

35856
ADOPTED-BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
MAY 7, 2026

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

THRIVE STRATEGY EVALUATION
WEST ED, JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
THE OFFICE OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE
DISTRICT WIDE

THE CHANCELLOR RECOMMENDS:

that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair, upon final approval of the General Counsel of the legal form of such agreement, to exercise an agreement with West Ed, Joint Powers Authority for the Thrive Strategy Evaluation for the period no sooner than May 7, 2026 and continuing for five (5) years after such commencement, or until the completion of the project, whichever is sooner, at a total cost not to exceed \$340,000 for the term of the agreement.

VENDOR: West Ed, Joint Powers Authority
730 Harrison Street
San Francisco, California 94107

USERS: District Wide

TERM: The term of the agreement shall commence no sooner than May 7, 2026, and continue for five (5) years after such commencement date or until the completion of the project, whichever is sooner

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

WestEd, Joint Powers Authority will serve as a strategic partner to City Colleges of Chicago to design and implement a comprehensive, system level- evaluation of the Thrive Strategy, the district's coordinated approach to addressing students' basic needs. This work will examine how Thrive supports, including food security, emergency grants, mental health, housing, and technology, are implemented and experienced across colleges, and how they contribute to student persistence, completion, and overall wellbeing. The evaluation will emphasize system learning and scalability by assessing program impact, operational effectiveness, and return on investment, while generating actionable insights to strengthen implementation, inform future investment decisions, and guide the -long-term evolution of Thrive as a core component- of the CCC student experience.

BENEFIT TO CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO:

This evaluation will strengthen City Colleges' ability to improve student success by providing clear evidence about which Thrive support is most effective, for whom, and under what conditions. Findings will help CCC refine and scale high impact practices, ensure resources are aligned with student needs, and deepen institutional capacity to deliver coordinated, equitable- support across the system. In addition to advancing student persistence and completion, this work will position City Colleges as a

national leader in building evidence around comprehensive basic needs strategies in higher education, supporting broader policy conversations and future funding opportunities while reinforcing CCC’s commitment to student-centered, data informed - decision-making.

VENDOR SELECTION CRITERIA:

Specifications were prepared by District Procurement staff and publicly advertised on January 22, 2026, as RFP #WM2542. A preproposal conference was held on January 29, 2026. On February 20, 2026, two (2) companies submitted proposal responses: 1) West Ed Joint Powers Authority; 2) The University of Chicago; Both proposals were reviewed, evaluated, and ranked by the evaluation committee, which included staff from Strategy and Planning, Decision Support, and the Student Wellness Center. The members independently reviewed and rated the two (2) responses based upon the following criteria outlined in the RFP: All proposals were reviewed, evaluated, and ranked by a selection committee. The evaluation criteria included: 1. Ability to achieve the objectives and scope of services described in this RFP, including ability to meet any special requirements listed in interrogatory forms if applicable 2. Quality of implementation strategy 3. Responses to interrogatories 4. Proposed Team Structure, if applicable to the scope 5. Qualifications of Proposer and References 6. Reasonableness of overall price 7. MBE/WBE compliance plan Based on the evaluation of scoring of the written proposal and oral presentation the committee determined that West Ed Joint Powers Authority, Inc., be recommended to provide evaluation services for the Thrive initiative.

MBE/WBE COMPLIANCE:

The Office of Procurement Services has reviewed the proposed compliance plan and has determined that the vendor has complied with the Board Approved MBE/WBE Contract Participation Plan with a recommended 7% waiver of the WBE goal.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>MBE or WBE</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Participation</u>	<u>Certifying Agency</u>
EduDream LLC dba EduDream 227 West Monroe Suite 2100 Chicago, IL 60606	MBE	36	Direct	Cook County

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: \$340,000

Charge to: Office of Student Experience

Source of Funds: Restricted/Grant Fund

Budget Line: 530000-21000-0000144-30000-(Knight, CCT Thrive, and other)

Respectfully submitted,

**Juan Salgado
Chancellor**

MAY 7, 2026 – OFFICE OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE