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## Special Education Consultant, STEM Curriculum Adaptation REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Location:** Anywhere in the US, but prefer NY or LA

**Start:** June 2021

### **BACKGROUND:**

America On Tech (AOT) and STEM Preparatory Schools (STEM Prep) announced a strategic alliance that will support 21st century learning for students with disabilities at STEM Prep in 9th and 11th grade through STEM learning labs. This work is supported by the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Charter Students with Disabilities Pilot Community Initiative](#). Ninety-one percent of the students served in this pilot community of 10 CMOs are Black or Latinx, and 83% live in low-income households.

According to the foundation, 1 in 5 children in the U.S. have learning and attention issues and only 20% of students with disabilities nationally score at proficient levels on state assessments. Further, on average, fewer than 70% earn a high school diploma within four years.

The strategic alliance between AOT and STEM Prep will continue over the course of three years and will take AOT's current digital media and web development curriculum and adapt it to the needs of students enrolled in STEM Prep's special education program. The year-long digital media course will be adapted for 9th grade students and the year-long web development course will be adapted for 11th grade students.

Each course will have a strong focus on targeting an increase in ELA and Math skills and will provide accommodations to ensure the success of student learning. The types of disabilities the curriculum would be adapted for include Specific Learning Disability, Autism, Other Health Impairment, Orthopedic Impairment, and Speech and Language Impairment.

### **WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR:**

AOT and STEM Prep are seeking an independent consultant(s) that can help us adapt both year-long curriculums for STEM Prep's students' with special education needs. The consultant(s) will:

- Develop and adapt:
  - 2 curriculums for 9th and 11th grade students (a digital media curriculum and a web development curriculum)
- Create the appropriate accommodations and supplemental materials necessary for both curriculums
- Create a guide for teachers that helps them in their implementation, facilitation and teaching of the program
- Create a detailed timeline for the development/adaptation of the curriculum, accommodations, supplemental materials
- Create a detailed plan for the approach of executing both curriculums and supplemental materials for students
- Draft a pilot plan for the implementation of both curriculums
- Conduct school visit to STEM Prep (pending social distancing guidelines due to COVID-19)

- Meet with the curriculum working group every two weeks to present and receive feedback on the curriculum adaptation
- Work with STEM Prep to execute school visits that support the development of curriculum and materials
- Facilitate ongoing check-ins with STEM Prep / AOT to plan for next steps, provide status updates, and receive feedback
- Obtain feedback from pilot activities (teacher data, observation feedback)

**IMPORTANT:** The consultant should be familiar with Math and ELA standards for 9th and 11th graders.

## **PROPOSAL ELEMENTS**

In your proposal we would like you to address the following elements:

- **Background**
  - Describe your experience and areas of strength.
  - Provide the names, titles and experience of the staff we would be working with.
  - What you most look forward from working with our students
  - If you/ your firm were a song title, what would it be and why?
- **Strategic Approach**
  - **Describe your approach in:**
    - Adapting curriculum for students with special needs
    - Utilizing practices around equity and inclusion in curriculum development
  - **Measurement and Impact**
    - Please explain your approach to measuring the impact and effectiveness of the strategies you have implemented with past clients.
    - A case study or examples would be appreciated, even if items need to be generalized to protect confidentiality.
  - **Compensation**
    - Please submit a proposed fee that reflects the scope of work of your proposal.
      - Shouldn't exceed \$12,000 per year
    - An hourly rate would be welcomed
  - **Client References**
    - Please submit at least two references among current or past clients including, name, company, phone number and email address.

**Application deadline:** Friday, May 12, 2021

**Targeted start date:** June 2021

**Submit your proposal here:** <https://www.americaontech.org/spedconsultantrfp.html>