

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Federal Government Looks to Upskill Its Workforce, Seeks Learning Content Partners

May XX, 2021

Washington - Today the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), on behalf of the Office of Management and Budget, the <u>Federal Chief Financial Officers Council</u> (CFOC) and the 24 largest federal agencies, issued a Request for Information (RFI) seeking applications from innovative learning content providers (e.g., online universities, business education content holders, tech companies, and talent development vendors) to help revolutionize the federal government's approach to workforce modernization and upskilling.

This RFI leverages the Federal Financial Management community (approximately 140,000 employees) as a test population in a broader effort to accelerate the rollout of agile and innovative approaches for upskilling the Federal workforce. It solicits participation from learning content providers who wish to partner with the CFO Council to provide pay-for access to content that aligns with 54 competency areas with emphasis on data, technology, and financial management skills.

As envisioned, the federal government seeks, through this pilot effort, to create a tool where employees can identify their individual knowledge gaps and purchase best-in-class education content.

If this limited in scale approach is successful in attracting effective, reasonably priced upskilling content, this model could be expanded to larger segments of the Federal Workforce (currently 2.1M employees).

Notable about this approach is that it is designed from the outset to be enticing to education providers – including those outside the beltway tech companies and online universities that may be reluctant to work in the government space due to burdensome procurement requirements and processes. Using a novel "Trusted Provider" strategy, this approach sidesteps nearly all the traditional contracting bureaucracy and instead creates a flexible teaming relationship with a select group of interested education providers.

This approach seeks to address a significant challenge that confronts both the public and commercial sectors. The pace of technological change is disrupting the workforce. By providing access to best-in-class training to its employees, the government seeks to give them tools to improve their knowledge and skills, thrive in the knowledge economy, and ultimately provide better services to the American public. This same challenge confronts much of the American public. The federal financial community looks forward to sharing lessons learned from this initiative and to collaborating with States, employers, and private



sector partners involved in this program to further develop solutions and provide for an upskilled workforce across multiple sectors.

Do you know an education provider, tech company, or online university that might be well suited for this initiative? Applications to become a part of this exciting and groundbreaking effort will only be accepted up until August 17, 2021. Interested parties can review the full RFI and application package on beta.sam.gov, available directly at Solicitation #XXXXXXXX (mirrored also on cfo.gov)

Are you a news outlet seeking more information? The federal financial community is eager to increase awareness and interest in this initiative and will make information and resources available to answer your questions. Members of the media should email questions to press@gsa.gov. Please use the subject header "Workforce Modernization Pilot" in all enquiries.

This initiative has been identified as a year-1 Biden Administration priority.

About the CFOC

The CFOC is the sponsoring organization for this initiative, and is composed of the Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) and Deputy Chief Financial Officers (DCFOs) of the 24 largest federal agencies and senior officials of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Treasury. The CFOC works collaboratively to improve financial management in the federal government. The GSA is assisting with implementing this fed-wide initiative.

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