

**State of Maine
Department of Education
PROPOSAL COVER PAGE**

RFP# 201507118

Adult Education Integrated Education and Training Pilot Grant

Adult Education Program Name: <i>Madawaska Adult and Community Education</i>		
Adult Education Director: <i>Stacey Cyr</i>		
Tel: <i>728-6314</i>	Fax: <i>728-3636</i>	E-mail: <i>staceyc@madawaskaschools.org</i>
Program Street Address: <i>135-7th Avenue</i>		
Program City/State/Zip: <i>Madawaska, ME 04756</i>		
<i>(provide information requested below if different from above)</i>		
Lead Point of Contact for Proposal - Name/Title: <i>Stacey Cyr, Director</i>		
Tel: <i>728-6314</i>	Fax: <i>728-3636</i>	E-mail: <i>staceyc@madawaskaschools.org</i>
Street Address: <i>135-7th Avenue</i>		
City/State/Zip: <i>Madawaska, ME 04756</i>		

Proposed Cost:	<i>\$70,000.00</i>
<i>The proposed cost listed above is for reference purposes only, not evaluation purposes. In the event that the cost noted above does not match the Bidder's detailed cost proposal documents, then the information on the cost proposal documents will take precedence.</i>	

- This proposal and the pricing structure contained herein will remain firm for a period of 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
- No personnel currently employed by the Department or any other State agency participated, either directly or indirectly, in any activities relating to the preparation of the Bidder's proposal.
- No attempt has been made or will be made by the Bidder to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a proposal.
- The undersigned is authorized to enter into contractual obligations on behalf of the above-named organization.

SECTION I: PROGRAM OVERVIEW**1. Abstract:** Provide a **one page**, single-spaced overview of the proposed project.

Since its first meeting in August, 2011, the St. John Valley Career Pathways Initiative (SJVCPPI) steering committee, which includes members representing local Adult Education programs, institutions of higher education, businesses and employers, and both local and regional community-based economic, employment, and workforce development service providers, has been surveying Valley employers regarding their education and training needs. Working with employers, the steering committee has identified the Trucking industry as a priority sector in our region.

The Valley Education and Training Trucking Initiative (VETTI) will address the critical and pressing need for certified truck drivers in our region. Truck driving is identified by the Maine Department of Labor as a high-demand, high-wage occupation in our state, and two recent surveys of seven of the larger trucking companies in the St. John Valley point to the need for up to 40 Commercial Driving License (CDL)-certified operators in the central and western sections of our region alone. The identified need includes long-haul truckers to transport agricultural produce (most notably, potatoes), lumber, and paper products produced in the Valley to other parts of Aroostook County, Maine, and the United States, logging road operators who can transport timber harvested from our local forest lands to the many saw and lumber mills in Aroostook County, and over-the-road operators who can haul wood chips, sawdust, and mulch to biomass sites throughout the region.

Working to address this multifaceted need, the SJVCPPI steering committee has secured a commitment from Northern Maine Community College (NMCC) to deliver its licensed CDL training program at a site in Madawaska from mid-April to mid-June, 2016 for a minimum and maximum of 12 qualified candidates. The VETTI will include a pre-training WorkReady component tailored to the trucking industry, the NMCC CDL training program featuring multiple industry-specific certifications, and a post-training education component on logging road driving for interested candidates. The project will be implemented according to the following timeline:

Stage 1 - Preliminary Save-the-Date notices and training program description included in Valley Adult Education Fall, 2015 Course Schedule Brochures.

Stage 2 - September-November, 2015: SJVCPPI-led customized WorkReady education and training component design with input from local trucking company representatives.

Stage 3 - November-December, 2015: SJVCPPI-led marketing campaign design with input from employers and NMCC.

Stage 4 - January-March, 2016: Marketing Campaign Implementation.

Stage 5 - March, 2016: Formal Screening of Applicants by Adult Education, NMCC, Career Center, and ACAP partners.

Stage 6 - Early to Mid-April, 2016: Customized WorkReady Training.

Stage 7 - Mid-April to Mid-June, 2016: CDL Training; design of logging road training component with input from local employers.

Stage 8 - Mid to Late June, 2016: Specialized training in logging road trucking for interested candidates.

Throughout the planning and implementation phase of this project, Ready2Work and Maine Apprenticeship Program opportunities with local trucking companies for qualified candidates will be explored and pursued with assistance from the Maine Department of Labor and our regional Career Center.