

**Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System (TQRIS)****Validation Study: Phase I RFA Questions and Answers**

The following questions related to DCDEE RFA 2012-005, TQRIS Validation Study Phase I were received as of 5:00 PM on November 16, 2012. The answers appear in red font.

1. How soon would the grant awardee receive information about all rated NC programs? In what format would the data be available? **Some data are available in an Excel spreadsheet and some would need to be gathered through review of paper files. Data held in an Excel spreadsheet at DCDEE could be made available to the contractor within 3-5 days of a written request. Paper files could be pulled for review on a similar timetable. Data held by the Rated License Assessment Project could be provided in an Excel spreadsheet within 1-2 weeks of a written request. See the data list available to applicants upon request for details about the source and format for different kinds of data.**
2. Can you tell us the percent of programs/program directors that DO NOT have access to a computer and the internet? What is the percent of non-English speakers? **Approximately 70% of licensed providers have provided DCDEE with an email address. The actual percentage of providers with access to the internet may be higher because programs are not required to provide an email address. DCDEE does not have data about the percentage of non-English speakers.**
3. Are there regional meetings or events sponsored by DCDEE that are currently scheduled between January and March of 2013? **Regional meetings that are currently scheduled during this time frame already have a full agenda. DCDEE will work with the contractor to identify existing meetings or events that might be used to collect input from stakeholders if desired, but the contractor should not depend on already-scheduled events to collect this input.**
4. Can you explain the discrepancy of the final report being due on September 30, 2013 (page 4 of 10) and the grant going through October 31, 2012 (page 1 of 10)? **An initial report is due on September 30, 2013, including the items listed in Item G at the bottom of Page 4. DCDEE needs the information in the initial report to move ahead on schedule with Phase II of the Validation Study. Additional information must be included in the final report, due October 31, 2013, as described at the top of Page 5. The contractor is given an additional month to complete the expanded final report, and the contract end date corresponds with the due date for that report.**
5. How can we access the additional resources referenced on page 5 of 10? **They will be sent to applicants via email upon request at any time prior to December 12, when applications are due.**