

Incarceration Research Q&As

What is the DDC?

In the United States every State has a Council. They have to have a council in order to get money from the Federal Government to help people with developmental disabilities live in the community. Our council in Washington State has 25 members, and 60% of those members are appointed by the Governor. And they all either have a developmental disability, or they are a family member or guardian of someone who does. And then the other 40% of our members are representatives from the state agencies that serve our community. So, for example, we have someone on our council from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. We have someone from Health Care Authority. The Council sets a 5 Year Plan with their goals. They vote on how to use the Council's funding that we get from the Federal Government to help make the plan happen in our community.

- 1. Can the issuer (they) provide a list of the agencies and programs within the State of Washington and nationally from which they want the vendor to identify and document current initiatives, policies, and programs related to individuals with (I/DD) within Washington State, encompassing state, county, and local government systems including education, law enforcement, developmental disabilities services, public health, foster care, juvenile justice, and corrections?**

We invite you to research which agencies are working on the related topic. Our goal is to present the research to legislators in order to affect systems change.

- 2. What agencies can we research?**

Some examples are: State Institutions, Jails, Prisons (public or private), and Juvenile Detention Centers.

- 3. Can the DDC provide a contact for each program listed above with email and phone?**

A couple agencies that we know who have done some research to an extent are Disability Rights-Washington ([Home page - Disability Rights Washington](#)), and the other being The University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities ([CHDD - UCEDD \(washington.edu\)](#)). We do not know all the entities that may be collecting data, would invite that to be part of the research process.

4. Can they provide a list with contact information of state-run facilities, privately and publicly owned jails, prisons, and hospitals regarding the placement and care of individuals with I/DD?

There are 4 currently Residential Habilitation Centers across the state, but one of the reasons for this project is that we would like to learn more about other facilities. We welcome the research for other facilities to be part of the project.

5. Does the vendor need to have a physical presence in Washington?

No, just license to do business in the state. Link here to register as a State Vendor.

[Apply for a business license | Washington Department of Revenue](#)

[Vendor payee registration | Office of Financial Management \(wa.gov\)](#) (SWV #)

6. Could the work be completed virtually?

Yes.

7. Is there any previous study or studies the issuer could provide? If so, when was this study completed?

Disability Rights Washington is a great resource for relevant information. See question 3.

8. Beyond the Travis Alert Act, are there other specific pieces of legislation, either recently passed or under consideration, that we should prioritize in the investigation for their impact on the I/DD community?

We have not identified specific legislations. We'd like to learn from the research other legislations that have passed in the State and other significant legislations passed across the country regarding the topic.

9. Are there particular state-run facilities that have been identified as critical points of interest due to their practices, policies, or outcomes related to I/DD individuals?

No, we would like to take this opportunity to learn from the research.

10. Are there specific states or models that the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council is especially interested in comparing against Washington's current practices?

We'd like to see what else is going on across the country, but we understand given the short time frame of the project research on that might be limited.

11. How does the council define success in the context of transitioning individuals with I/DD out of restrictive settings? Are there particular outcomes or metrics that are prioritized?

There are developmental disability systems across our country working to help people transition from facilities to community based settings. Supporting people to become stable and not reenter the facilities they transitioned out of is a main goal. We suggest proposers research this topic and identify outcomes or metrics that would be included in the research paper.

12. Regarding non-public education agencies, privately owned facilities, and community-based housing, are there specific organizations or models that have come to the council's attention for their effective support of the I/DD population?

No.

13. How does the council envision the role of stakeholder engagement in this project? Are there specific groups or individuals whose input is considered essential?

While stakeholder engagement is not outlined in the Request for Proposal (RFP), this project should be centered on the perspective of people with lived experience in these systems.

14. Is there an age range that we should focus on?

Age is not outlined in this RFP, however a proposer may make age an element of their proposal if they believe this would strengthen their final paper.

15. The requested data and recommendations are so important, can more time be granted to complete the project if needed to gather stakeholder input for example?

No, given this is a federally funded project, the end date is in accordance to the Federal Fiscal year which is September 30th 2024.

16. Are you interested in the intersectional identity between someone with IDD/ and or other disabilities.

We welcome research on intersectionality of different groups of people, but do require a focus on people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). We also have another Research RFP called the Intersectionality between Behavioral Health and IDD. We recommend taking a look at this one on our [Website](#).

17. Under minimum qualifications, it mentions needing to have at least 5 years experience working with IDD and incarceration/corrections. Is this a strict qualification? If the vendor has a consultant on board that has the experience, is that sufficient?

Entities are welcome collaborate with other entities to maximize proposer expertise and meet the qualifications of the RFP. Given this is a federally funded project, they should not be identified as a subcontractor, but should be included within the letter of submittal. All of the major contributors should also be included in the work experience portion of the proposal.

18. What comes after the research project?

Our goal is to use the information from this project to learn more about the issue as a Council, identify system change advocacy and help make change to impact the community.

19. Is there a shared interest from other stakeholders such as DDA/ and other entities?

This topic is identified in our Council's State Plan and we have strong interest from some Council Members. The RFP was also developed with input from stakeholders with a shared interest in the topic.

20. What prompted this RFP?

This topic is identified in our Council's State Plan and we are aware that people with these intersecting identities need better systems of support.