

**Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)
Request For Proposals (RFP)
OregonBuys: S-52500-00017261**

HECC RFP# 26-002A-RFP OLDC Student Pathways Dashboard

Date: June 25, 2026
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Questions & Answers 1

- 1. Is there an incumbent currently providing these services?**

No

- 2. We understand HECC has PBI Pro only, but would like to know how many seats (licenses) does HECC have and how many of those are view-only?**

A Power BI Pro license will be issued to each key person listed in the contract requiring access. The OLDC program creates public dashboards, so there are no view-only licenses.

- 3. Could you please confirm will HECC provide dashboard-ready datasets, or is the contractor expected to perform significant data engineering, transformation, cleansing, and modeling activities?**

The OLDC research team at HECC will create and provide clean and transformed aggregate datasets that should be ready to load into Power BI. The contractor may need to perform additional cleaning, transformation, and data modeling in Power BI in support of the final dashboard design. The contractor also will create publicly available datasets from the aggregate datasets, which will require additional cleansing and transformation.

- 4. What is the estimated size (rows and columns) of the datasets at the state, district, county, ESD, and workforce region levels?**

State

Number of rows: 15 (one for each cohort, class of 2010-2024)

Number of columns: up to 1,000 (average outcomes at the state-level and outcomes at the state-level for different groups of students)

District

Number of rows: 2,955 (197 districts, 15 cohorts)

Number of columns: up to 1,000 (average outcomes at the district-level and outcomes at the district-level for different groups of students)

Education Service District

Number of rows: 285 (19 ESDs, 15 cohorts)

Number of columns: up to 1,000 (average outcomes at the ESD-level and outcomes at the ESD-level for different groups of students)

County

Number of rows: 540 (36 counties, 15 cohorts)

Number of columns: up to 1,000 (average outcomes at the county-level and outcomes at the county-level for different groups of students)

Local workforce region

Number of rows: 135 (9 regions, 15 cohorts)

Number of columns: up to 1,000 (average outcomes at the region-level and outcomes at the region-level for different groups of students)

5. Are the geographically segmented datasets already aggregated, or will the Contractor be required to perform additional aggregations and calculations?

Yes, the datasets will be aggregated. The Contractor will need to do additional work in Power BI to make them dashboard-ready and additional work in Azure Databricks to create the publicly available aggregate datasets.

6. Will the Contractor have direct access to the Azure Databricks environment, or will OLDC provide exported datasets?

The Contractor will have access to Azure Databricks from a HECC-provided and managed laptop only.

7. Are there any existing Power BI datasets, semantic models, templates, or branding standards that must be reused?

The design will need to follow OLDC's style guide which defines font, colors, and logos available.

8. Is a centralized database required to support the dashboard?

No, a centralized database is not used for supporting the dashboard.

9. How many dashboards do you expect to have in the website?

This will vary on the final design but will likely be either one dashboard with 3 pages or 3 dashboards. The dashboard(s) will have a small number of visualizations and be aligned with three different sets of outcomes: 1) pathways right after senior year, 2) postsecondary education and training enrollment, retention, and completion, and 3) median earnings by highest credential earned.

10. Do you expect to have any role-based dashboards internally?

No, these will be publicly available dashboards only.

11. Will the interactive map be developed within Power BI, or can third-party mapping visuals/tools be utilized?

OLDC prefers this is done in Power BI or a third-party tool available in Power BI.

12. What level of post-production support is expected during the November-January transition period?

The Contractor needs to make sure the OLDC team understands how to manage and update the Power BI dashboard when adding data in future years. This can be achieved by providing documentation in our Wiki in Azure DevOps and meetings to walk through processes.

13. Will HECC provide the required Power BI licenses for the project, or should vendors include Power BI licensing costs as part of their proposal?

HECC/OLDC will provide the required licenses.

14. Is the project expected to be delivered on a Fixed Price basis or Time & Materials basis?

HECC prefers Fixed Price based on tasks

15. Is there a maximum budget allocated for this project?

No.

16. Do you expect the vendor to perform any tasks on-site, or can all work be performed remotely?

All work is remote within the United States.

17. Do you accept off-shore resources?

No

18. Will interviews and/or solution demonstrations be part of the evaluation process?

Interviews and solution demonstrations are not a part of the evaluation process right now, but may be added.

19. How many dashboard pages and visualizations does OLDC currently anticipate (even a rough approximation would be helpful)?

OLDC has developed a set of dashboard specifications that outline the key questions, outcomes, and potential visuals we want to include. These materials will be provided to the selected Contractor as a starting point, not a final design.

We expect the Contractor to bring expertise in **user-centered dashboard design, data storytelling, and evidence-based visualization practices** to recommend the optimal number of pages, layout, and visualizations. We are intentionally leaving room for the Contractor to propose a structure that is both effective and intuitive for end-users, rather than prescribing a fixed page count or visual inventory in advance.

At this stage, OLDC anticipates multiple dashboard sections aligned with the three topics/sets of outcomes outlined in the RFP: 1) pathways after high school (senior year), 2) postsecondary education and training enrollment, retention, and completion, and 3) median earnings by highest credential earned. But the **final number of pages and visuals will be determined collaboratively** as part of the design phase.

20. What drill-down or drill-through capabilities are expected?

The design specification does not prescribe specific drill-down or drill-through functionality. These elements will be determined during the design phase in alignment with user-centered design principles and best practices for intuitive navigation. We expect the selected Contractor to recommend the most effective interaction patterns based on user needs and the overall dashboard experience.

21. What is the expected number of filters and dimensions available to users?

OLDC anticipates that users will be able to explore statewide trends over time with filters for district, ESD, county, and local workforce region (approximately four geographic filters). For dashboards focused on single-cohort outcomes, we expect state-level data with filters in the following areas:

- **Student identity** (approximately 4 filters: gender, race/ethnicity, economic disadvantage, experiences with housing instability)
- **Participation in K-12 programs** (approximately 3 filters: migrant education, special education, English language learner services)
- **K-12 academic progress indicators** (approximately 5 filters: attendance, freshmen-on-track, CTE participation, college credit in high school, and potentially assessment proficiency)
- **High school completion type** (1 filter)

These reflect our current expectations, but we are not prescribing the exact number or configuration of filters. The selected Contractor will be expected to recommend the optimal filtering approach based on user-centered design principles, data storytelling best practices, and what will make the dashboards most intuitive for end users.

22. Is building an interactive map in scope for this project?

The design specification includes an interactive map concept, but the final approach will be determined during the dashboard design phase. An interactive map is in scope and may be developed using native Power BI mapping capabilities or an appropriate third-party visual available within Power BI. The selected Contractor will recommend the most effective mapping solution based on user-centered design principles and the overall dashboard experience.

23. Work sample formats—The RFP says that “work samples must include a website or hard copy examples although website links to dashboards are preferred.” Are PDFs and image formats including png and jpeg screenshots acceptable work sample formats (considered as hard copies since they aren’t links to dashboards)?

Yes, pdf and image formats are acceptable.

24. Can HECC provide an anticipated budget range or not-to-exceed amount for this contract?

The anticipated budget is to remain within the intermediate threshold between \$25,000 and below \$250,000.