

35070
ADOPTED-BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
APRIL 4, 2024

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

BLACK FIRE BRIGADE CONGRESSIONAL EARMARK PARTNERSHIP
MALCOLM X COLLEGE

THE CHANCELLOR RECOMMENDS:

that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair, upon final approval of the General Counsel as to the legal form of such agreements, to authorize the execution of an agreement with Black Fire Brigade for program partnership to expand diversity in the field of emergency medical services for the period to begin no sooner than April 4, 2024 through May 31, 2026, at a total cost not to exceed \$262,000.

VENDOR: Black Fire Brigade LLC
8404 S Kedzie Ave,
Chicago, IL 60652

USER: Malcolm X College

TERM:

The term of this agreement shall begin no sooner than April 4, 2024, through May 31, 2026.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The Black Fire Brigade, LLC will work in partnership with Malcolm X College to expand the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) workforce through creation of an intentional and supportive academic pathway inclusive of work-based learning to specifically engage students of color in the City of Chicago, an under-represented group within the profession. We believe this partnership will help to reduce the shortage of Emergency Medical Responders (EMR), Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), and Paramedics particularly those serving our communities of color and serve as an academic steppingstone to other advanced certifications in the field.

To accomplish this, Black Fire Brigade will serve to recruit participants into our EMS pathway programs with an emphasis on recruiting at least 100 participants into Malcolm X College's Continuing Education EMR program, nominating qualified EMS instructors for employment with Malcolm X College, and providing wrap around support to recruited students to support retention and completion through wellness and workforce readiness workshops, trauma response services, crisis intervention, counseling, educational supplies, transportation, food, and other needed support.

BENEFIT TO CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO:

The work of the US Department of Education Congressional Earmark will allow Malcolm X College to increase the number of students earning college credentials of economic value while strategically aligning with the Chicago West Side community need to diversify the EMS workforce.

Through this project, Malcolm X College in partnership with the Black Fire Brigade will expand its EMS stackable credential pipeline. This project will train at least 100 Emergency Medical Responders.

The partnership work of the Black Fire Brigade will benefit the project through recruitment efforts of both students and instructors and wraparound supports to complement those offered by the college to improve effectiveness to meet the goals of this earmark.

VENDOR SELECTION CRITERIA:

Black Fire Brigade is the only supplier identified and listed to provide this service, as part of the grant proposal submitted and approved. In accordance with the sole source policy procedures, this purchase is exempt from the District’s competitive bidding process.

MBE/WBE COMPLIANCE:

The Office of Procurement Services has reviewed the proposed compliance plan and recommends a full waiver of the Board Approved MBE/WBE Contract Participation Plan due to the nature of the agreement (grant-funded EMS recruitment services) and the absence of subcontracting opportunities.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General- It shall be the duty of each party to the agreement to cooperate with the Inspector General for City Colleges of Chicago in any investigation conducted pursuant to the Inspector General’s authority under Article 2, Section 2.7.4(b) of the Board Bylaws.

Ethics – It shall be the duty of each party to the agreement to comply with the applicable provisions of the Board’s Ethics Policy adopted January 7, 1993, and as amended by the Board.

Contingent Liability – Pursuant to Section 7-14 of the Illinois Public Community College Act, all agreements authorized herein shall contain a clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year.

FINANCIAL

Total: \$262,000

Charge to: Malcolm X College

Sources of Funds: Grant Fund – CFCP-IMMM

FY24: 530000-21000-3010000-30000-00000-108582430

Respectfully submitted,

**Juan Salgado
Chancellor**

April 4, 2024 – Malcolm X College