

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Committee on Academic and Workforce Success

AGENDA ITEM V-P

Consideration of adopting the staff recommendation to the Committee relating to a contract award for the next generation classification and diagnostic assessment instrument used for the Texas Success Initiative

RECOMMENDATION: Approval to award a no-cost contract pending successful contract negotiations

Background Information:

In February 2012, the Board approved the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP), which was issued by Coordinating Board staff, soliciting proposals for a new Texas Success Initiative (TSI) assessment instrument(s), both placement and diagnostic in nature, that would classify students as college ready or into developmental or adult basic education levels in reading, writing, and mathematics. The College Board was awarded the contract in April 2012, with implementation in fall 2013 of the new TSI Assessment (TSIA), which included the following:

- Content items aligned with Critical TEKS (developed by public and higher education faculty to be used as the basis for the new STAAR End-of-Course assessments), STAAR End-of-Course assessments in English III and Algebra II, the Texas College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS), and the National Reporting System (NRS) Educational Functioning Level Descriptors (EFLD) ABE standards;
- Diagnostic profile for students not college ready;
- Computer-adaptive testing with immediate results;
- Psychometric and technical quality;
- Accommodations for disabilities; and
- Resources for faculty, staff, and students to address demonstrated deficiencies.

In anticipation of the expiration of the current contract in August 2020, the Board approved the issuance of a second RFP, which was issued by Coordinating Board staff on April 8, 2019, soliciting proposals for the development and implementation of the next generation classification and diagnostic assessment instrument(s) used for the TSIA: the TSIA, Version 2.0 (TSIA2), to include the following improvements:

- Content items aligned to revised standards for College and Career Readiness, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, Texas Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Content

Standards 2.0, and the National Reporting System's Educational Functioning Level Descriptors;

- Integration of reading and writing;
- One diagnostic;
- Transportability of test results for students and test administrators;
- Test administrator training and data matching; and
- Customized online learning support for students not meeting the college readiness benchmark

The deadline for submitting proposals for the TSIA2 solicitation was May 15, 2019. We have completed the five-stage proposal evaluation process, including a review of submitted sample items by an independent team of subject-matter experts and psychometricians. We are seeking approval to pursue contract negotiations with the College Board to serve as the vendor for the TSIA, 2.0.

Dr. Suzanne Morales-Vale, Director of Developmental and Adult Education, will present this item and be available to answer questions.