



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 22-3558, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Bureau of Economic Development

Vendor: Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC), Peoria, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Chief Procurement Officer to enter into and execute

Good(s) or Service(s): IMEC will provide marketing and outreach services as well as provide technical assistance to manufacturers participating in Cook County's Manufacturing Reinvented Program. The Cook County BED will be responsible for the administration and management of this program and distribution of \$4,625,000 in Implementation Grants to manufacturers during this contract period. The entire program is funded with ARPA funds.

Contract Value: \$375,000.00

Contract period: 7/1/2022 - 12/31/2024 with two (2) one-year renewal options

Potential Fiscal Year Budget Impact: FY2022 \$125,000 FY2023, \$125,000 FT2024 \$125,000

Accounts: 11286.1027.62179.520830.00000.00000

Contract Number(s): 2207-04281

Concurrences:

The contract-specific goal set on this contract was zero.

The Chief Procurement Officer concurs.

Summary: ARPA Program NT100: Cook County Manufacturing Reinvented will utilize technical assistance and implementation grants to assist Cook County manufacturers to addressing the needs and priorities identified in the 2020 **Urgent Needs of Manufacturers report** completed by the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC) in partnership with Cook County.

Eligible projects will support: market growth, productivity/automation adoption, workforce, leadership, and long-term direction. The program is designed to be highly customized to address specific company needs regardless of company size or sector. This is essential particularly for the very small manufacturers, defined as less than 20 employees. Finally, this program will serve as an ongoing method of gaining market insights from county manufacturers to further help Cook County adapt and plan for the ever-changing needs of the manufacturing sector.

IMEC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises (SMEs) in Illinois to be more competitive in the global marketplace by providing comprehensive and objective assessment tools and resources in the areas of Quality Management and System Implementations, Strategic Business and Management, Lean Enterprise, Supply Chain Optimization, Information Technology and Workforce Development. IMEC serves in this capacity as the designated Illinois representative for the US Department of Commerce Manufacturing

Extension Partnership (MEP). The MEP Network is comprised of 51 centers (one in each state and Puerto Rico). The Network's mission is to strengthen and empower US manufacturing and its' workforce. IMEC's role as the Illinois representative for the MEP Network makes it a unique resource with access to highly specialized staff and partners statewide.

This is a Sole Source Procurement pursuant to Section 34-139 of the Cook County Procurement Code.