



May 21, 2025

Re: Request for Proposal – Sector Investment Coordinators (SICs)

The Kern Community College District on behalf of Kern Coalition, invites your company to submit a Proposal for Sector Investment Coordinators, for its college needs.

Key dates associated with this Request for Proposal include:

First week Advertisement of RFP	May 21, 2025
Second week Advertisement of RFP	May 28, 2025
Deadline for Proposer Questions	June 4, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.
RFP Submission Deadline	June 10, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.
Notice of Award	June 2025
Submitted to the Board of Trustees for Approval	
Board Award Date	June 2025

General Information and Specifications may be obtained at the Kern Community College District, Business Services website at <https://www.kccd.edu/business-services/rfps-bids.html> or interested bidders may register (*registration instructions attached*) at www.publicpurchase.com to obtain the RFP.

If your company is not interested in responding to this bid request, please complete the “No Bid” Response Form, located on page 26 of the attached Request for Proposal, and return the form via email to purchasing@kccd.edu.

If you have any questions relating to this Request for Proposal offering or would like an electronic copy of the Request for Proposal emailed to you, please contact the Purchasing & Contracts Department via email at purchasing@kccd.edu.

Best wishes,

Purchasing & Contracts



Dear Vendor,

The Kern Community College District Purchasing Department uses an online bid management system called Public Purchase. In order to begin, or continue to, receive bid notifications as a current vendor you must register with this new system. If you would like to do business with our District please complete the registration process detailed below.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Register with Public Purchase:

Use the link below to begin the registration process. *It can take up to 24 hours for your account to become active.* You will receive an email from notices@publicpurchase.com letting you know your account is activated. Be sure and add this email address to your contacts to avoid the bid notification emails being sent to your junk folder.

<https://www.publicpurchase.com/gems/register/vendor/register>

If you have already registered with Public Purchase previously please proceed directly to step 2.

2. Register with Kern Community College District:

A. Once you have received your activation email from Public Purchase log into www.publicpurchase.com and accept the terms and conditions of use.

B. Then click on the link below to start your registration process with the Kern Community College District. Begin by selecting the NAICS Commodity Codes that relate to your business so you can receive email notifications of future bid opportunities.

<http://www.publicpurchase.com/gems/kccd,ca/buyer/public/home>

C. If, for any reason, the link below fails, you can follow the following procedure to complete the registration process:

Use the Public Purchase link in Step 1 and log in. Then click "Select Region," and "Select Agency." After selecting [Kern Community College District](#), click on the "Register with [Kern Community College District](#)" on the right-hand side of the [Kern Community College District](#) logo

It is important that this second part of the registration is complete, or you will not receive notifications of upcoming quote opportunities from the Kern Community College District. It is your responsibility to keep the information up to date, particularly the contacts and email addresses.

Why the switch?

Using this service will make the quoting process easier for us and our suppliers. The Public Purchase eProcurement System was designed exclusively for use by Government Agencies and their Vendors.

Benefits to Us

This eProcurement system is compliant with all Federal and State regulations, which determine the required procedures for Government Agency purchasing practices. This service will also create an up-to-date vendor database, which will be hosted on Public Purchase's servers and will allow suppliers to easily update and change their information as needed.

Benefits to You?

This eProcurement system will create a single location in which to view open Requests for Quotation and award information for previous RFQ's issued through the Public Purchase website. This system will also provide you with automatic notification and transmittal of bid solicitations to vendors. In addition, Public Purchase gives you access to bid opportunities with other government entities. *All of this is provided at no charge to you.*

If you need any assistance with this process, please contact Public Purchase at support@publicpurchase.com. Or use their Live Chat during business hours. It can be found in the upper left corner of the web site.

Thank you for participating in the Kern Community College District vendor registration process.

Sincerely,

Purchasing & Contracts

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #DO250610

SECTOR INVESTMENT COORDINATORS (SICs) FOR KERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT obo KERN COALITION

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Proposals submitted by	2:00 p.m.
Date:	June 10, 2025

Submit responses electronically through the Public Purchase website at www.publicpurchase.com.

Proposals must be received by the due date and time to be considered.

Delivered to:	Kern Community College District 2100 Chester Avenue Bakersfield, California 93301 Attention: Purchasing & Contracts
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California (CA) Jobs First (formerly known as Community Economic Resilience Fund Program CERF)

Kern Coalition Request for Proposals (RFP): Sector Investment Coordinators (SICs)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose: Working on behalf of the Kern Coalition - the Kern County region participant of the State of California's California Jobs First Regional Initiative- The Kern Community College District ("KCCD", "Kern CCD", "District") is soliciting proposals from qualified consultants or vendors experienced in providing robust technical assistance to advance strategic regional economic objectives for the priority sectors outlined in the Kern California Jobs First Regional Plan Part 2 for the duration of the Catalyst phase of the California Jobs First's Regional Investment Initiative through September 30, 2026. KCCD is acting as both a fiduciary agent and as a Kern Coalition Co-Convener member partner.

Coalition Description: The Kern Coalition consists of five (5) local organizations including Kern Community College District, Building Healthy Communities (BHC) Kern, A Better Bakersfield, and Boundless Kern (B3K) Prosperity, Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK), and Kern Inyo Mono Central Labor Council (KIM CLC). The Coalition serves as co-conveners of the Kern Jobs First Collaborative (KJFC) through Kern CCD, which serves as the Kern region's fiscal agent for the Community Economic Resilience Fund, now known as California Jobs First.

Mission: The Kern Coalition's mission is to unify and bolster local efforts that advocate for the equitable attainment of good, quality jobs that promote a resilient economy and positive health, social, and environmental outcomes in disinvested communities through diverse representation and securing direct investments for economic development strategies.

Vision: To eliminate generational poverty and promote equitable economic mobility for all in Kern County by ensuring investments dismantle systemic barriers.

Background: The California Jobs First Regional Initiative was developed as a result of The California Community Economic Resilience Fund (renamed to the Regional Investment Initiative), authorized in Senate Bill 162, and amended in Assembly Bill 2342, is an equity-centric, nontraditional approach to a post-pandemic economic recovery that leads to quality jobs and family-sustaining careers. California Jobs First was designed in a three-phase grant structure with the intention of creating inclusive economic development plans and

meaningful processes to engage diverse communities to support the growth of a community-led, climate forward economy. The outcome is to create an innovative economic development strategy to grow Kern's economy and develop sustainable industries that create high-quality, broadly-accessible jobs. Phase I planning informed regional investment opportunities during the Catalyst Phase and of the program.

In Summer 2022, the Kern Coalition joined forces to lead an effort in bringing tens of millions of state dollars, and hopefully, even more in private investment into Kern communities to create a diverse economy with high-quality jobs that are accessible to all. Throughout the Planning Phase, the Kern Coalition hosted more than 50 meetings across all of Kern County's communities in North, East, South, West, and Central Kern – including cities like McFarland, Delano, Wasco, Lake Isabella, Ridgecrest, California City, Mojave, Arvin, Lamont, Taft, and Bakersfield. Other informational meetings and sessions were held and recorded virtually to provide an additional opportunity for engagement.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Catalyst Phase

The Kern Coalition is now embarking on the Phase II Catalyst Phase of the California Jobs First program. This phase provides \$14 million in Catalyst funding to each region, which includes a budget allocation to support Sector Investment Coordinator (SIC) services. Sector Investment Coordinators are tasked with providing subject matter expertise aligned with the Kern Region's identified priority sectors, as defined in the Kern California Jobs First Regional Plan Part 2. These sectors include, but are not limited to, Agriculture, Clean Energy, and Advanced Manufacturing. SIC will support the Kern Coalition through a range of activities, including pre-development support (refer to "SCOPE OF WORK"), technical assistance, capacity building, and the cataloging, assessment, and evaluation of potential projects for funding consideration. The engagement of SICs will be based on demonstrated alignment with regional sector priorities and technical qualifications relevant to strategic investment planning.

According to information presently being provided by statewide agencies administering California Jobs First funds, Catalyst projects may be expected to meet the following criteria listed below:

1. Equity
 - a. Funding from Catalyst projects should provide direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to disinvested communities.
 - b. Projects should align with Executive Order N-16-22 (Embedding Racial Equity)
 - c. Projects should include an equity impact assessment and displacement analysis, as well as an avoidance strategy, if necessary
 - d. Projects should include a community engagement strategy with a mechanism for feedback from residents.
2. Climate
 - a. Catalyst projects should align major state climate goals and policies, such as:
 - i. CARB Scoping Plan

- ii. EO N-82-20 (Land and Water Protection)
 - iii. EO N-19-19 (Climate Agenda)
 - iv. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
3. Job Quality and Access
- a. Catalyst projects should promote the creation of family-sustaining jobs with healthcare and retirement benefits, upward mobility, access to training, consistent scheduling, safe working conditions, and opportunities for collective worker input.
 - b. Projects should ensure equitable access to quality jobs for communities throughout the region.
 - c. Projects should receive approval from the Kern Coalition and its Governance Council .

The Kern Coalition has developed a formal scoring matrix for evaluating Catalyst projects. Target outcomes for Catalyst projects include but are not limited to the following:

- 1. Economic Competitiveness that addresses inequities and strengthens the region overall to improve economic competitiveness and deliver prosperity across the Kern region
 - a. Expanding access to capital
 - b. Expanding capacity for innovation and entrepreneurship
 - c. Retaining or expanding existing businesses or promoting new business development
 - d. Building the region's skilled workforce
- 2. Economic Resilience improves the region's ability to avoid, withstand, and recover from economic shocks. This includes foreseeing, adapting to, and leveraging changing conditions to a region's economic advantage. Activities to help achieve economic resilience include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Building capacity of organizations serving disinvested communities to compete for and administer federal and state grants
 - b. Building wealth in disinvested communities
 - c. Diversifying the regional economy.

SCOPE OF WORK:

Under the supervision of the Regional Director and direction from the Kern Coalition, the Sector Investment Coordinators will execute the following activities on behalf of the Kern Jobs First Collaborative:

- **Work within the Jobs First Collaborative** on industries prioritized in the Planning Phase and with the California Jobs First State Economic Blueprint: [Regional Plan Part 1](#); [Regional Plan Part 2 California Jobs First Economic Blueprint](#)
- **Support the Jobs First Collaborative in cataloging projects** that will support the proliferation of the prioritized industries and enhance high-quality job creation; label these projects as “exploratory” (agreed-upon ideas that are at the very initial phases) and “last-mile” (agreed-upon projects that need the final piece of the puzzle to begin development) or identify projects as non-viable.
- **Work with GO-Biz staff and regional partners** to find and apply for state, federal, and private

grants, and align Jobs First Collaborative identified projects with federal funding.

- **Coordinate with workforce and economic development partners** at both the city and county levels, High Road Training Partnerships, community-based organizations, and others capable of contributing to the success of the project to build an ecosystem around identified industries or sectors.
- **Provide targeted guidance and support** to Catalyst Phase awardees in developing structured transition plans to ensure seamless progression from the Catalyst Phase to the Implementation Phase
- **Provide or procure targeted technical assistance** for Catalyst and Implementation grant applications, including support on environmental compliance, climate adaptation, infrastructure development, equity, and resilience to ensure projects meet comprehensive sustainability and funding standards.
- **Provide pre-development capacity-building technical assistance** by referring and assisting others in using data, research, and the Kern Regional Plans Part 1 and 2 for guidance in applying for public and private funding that advances projects and strategies that align with the Regional Plan.
- **Coordinate and provide economic development and industry expert pre-development technical assistance** on environmental, climate mitigation and adaptation, environmental infrastructure, economic competitiveness, equity, resilience, and sustainability.
- **Develop a regional roadmap** to address gaps in supply and demand of quality jobs by increasing access for disinvested community members.
- **Work with Kern Coalition Co-Conveners and stakeholders** to address unmet project pre-development needs by maintaining a catalog of potential projects that are being considered or have been submitted for the Catalyst Funding consideration and submit the list to the Kern Coalition (conveners) for monthly review.
- **Create** sector-specific road maps for high-quality job creation in emerging environmentally sustainable industries.
- **Facilitate** business matchmaking activities that connect local workers and enterprises with employment and procurement opportunities generated by Catalyst-supported or regionally prioritized projects.
- **Establish** systems to monitor and evaluate project outcomes, focusing on economic, environmental, and social impact metrics to inform continuous improvement.
- **Represent the Kern Jobs First Collaborative** to prepare and present findings in report format to key relevant stakeholders, including the Regional Director, the Kern Coalition Conveners, the Governance Council, governmental officials, planning departments, and other local agencies.
- **Research** and apply lessons learned from similar regional initiatives to enhance project implementation strategies, particularly in workforce development and sustainability.

The Sector Investment Coordinators must be available to meet in person across all five subregions of Kern County as necessary to coordinate and support project development activities.

SECTOR INVESTMENT COORDINATOR DELIVERABLES:

1. The SIC must be available to meet in person across all five subregions of Kern County as necessary to coordinate and support project development activities.
2. Conduct comprehensive research and interviews with key stakeholders across sectors, ensuring a

robust understanding of the workforce gaps, challenges, and opportunities in each region. This is relevant when projects are in the pipeline or have been identified as viable.

3. Provide guidance and lead the development of proposals that meet the criteria set by the California Jobs First (CJF) initiative, ensuring alignment with project goals and funding requirements.
4. Prepare and present findings in a report format (frequency will be discussed at a later time) to key stakeholders, including the Regional Director, Kern Coalition Conveners, and the Governance Council.
5. The SIC will be required to present findings, strategies, and project updates to relevant stakeholder bodies, such as city councils, planning departments, and other local agencies.
6. Work alongside contracted permitting experts to ensure all projects meet code requirements and adhere to the regulatory standards necessary for successful project execution.
7. As needed, plan and host community engagement events or town halls to gather input from residents on economic development initiatives and to communicate progress on projects to the broader public.
8. As appropriate and in partnership with the grant firm, identify relevant federal, state, and private grant opportunities. Work closely with the Jobs First Collaborative to draft and submit applications for project funding.
9. Develop a data dashboard that tracks key project metrics, including economic impact, job creation, sustainability outcomes, and social equity, providing real-time insights to stakeholders for informed decision-making.
10. Develop regional road maps that address quality jobs demand-supply gaps by increasing access for disinvested community members.
11. Develop regional and sector road maps to plan for the creation of high-quality jobs in new, environmentally friendly industry sectors.
12. Create an integrated equity and resilience assessment tool to evaluate the social, economic, and environmental impacts of all implementation projects, ensuring inclusive access to quality jobs and enhancing regional resilience to external shocks.
13. Create a sustainability framework for prioritized industries, guiding stakeholders in adopting best practices for environmental resilience, climate adaptation, and green infrastructure, in alignment with state and federal standards.

TERM OF ENGAGEMENT AND BUDGET

The term of the consultant contract will be July 2025 - September 30, 2026, subject to the approval of the Kern CCD Board of Trustees. Final budget allocations and scope of work are subject to negotiation based on the specific grant award and programmatic needs. Kern CCD reserves the right to amend the contract to adjust the budget and/or modify the scope of work, as necessary, to align with evolving grant requirements, available funding, or strategic priorities.

PROJECT TIMELINE

The high-level tentative project timeline includes ongoing technical assistance and activities outlined in the Scope of Work through the end of the grant period, September 30, 2026.

PROPOSAL DETAILS

Proposal Submission Information

- A. Closing Date: Proposals must be submitted by 06/10/2025 at 2PM (PST).
- B. Inquiries: Inquiries concerning this RFP should be directed to purchasing@kccd.edu.

Proposal Submittal Process

1. All information must be entered legibly in ink or typewritten. The proposal submitted must not contain any erasures, interlineations, or other corrections.
2. Proposals shall be received by Kern Community College District, at the address stated in this RFP, on or before the date and time required. No oral, telegraphic, telephonic, or facsimile proposals will be considered.
3. Corrections and/or modifications received after the specified closing time will not be accepted.
4. An authorized officer or employee of the responder must sign all responses.
5. Submit responses electronically through the Public Purchase website at www.publicpurchase.com.
6. Addenda issued by the District interpreting or changing any of the items in this RFP, including all modifications thereof, shall be responded to and incorporated in each proposal. The Vendors shall sign and date any Addenda Cover Sheet, submitting it with the proposal, or otherwise expressly acknowledge, in writing, receipt of all addenda.
7. All proposals received by the District will be considered a "Public Record" as defined in California Government Code section 6252 and shall be open to public inspection, except to the extent that the Vendors designate trade secrets or other proprietary material to be confidential. Any documentation which the Vendors believe to be a trade secret must be provided to the District in a separate envelope or binder and must be clearly marked as a trade secret. The District will endeavor to restrict the distribution of material and analysis of the proposals. Vendors are cautioned that materials designated as trade secrets may nevertheless be subject to disclosure and the District shall in no way be liable or responsible for any such disclosure. Vendors are advised that the District does not wish to receive material designated as trade secrets and request that Vendors not supply trade secret materials unless absolutely necessary. No part of the Vendor's proposal or supporting materials will be returned and such material will become the property of the District unless portions of the materials submitted are designated as proprietary at the time of submittal and are specifically requested to be returned.
8. Interested Candidates shall register at www.publicpurchase.com to upload their response electronically.
9. The submission of an electronic proposal to the District is the sole responsibility of the Vendor. Proposals will not be accepted subsequent to the date and time specified. Proposals received by the District after the specified deadline will not be considered.
10. The District may waive any immaterial deviation or defect in a proposal. The District's waiver shall in no way modify the RFP documents or excuse the Vendor from full compliance with the Scope of Work if awarded the contract.

11. The contract to be negotiated must include the following requirements, as requested by the District.

Withdrawal or Modification of Proposal

Proposals may be withdrawn or modified in writing and submitted via www.publicpurchase.com from the Vendor prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. No oral withdrawals or modifications will be accepted.

Basis for Award

Vendor proposals will be evaluated on factors that will measure all the following criteria:
The overall objective of this RFP is to provide the following:

1. Contract awards will be made to the vendor(s) whose offer provides the greatest value, in terms of suitability to purpose, quality of goods and service, training, warranty, experience, price, and ability to deliver. In the best interest of the District, Kern CCD reserves the right to contract with more than one vendor.
2. Demonstrations of the proposed equipment configurations may be required from the most responsive vendors prior to making the final selection of awards.

The basis of the award will be based on evaluation of:

1. Compliance and comprehensiveness with the requirements of this RFP.
2. Ability of the vendor to offer the minimum requirements requested of this RFP. Bidders will be evaluated on the above criteria in order to select the successful vendor that best meets the needs of the district.

After the initial evaluation, and **if deemed necessary** by the Kern Coalition RFP evaluation committee, vendors whose proposals are initially accepted may be offered an opportunity to give an oral presentation, provide an online demonstration of the Sector Investment Coordinator and to answer questions from the evaluation committee.

OTHER DETAILS

Term

The resulting contract is intended to be completed by September 30, 2026, upon delivery and acceptance of the Sector Investment Coordinator, subject to the Kern CCD Board of Trustees Approval.

Termination of Contract

Kern CCD may elect to terminate the contract, in whole or in part, for its convenience, and such termination shall be effective thirty (30) calendar days after mailing of such Notice of Termination for Convenience to the Vendor. Thereafter, the Vendor shall have no further claim against Kern CCD under the contract.

The successful Vendor may choose to terminate the contract, and the Vendor must give Kern CCD 60 days prior written notice by sending an explanation for the termination of their contract to the Kern Community College District, Attention Melissa Thornsberry, Chief Financial Officer, 2100 Chester Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

The successful Vendors shall be in compliance with all Federal, State and Local laws governing this invitation to bid.

Issuing Office

The Kern Community College District is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) through the Business Services, Purchasing & Contracts Department. The Kern CCD Business Services, Purchasing & Contracts Department is the sole point of contact regarding all contractual matters relating to the requirements described in this RFP, and is the only department authorized to change, modify, or clarify, the specifications, terms, and conditions of this RFP. All communications, including any requests for clarification, concerning this RFP shall be submitted via www.publicpurchase.com prior to the deadline with a subject line: Addendum to RFP Sector Investment Coordinator (SICs).

Questions Regarding this RFP

Vendors requiring clarification of the intent or content of this RFP, or on procedural matters regarding the Request for Proposal process, may request clarification by submitting questions via www.publicpurchase.com. Answers to the questions will be provided to all Vendors without identifying the submitter. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted electronically and using the attached Bidder Inquiry Form on page 25 no later than June 4, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.

Reimbursement of Costs

Each Vendor submitting a proposal is responsible for all costs associated with preparing and submitting a complete proposal, including costs that may be incurred in providing Kern CCD with additional information and making an oral presentation. Kern CCD has no obligation to reimburse Vendor for any proposal costs or incur any costs on Vendor's behalf.

Protest Against Award

Any vendor wishing to file a protest against this RFP document must do so in writing within 72 hours after proposals are reviewed by the committee and bidders chosen for an oral presentation, if deemed necessary. All protests will be taken under advisement. Any protest received after will not be recognized.

A protest of any vendor proposal will be delivered to the Kern Community College District, attention Melissa Thornsberry, Chief Financial Officer, 2100 Chester Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301, by certified mail or by personal delivery during normal business hours.

Suspension and Debarment

The Vendor certifies, for itself and all its designated partners, that neither the Vendor, nor any designated partners are under suspension or debarment by the LEA (Local Educational Agencies) or any other governmental entity, instrumentality, or authority and, if the Vendor cannot so certify, then it agrees to submit a written explanation as an attachment to this RFP form of why such certification cannot be made. A Vendor must verify its suspension or debarment status.

Responsibility and Notice of Any Change

It is the Vendor's obligation to see that the services provided are ongoing from and after the effective date of the Vendor Contract and any Purchase Order issued, through the termination date thereof. Accordingly, the Vendor shall notify Kern CCD and the campus or LEA, by written notification if at any time during the term of the Vendor Contract or any Purchase Order, changes its place of business, becomes delinquent in the payment of taxes, or if it or any of its designated partners are suspended or debarred by any agency, LEA, federal government, or any other state or governmental entity. Such notification shall be made within fifteen (15) days of the date of suspension, debarment, delinquency, or change.

Defaults

Default by Vendor: The District will hold the Vendor responsible for any damage which may be sustained because of failure or neglect to comply with any term or condition listed herein. It is specifically provided and agreed that time will be of essence in meeting the contract delivery requirements.

If the successful Vendor fails or neglects to furnish or deliver any of the materials, supplies or services listed herein, at the prices named and at the time and place herein stated, or otherwise fails or neglects to comply with the terms of the Vendor Contract, the District may, upon written notice to the Vendor, cancel the contract/purchase order in its entirety or cancel or rescind any or all items affected by such default, and may, whether or not the contract is terminated in whole or in part, purchase the materials, supplies or services elsewhere without further notice to the Vendor. The prices paid by the District at the time such purchases are made will be considered the prevailing market prices. Any extra cost incurred by such default may be collected by the District from the Vendor or deducted from any funds due to the Vendor.

Insurance Requirements

The successful bidder selected shall furnish to the District, prior to the commencement of services, an underwriter's certificate of insurance reflecting not less than the following limits:

- a. \$2 million per occurrence for Workers' Compensation, if required.
- b. \$1 million per occurrence for Comprehensive General Liability.
- c. \$1 million per occurrence for Automobile Liability.
- d. \$1 million per occurrence for Errors and Omissions insurance.

All insurance shall be issued by a company, or companies listed in the current "Best's Key Rating Guide" publication with a minimum of an A-, VI rating. The district, its trustees, officers, agents, and employees shall be named as additional insured on the General Liability policy. Any deviations from the requisite policy amounts and ratings must be approved by the district.

Hold Harmless Clause

The successful bidder shall hold harmless and indemnify Kern CCD from every claim or demand which may be made by reason of:

- a. Any injury to a person or property sustained by the bidder or by any person, firm, or corporation, employed directly or indirectly by him upon or in connection with his performance under this bid, however caused.
- b. Any liability that may arise from the furnishing or use of any copyrighted or copyrighted composition, secret process or patented or unpatented invention, under this bid.
- c. The successful vendor at his own expense and risk shall defend any legal proceedings that may be brought against Kern CCD on any such claim or demand and satisfy any judgment that may be rendered against any of them.

Force Majeure

Neither party will incur any liability to the other if its performance of any obligation pursuant to the Vendor Agreement or Purchase Order is prevented or delayed by causes beyond its control and without the fault or negligence of either party. Causes beyond a party's control may include, but are not limited to, acts of God or war, changes in controlling law, regulations, orders or the requirements of any governmental entity, severe weather conditions, civil disorders, natural disasters, fire, epidemics, and quarantines, throughout the trade, and freight embargoes.

The Vendor shall notify Kern CCD orally within five (5) business days and in writing within ten (10) business days of the date on which the Vendor becomes aware, or should have reasonably become aware, that such cause would prevent or delay its performance. Such notification shall (i) describe fully such cause(s) and its effect on performance, (ii) state whether performance under the Vendor Agreement (Purchase Order) is prevented or delayed and (iii) if performance is delayed, state a reasonable estimate of the duration of the delay if the nature of the force majeure event does not prevent Vendor from reasonably making such estimation. The Vendor shall have the burden of proving that such cause(s) delayed or prevented its performance despite its diligent efforts to perform and shall produce within ten (10) business days of college campus written request such supporting documentation as Kern CCD may reasonably request. After receipt of such notification, the College Campus may elect either to cancel the Purchase Order or to extend the time for performance as reasonably necessary to compensate for the Vendor's delay.

In the event of a declared emergency by competent governmental authorities, the LEA by notice to the Vendor, may suspend all or a portion of the Purchase Order.

Declaration of Non-Collusion

This RFP requires the Vendor to attest under the penalty of perjury that no collusion took place in providing a response to this RFP. Vendors must complete the Vendor Non- Collusion Affidavit on page 23 of this RFP. If a Vendor cannot answer yes to these questions, he/she/it will not be able to submit a response to this RFP.

Conflict of Interest

Vendors shall exercise reasonable care and diligence to prevent any actions or conditions that could result in a conflict with the best interest of the district. Vendor's efforts shall include, but not be limited to, establishing precautions to prevent its employees or agents from making, receiving, providing, or offering gifts, entertainment, payments, loans, or other considerations which could be deemed to appear to influence individuals to act contrary to the best interest of the district (see CONFLICT OF INTEREST form in [appendix](#)).

Compliance With Civil Rights Law and Americans with Disabilities Act

The Vendor hereby assures that it will comply with Subchapter VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000 (e)(17), to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subject to discrimination under this RFP or under any project, program, or activity supported by this RFP.

The Vendor agrees to comply with applicable Federal and California laws including, but not limited to, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, beginning with Government Code Section 12900, and Labor Code Section 1735. In addition, the Vendor agrees to require compliance like any subcontracts employed for the services provided by him.

The Vendor hereby assures that it will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. Sections 12101 et seq., to ensure that disabled individuals shall be reasonably accommodated in accordance with the Act the Vendor shall not exclude from participation in, or deny the benefit of, or otherwise subject a disabled individual to discrimination under this contract, or under any project, program, or activity supported by this RFP. Vendors cannot be covered by a prohibition or restriction or excluding from doing business with the government.

Vendors must complete the Certification of Non-Discrimination on page 24 of this RFP.

Work Hours and Safety Standards Act

In the performance of any purchase order under the contract, the Vendor shall adhere to and comply with all the provisions of Section 103 and 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-330) and as supplemented in the Department of Labor regulations (29 CRF Part 5).

Public Agency Clause

Public agencies are authorized by law to purchase off a contract awarded by an agency including all K-12 schools districts, community college districts, special districts and JPAs serving education, pursuant to Public Contract Code Sections 20118 and 20652. Using these statutes, the Kern CCD hereby declares its intent and authorization to allow any contracts awarded under this proposal to be “piggybackable” by other agencies in the state, if the awarded vendor agrees.

Kern CCD waives any right to receive payment from other California agencies making purchases off the awarded contract. Kern CCD shall incur no financial responsibility or liability in connection with the participation by another public agency. All awarded private and not-for-profit organizations must not be suspended or debarred from receiving federal, state, or local funding. Each public agency must accept sole responsibility for its own order placement and payments directly to the awarded Vendor and should consult with legal counsel about the propriety of using the contract resulting from this RFP as a “piggyback.”

It is the responsibility of the Vendor to ensure that Kern CCD receives the proposals by the date and time specified above. Only an on-time proposal will be considered. Confirmation of receipt is the sole responsibility of the Vendor. Each Vendor must submit its proposal using the enclosed format in Proposal Requirements below. If any proposal submitted deviates from the requested proposal format, it may be cause for disqualification. This does not preclude the Vendor from offering value-added alternatives and additional relevant information in addition to the information requested in the RFP. The other options, however, must be fully explained in written form and separately stated as alternatives in both the proposal content and fee proposal.

Right to Reject

Kern CCD reserves the right to reject any proposals received in response to this RFP. The Contract for the accepted proposal will be based on the factors described in this RFP. Kern CCD reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in any proposal.

Confidentiality

The Vendor agrees to keep the information related to negotiations in strict confidence. Other than the reports submitted to Kern CCD, the Vendor agrees not to publish, reproduce, or otherwise divulge such information in whole or in part, any manner or form or authorize or permit others to do so, taking such reasonable measures as are necessary to restrict access to the information. At the same time, in the Vendor's possession, those employees on the Vendor's staff must have the information on a "need-to-know" basis. The Vendor agrees to notify, in writing immediately, Kern CCD authorized representative in the event the Vendor determines or has reason to suspect a breach of this requirement.

Notification of Award

Kern CCD anticipates but does not guarantee that the Contract will be awarded after the Notice of Award. Kern CCD will not award contracts to or consent to subcontractors with bidders, contractors, or affiliates that appear on any disqualified, suspended, or debarment list issued by any agency of the federal, state, or local government. In the best interest of the District, Kern CCD reserves the right to contract with more than one vendor.

The award will be made to the most responsible Vendor(s) whose service, experience, and approach to the project are most compatible with Kern CCD needs. Kern CCD will be the sole judge in making this determination.

Small, Women, and/or Minority-Owned Business

Efforts will be made by Kern CCD to utilize small businesses, women, and minority-owned businesses, considering that the primary responsibility is the most favorable return to Kern CCD.

A Vendor qualifies as a small business firm if it meets the "small business" definition established by the Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.201).

EXPECTED TIMELINE

Date(s)	Event
5/21/2025	First week Advertisements of RFP
5/28/2025	Second week Advertisements of RFP
6/4/2025 @ 12PM	The due date for Vendor Questions - Please email to purchasing@kccd.edu

6/10/2025 @ 2PM	DUE DATE FOR PROPOSALS FROM VENDORS
June 2025	Notice of Award
June 2025	Board Award Date

As we work through the contracting process, we anticipate services to begin no later than July 2025 and all work to be completed by September 30, 2026.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must demonstrate the ability to provide technical assistance, written materials and other activities outlined in the Scope of Work in English, Spanish, and Punjabi. *Third party vendors can be subcontracted for the purpose of language interpretation.*

- A.** We encourage proposals from entities with experience in social impact, specifically including inclusive economic development, health equity, environmental equity, and economic equity.
- B.** We encourage proposals from entities with prior experience working in Kern County, or with experience working in other regions with similar demographics and audience characteristics.
- C.** As the fiscal agent for the Kern Coalition, awardees must adhere to Kern Community College District policies and fiscal requirements.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

The proposal must include the following:

- A.** Cover Letter: A one-page cover letter with the name and contact information of the proposed Vendor.
- B.** Statement of Qualifications:
 - a. List your experience includes a brief description of the scope of services and outcomes similar to the scope described in this RFP.
 - b. Describe the background, experience, and qualifications of the person(s) who will act as the consultant and the capabilities of any staff who will assist with this project (include their role, education, relevant experience, and related qualifications). This includes identifying the lead agency and any sub-awardees to carry out portions of the scope of work. If sub-awardees have not been identified, provide clarification and a plan for identifying partners.
 - c. Describe the staffing capacity and capacity to conduct interpretation for in-person and online engagements
 - d. Describe the ability to translate technical documents
 - i. Third party vendors can be subcontracted for the purpose of language interpretation.

- e. Describe the knowledge of working with low-income and disinvested communities
- f. Describe the rate/cost for services, including any travel fees, rush fees, cancellation fees or other fees
- C.** Conflict of Interest Form: see [appendix](#)
- D.** Evidence of System for Award Management (SAMs) registration
- E.** Provide at least three (3) references, including the contact's name, affiliation, address, direct telephone number, and email address.
- F.** Describe in detail the fee structure for services
- G.** Conflict of Interest: Provide a statement of any potential conflicts the Vendor and/or key staff may have regarding providing these services. The information should include actual conflicts and any working relationships that disinterested parties may perceive as conflict. If no potential conflicts of interest are identified, state them in your proposal. The vendor shall have read and be aware of the provisions of Section 1090 et seq. and Section 87100 et seq. of the Government Code relating to the conflict of interest of public officers and employees. No officer or employee of the Kern Coalition or member of its governing body shall have any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in the resulting Contract or the proceeds thereof.
- H.** Vendor Information Sheet.
- I.** W-9
- J.** Additional Terms and Conditions.
- K.** Insurance Requirements.

Vendor Requirements

All responsive proposals shall be reviewed and evaluated by committee to determine which proposal best meets the Kern Coalition's needs for this project by demonstrating the competence and professional qualifications necessary.

Performance of The Required Services

Accounting for the contracting process, it is anticipated that services will begin July 2025 and continue through September 30, 2026.

Selection Process and Criteria

This is a NEGOTIATED procurement; an award will not necessarily be made to the Vendor submitting the lowest-priced proposal. Instead, an award will be made to the Vendor submitting the best responsive proposal satisfies Kern CCD requirements, as determined by Kern CCD, including consideration of price and other indicated factors.

Advance Payment options are not available. A reimbursement model will be used for awarded contractors.

Non-responsive Proposals

Proposals may be judged nonresponsive and removed from further consideration if any of the

following occur:

- The proposal is not received timely by the terms of this RFP.
- The proposal does not follow the specified format.

Proposal Evaluation

Evaluation of each proposal will be scored on the factors identified in Section B. below. In compliance with 2 CFR Part 200.319 – Competition, no geographic preferences will be given in the evaluation of this proposal since the section states: “The Non-Federal entity must conduct procurements in a manner that prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed state or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, except in those cases where applicable Federal statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference.” The selection process is designed to ensure that the Vendor’s services are engaged based on demonstrated competence and qualifications for the type of service to be performed and at fair and reasonable prices for Kern CCD.

A. The committee will review all proposals received by the specified deadline for content, fees, related experience, and professional qualifications of the Vendor.

B. The evaluation and selection of the successful Vendor shall be based upon the factors listed below with corresponding point evaluation. The total points available are 100.

Scoring Matrix

Evaluation of each proposal will be scored on the following factors:

1. Understanding the RFP requirements and completing all required documentation as listed in the Proposal Requirements section of this RFP. In addition to the above, include the following:

- Workplan, including milestones and deliverables.
- Project Lead(s) who will be the primary liaison with the Kern Coalition and proposed meeting schedule. Key personnel background, certifications, and experience in providing the requested services.
- Points = 40

2. Experience and relevance of similar work products and services provided to other entities and success in performing this service.

- Points = 30

3. Fees/Pricing Structure (i.e., monthly retainers, flat fee, cost per proposal methodology)

- Points = 10

4. Demonstrated experience engaging low-income populations and disinvested communities

- Points = 20
- Total Points =100

Kern CCD may, at its discretion, request presentations by or meetings with any or all Vendors to clarify the Vendors’ proposals. However, Kern CCD reserves the right to make an

award without further discussion of the proposals submitted. Therefore, proposals should be submitted initially on the most favorable terms, from both technical and price standpoints, which the Vendor can propose.

Kern CCD contemplates awarding the Contract to the responsible Vendor with the highest total points awarded by the Kern Coalition co-conveners. In the best interest of the District, Kern CCD reserves the right to contract with more than one vendor.

Upon final selection, the Contract will be processed by Kern CCD for the award of the Contract.

Conditions to Award

- A.** Kern CCD reserves the right to delay the selection process, withdraw and reissue the RFP, alter RFP language, or cancel this procurement.
- B.** This solicitation does not commit Kern CCD to pay any costs in preparing or presenting a submittal.

Prohibited Activity

Vendors or their agents shall only make personal contact with members of the Kern CCD KHRTC Board of Directors or Kern Coalition personnel after selecting and awarding a Contract for this work.

Appendix

KERN JOBS FIRST COLLABORATIVE - CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM

SECTION I: INSTRUCTIONS

All persons or firms seeking contracts must complete and submit a Kern Jobs First Collaborative Conflict of Interest Form along with the proposal. This requirement also applies to any proposed subconsultant(s). Failure to comply with this requirement may cause your proposal to be declared non-responsive.

Any questions regarding the information required to be disclosed in this form should be directed to the [Kern Coalition](#), especially if you answer "yes" to any question in this form, as doing so MAY also disqualify your firm from submitting an offer on this proposal.

Name of Firm: _____

Name of Preparer: _____

Project Title: _____

RFP Name: _____

Date Submitted:

SECTION II: QUESTIONS

1. Have you or any members of your firm been an employee of any one of the five (5) convener organizations within the last twelve (12) months?

YES NO

If "yes," please list name, position, and dates of service:

2. Are you or any managers, partners, or officers of your firm related by blood or marriage/domestic partnership to any one of the five (5) convener organizations? YES NO

If "yes," please list name and the nature of the relationship:

SECTION III: VALIDATION STATEMENT

This Validation Statement must be completed and signed by at least one General Partner, Owner, Principal, or Officer authorized to legally commit the proposer. **DECLARATION** I, (printed full name) _____, hereby declare that I am the (position or title) _____ of (firm name) _____, and that I am duly authorized to execute this Validation Statement on behalf of this entity. I hereby state that this Kern Jobs First Collaborative Conflict of Interest Form dated _____ is correct and current as submitted. I acknowledge that any false, deceptive, or fraudulent statements on this Validation Statement will result in rejection of my contract proposal.

Signature of Person Certifying for Proposer:

Date:

NOTICE

A materially false statement, omission, or fraudulent inducement made in connection with this Kern Jobs First Collaborative Conflict of Interest Form is sufficient cause for rejection of the contract proposal or revocation of a prior contract award.

Vendor Statement of Intent

TO BE EXECUTED BY VENDOR AND SUBMITTED WITH ITS PROPOSAL

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
KERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT:

The undersigned, having become familiar with the specifications, contract conditions and requirements, and all other matters concerning the Request for Proposal and contract to be awarded, hereby offers to provide the required products and services, in accordance with its proposal and the proposed contract, subject to the terms and conditions set forth therein, all referenced material and attachments.

Vendor _____
(Type or Print Complete Legal Name of Vendor)

Check One: Sole Ownership _____ Corporation _____
 Partnership _____ Other (Specify) _____

By _____
(Signature)

Title _____

IRS or Social Security No. of Vendor _____

Address _____

Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Date _____

Vendor Non-Collusion Affidavit

TO BE EXECUTED BY VENDOR AND SUBMITTED WITH ITS PROPOSAL

(Name) _____, being duly sworn first,
disposes and says that:

1. He or she is (Title, or Owner, or N/A) _____ of
(Company, or N/A) _____, the Vendor making
the foregoing proposal.
2. That the proposal is not made in the interest of, or on behalf of, any undisclosed person,
partnership, company, association, organization, or corporation.
3. That proposal is genuine and not collusive or sham.
4. That the Vendor has not directly or indirectly induced any other Vendor to put in a false
or sham proposal, and has not directly or indirectly colluded, conspired, connived, or
agreed with any Vendor or anyone else to put in a sham proposal, or that anyone shall
refrain from proposing.
5. That the Vendor has not in any manner, directly, or indirectly, sought by agreement,
communication, or conference with anyone to fix the proposal price of the Vendor or any
other Vendor, or to secure any advantage against the public body awarding the contract
of anyone interested in the proposed contract.
6. That all statements contained in the proposal are true; and further, that the Vendor
has not, directly or indirectly, submitted his or her proposal price or any breakdown
thereof, or the contents thereof, or divulged information or data relative thereto, or
paid, and will not pay, any fee to any corporation, partnership, company, association,
organization, bid depository, or to any member or agent thereof to effectuate a collusion
or sham proposal.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Non-collusion Affidavit
this _____ day of _____ 2025.

Vendor _____
(Type or Print Complete Legal Name of Vendor)

By _____
(Authorized Signature)
Name _____
(Type or Print)
Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Certification of Nondiscrimination

TO BE EXECUTED BY CANDIDATE AND SUBMITTED WITH ITS PROPOSAL

Candidate hereby certifies that in performing work or providing services for the district, there shall be no discrimination in its hiring or employment practices because of age, sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religious creed, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, or sexual preference, except as provided for in *Section 12940* of the California Government Code. Candidate shall comply with applicable federal and California anti-discrimination laws, including but not limited to the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, beginning with California Government Code *section 129*.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Certificate of Nondiscrimination this _____ day of _____, 2025.

CANDIDATE _____
(Type or Print Complete Legal Name of Candidate)

By _____
(Authorized Signature)

Name _____
(Type or Print)

Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Bidder Inquiry Form

RFP #DO250610 – Sector Investment Coordinators (SICs)

Bidders should use this form to submit questions regarding the RFP. The Kern Community College District will provide a complete list of questions received along with the district's responses to all bidders who participate. Questions will be listed without reference to the source.

Name of Company: _____

Company Representative: _____

Question(s):

“No Bid” Response Form

“NO BID” RESPONSE FORM

NOTE: COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO SUBMIT A BID

If you do not wish to respond to this bid request but would like to remain on the Kern Community College District vendor list for this service/commodity, please remove this form and e-mail the Purchasing & Contracts Department.

Kern Community College District
Purchasing & Contracts Department
2100 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301
purchasing@kccd.edu

RFP #DO250610 - Sector Investment Coordinators (SICs)

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Name and Title of Authorized Bidder: _____

Signature of Authorized Bidder: _____

REASON(S) FOR NOT SUBMITTING A BID: