

RFP: Mentoring and Advocacy Program (MAAP)

OVERVIEW

On February 15th, the New York City Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) Division of Youth and Family Justice (DYFJ) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking qualified organizations to implement a comprehensive Mentoring and Advocacy Program (MAAP) for youth involved in, or at risk of involvement in, the juvenile or criminal justice system. Programs will provide targeted, time-limited services to youth and their families with the goal of promoting positive behaviors, healthy relationships, and problem-solving skills that will allow youth to remain in the community and reduce involvement in the juvenile justice system. A total of \$7.2 million in funding will be available over three years through this RFP to support four MAAP programs in New York City.

The full RFP is attached. Applications are due on March 30th.

FUNDING

There will be four awards of \$600,000 annually provided to eligible organizations through this RFP. There will be one award allocated in each of the following four boroughs and applicants must select at least one focus neighborhood within each borough:

	Brooklyn	Bronx	Manhattan	Queens
Focus Neighborhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedford Stuyvesant • Brownsville • East New York 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melrose/Morrisania • Highbridge • Soundview • University Heights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington Heights • Lower East Side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamaica • Far Rockaway

Each borough will be treated as a separate competition and applicants are permitted to submit a separate and complete proposal for each borough they apply to. However, applicants are limited to a maximum of two awards through this RFP. The payment structure for this award will be line-item budget reimbursement based on per-slot cost and average length of service.

Contracts will last for three years beginning November 1st, with the option to renew for two additional three-year terms.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

In order to qualify for funding under this RFP, applicants must have at least three years of experience providing community-based, preventive services to at-risk youth or juvenile justice involved youth, including experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Working with at-risk youth, aged 12-21 years, and their families to prevent the youth from becoming involved in the juvenile/criminal justice system;
- Providing alternative-to-detention/incarceration services to families with youth aged 12-21 years who are involved in the juvenile/criminal justice system; and/or

- Implementing and providing advocacy and mentoring services to families with youth aged 12-21 years with maladaptive behaviors, substance abuse histories, or who are facing other issues common to youth and families involved in the juvenile/criminal justice system.

Applicants should have expertise working with Person in Need of Supervision (PINS) youth and youth alleged to be or adjudicated to be delinquent in Family Court. In addition, applicants should have at least three years of successful, relevant experience establishing relationships with and referring youth to community-based organizations that provide youth aged 12-21 years with pro-social activities, including educational support and/or tutoring.

TARGET POPULATION

The target population includes youth aged 12-21 years who:

- Are at risk of a PINS petition being filed in Family Court and a possible remand on that case;
- Are at risk of being placed on a juvenile delinquency petition as determined by the Department of Probation or the Family Court during the juvenile delinquency proceeding;
- Are scheduled to be released and transitioning from a Non-Secure Placement (NSP) or Limited Secure Placement (LSP) facility to home or aftercare; or
- Are at risk of further involvement with the juvenile justice system as a result of certain behaviors the youth continues to exhibit upon their release from probation, detention, or placement.

PROGRAM SERVICES

The MAAP model should include the following services for youth and their families:

- Individual assessments of strengths, needs, and goals;
- Case management;
- Mentoring services with intensive supervision and 24/7 crisis intervention;
- Youth-centered self-advocacy training;
- Educational and/or vocational skill-building and supports;
- Direct engagement with youth around pro-social activities; and
- Family engagement activities and supports.

Organizations are expected to serve 20 youth at a time under the award and work with youth for an average of six months. If a youth is referred from the Juvenile Justice Initiative (JJI), the organization is required to work with the youth for a minimum of six months.

APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Required Experience (25 points)
- Program Services (30 points)
- Staff Qualifications and Training (25 points)
- Monitoring and Reporting (10 points)
- Budget Management (10 points)

Proposals that receive the highest overall score based on the above criteria that are deemed to be the most advantageous to New York City will receive awards through this RFP. In the case of a tie, the proposal with the highest score on the Program Services section will be ranked higher.

Timeline

Proposals must be submitted by March 30th. There will be a Pre-Proposal Conference in New York City (Manhattan Conference Room, 150 William Street, 19th Floor, New York, NY 10038) on March 2nd at 2pm.

Questions should be submitted to MAAP-RFP@acs.nyc.gov. Responses to questions and additional information will be released as an addendum to this RFP.