where to register for them. The links in the RFPs go directly to the Webex meetings. Could you direct me to the registration pages?**
 - a. Please note that pre-registration is not required for Request for Proposal (RFP) webinars. Webinar dates and times are listed in the "Questions" section near the end of each RFP. To attend, simply use the provided webinar link at the scheduled date and time.
2. **(Our Agency) is very excited to see the new SEA RFPs available. I wanted to reach out to ensure that (Our Agency's) current contract extension would not conflict with the timeline of this new RFP. Since (we) requested the extension for our current SEA grant through December of 2025, and the timeline listed on the RFP states that Award notifications would be finalized by October 8th, 2025, and grant start dates would be the date all parties have signed the contract, there could be a possibility for a slight overlap in these two contracts. While we have historically experienced a delay in that grant start date as the contract finalization process can often take more time, we wanted to reach out to see if there is anything we should be considering for our RFP and to ensure a smooth transition between the two contracts.**
 - a. Our anticipated award notification date for SFY26-27 Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief competitive grant is October 8, 2025 (as indicated on page 3 of the [RFP](#)). An agency that has a current SFY 24-25 Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief grant/contract may apply for a SFY 26-27 Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief grant. Agencies will want to consider performance measures for each grant separately. Any money left from an SFY 24 – 25 Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief grant will be forfeited and may not be rolled into a SFY26-27 grant program.
3. **We are preparing an application for the Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief Competitive Grant under our organization, (name of organization). We are a Minnesota-based entity offering online tutoring and career development services through our digital platform, (agencies on-line platform address.) In addition to our virtual services, we operate from a physical address located at the home of one of our founders in Minnesota. We would like to confirm whether this setup meets the grant requirement for "a physical location open to the public at designated times in the State of Minnesota." If needed, we are willing to designate specific office hours for public access and ensure compliance with all applicable accessibility and zoning standards. Could you kindly confirm whether this arrangement would meet the physical location requirement, or if any additional measures are needed to ensure eligibility?**
 - a. Page 5 of the [RFP](#) states "All applicants must have a physical location open to the public at designated times, in the State of Minnesota. These requirements must be met at the time of application and throughout the term of the grant".

4. **We are working on our application for the SE Asian Economic Disparities Relief Competitive grant, and wanted to confirm that we are still eligible if our organization provides job readiness, career exploration and preparation training, but not actual credentialed programs or certifications (we use partnerships for these)? We would list and get a letter of support from each of these partners.**

- a. Please see pages 5 - 6 of the [RFP](#) to see the list of Eligible Applicants.

“A Southeast Asian Economic Disparities Relief grant recipient must provide services that relieve economic disparities in the Southeast Asian community through workforce recruitment, development, job creation, assistance to smaller organizations to increase capacity, and outreach” per page 1 of the [RFP](#).

Please refer to the program components on page 6 of the [RFP](#) to review the list of eligible services. There is no requirement that you must offer credentialed programs or certifications. Please also see page 9 of the [RFP](#) for examples of types of partnerships. We highly encourage the use of partnerships.

5. **We are interested in submitting an application for the MN DEED FY26 – 27 RFP: Southeast Asian Disparities Relief Competitive Grant to do outreach, recruitment, and referrals. We serve a significant number of Southeast Asians and are well positioned in the community and in the work that we do to do the outreach, recruitment, and referrals. We also help with the removal of barriers to education and employment. We would like to refer individuals that we recruit to a designated partner for training. Is there a place within this RFP to just do the outreach, recruitment, and referrals?**

- a. Please see page 6 of the [RFP](#) to review the list of Eligible Services that a grantee can provide.

Services provided under this proposal must include **one or more** of the following areas:

- Workforce recruitment and outreach; conduct outreach to recruit from Southeast Asian communities for participation in workforce development programs
- Workforce development; employment preparation, work readiness skills training, non-credential/credential training
- Job creation; entrepreneurial training, on-the-job training, internships, and paid work experience
- Capacity building assistance to smaller organizations to increase their capacity to provide workforce services to Southeast Asian communities

Please also see page 9 of the [RFP](#) for examples of types of partnerships. We highly encourage the use of partnerships.