

**Notice of Intent to Release Request for Proposals (RFP) #17-001:
Provider of Student Growth Measures for Use in Educator Evaluation and Institutional Accountability**

5/23/2016

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) intends to release a request for proposals (RFP) to provide student growth measures for use in Institutional Accountability determinations pursuant to the Commissioner's Regulations §§100.18 and 100.19 and State-provided growth scores for teachers, principals, and districts pursuant to New York State Education Law §3012-c and § 3012-d; and to co-lead a process to review and redesign existing student growth methodologies based on recommendations from the New York State Student Growth Model workgroup, NYSED, and the Board of Regents.

- **Institutional Accountability.** School-level growth measures have been incorporated into New York State's school and district accountability systems pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations §100.18. These growth measures are used as part of the process for identifying schools as Priority Schools, Focus Schools, Local Assistance Plan Schools and Reward Schools and districts as Focus Districts. In addition, in April 2015, the Board of Regents adopted Commissioner's Regulations §100.19, which utilizes school-level growth measures as part of the process used to identify Struggling and Persistently Struggling Schools. Under this regulation, districts must provide evidence that Struggling and Persistently Struggling Schools are making demonstrable improvement on indicators approved by the Commissioner in order to avoid being placed into independent receivership. School growth measures are one of the metrics used to make demonstrable improvement determinations. In addition, pursuant to the most recent Reauthorization of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, known as the Every Student Succeeds Act, states must hold public schools accountable using a measure of student growth or another valid and reliable statewide academic indicator that allows for meaningful differentiation in school performance and may use student growth to hold public high schools accountable for student performance.
- **State-provided Growth Scores and Ratings.** Since the 2012-13 school year, NYSED has been implementing an enhanced student growth model to generate individual student-level growth estimates that are then aggregated to create teacher-, principal-, and school-level growth measures and to calculate State-provided growth ratings and scores. These State-provided growth ratings and scores are currently calculated for teachers of ELA and/or mathematics in grades 4-8; principals and schools that include any of grades 4-8; and principals and schools that include all of grades 9-12. State-provided growth ratings and scores are incorporated into educators' Annual Professional Performance Reviews (APPR) pursuant to New York State Education Law §3012-c and, beginning in the 2015-16 school year, New York State Education Law §3012-d.

In December 2015, the Board of Regents adopted regulatory amendments to add §30-2.14 and §30-3.17 to the Rules of the Board of Regents, which provide a four-year transition period for APPRs during which time State-provided growth scores will not be used for employment purposes and will be used for advisory purposes only. This transition period will last through the 2018-2019 school year. During this transition period, NYSED expects to convene a workgroup to review the current New York State student growth model and review and recommend any changes to the model deemed necessary.

- **Student Growth Model Work Group.** The vendor will support NYSED efforts to review and strengthen its student growth model by contributing to the Student Growth Model workgroup, and by designing, conducting, and reporting on beta analyses of potential changes to the student growth model recommended by the workgroup, NYSED, the Board of Regents and the vendor's own technical

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experts. The vendor will continue to provide support through beta analyses in future years of the contract.

In Year 1 of the contract, the vendor must calculate and deliver State-provided growth scores for the 2016-17 school year. It is expected these results will be based on the student growth methodologies currently approved by NYSED for implementation and used to produce the 2015-16 State-provided growth results. The vendor will be provided with detailed business rules and programming to implement the production methodologies. In renewal years, the vendor will update and submit for approval revised business rules that account for any additional changes to the student growth methodology beta modeled by the vendor and approved by NYSED.

Vendors who plan to respond to these RFPs are strongly encouraged to review the Resources about State Growth Measures at: <https://www.engageny.org/resource/resources-about-state-growth-measures>.

The RFP Process

NYSED expects to issue the RFP in late May 2016. Specific submission requirements will be delineated in the RFP itself.

Notice of NYSED's RFP for this procurement opportunity will be made available at:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/comprocontracts/comprocontracts.html>.

At the time of the official RFP posting, NYSED anticipates that providers will have approximately six (6) weeks to submit proposals. If you would like to receive an email notification when the RFP is posted, please email GrowthRFP@nysed.gov.