

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS  
(BROAD - SERVICED- BASED)  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENTS**

**AGENCY:** District of Columbia Public Schools, Office of Teaching and Learning  
**CAPTION:** Summer School Middle School Partnerships  
**PROPOSED CONTRACTOR:** Generation Teach Inc.  
**Requisition Number:** RK268932

**FINDINGS**

**1. AUTHORIZATION:**

D.C. Official Code § 2-354.4 and 27 DCMR Sections 1304, and 1700.

Seventeen Professional development training courses which support principal, teacher, and student achievement pursuant to the District of Columbia Public Schools Master Education Plan.

**2. MINIMUM NEED:**

**GENERATION TEACH DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR SUMMER 2024 MIDDLE-SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM**

**1 - Scope of Services**

Generation Teach partners with districts to provide direct service in summer learning, talent recruitment, and leadership development. They specialize in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), social-emotional learning, enrichment, antiracist practices, and restorative justice. Our interconnected program model:

- Engages 6th-8th-grade students in summer learning in our 5-week GT STEM Academy.
- Invests in local undergraduate and high-school students in teaching through the award-winning AmeriCorps Summer Teaching Fellowship.
- Develops professional teachers as leaders in our multi-month AmeriCorps Leadership Residency.

**2 - Evidence-Based Approach**

General Teach uses evidence-based approaches to summer learning, including:

- Year-round, full-time program directors to lead summer planning beginning in the fall
- 3 hours of daily academic programming
- 5 weeks of programming
- Engagement of highly effective teachers and pre-summer training to prepare them to use the curriculum.
- Firm enrollment deadline, clear attendance policy, and daily attendance tracking
- Enrichment and community-building activities to engage and retain students.
- Positive program culture with clear positive messaging; we feature our core values, commitments to justice, equity, and community, and use of restorative practices.

3 - Summer Learning Model Program Overview

Generation Teach offers a high-quality 7.5-hour program (GT STEM Academy), 5 days/week, for 5 weeks, to 150 rising 6th-8th-grade district students at no cost to families. The GT STEAM Academy provides engineering, law, math, and reading classes designed to develop reading and writing skills, as well as the academic background knowledge critical to successful reading in middle and high school. Generation Teach also provides enrichment programming, including sports, art, games, and field trips. AmeriCorps Summer Teaching Fellows - undergraduate and high-school.

**3. ESTIMATED COSTS:**

The estimated costs of the services for these specific requirements are \$180,000 from the date of award through July 31, 2024.

**4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:**

- DCPS has long struggled with the ability to adequately meet the legal requirements of the Focused Student Achievement Act (FSAA) law which requires students who have not met promotion criteria to be retained pending successful completion of Summer School or receive a waiver from the Chancellor of DCPS.
- Generation Teach, a non-profit organization with 10 years of experience in summer programming at the national level with an exclusive partnership with AmeriCorps, would provide the potential solution that DCPS is looking for related to the situation of low student promotion rates during the summer term through its unique approach of developing professional teachers as leaders in its multi-month AmeriCorps Leadership Residency. Specifically, students who are at risk of being retained in their grade level need to achieve a passing grade in the subject(s) that they failed during the school year, as well as have no more than 3 unexcused absences during the summer term.
- DCPS has had consistent challenges with students in grades 6-8 being able to successfully complete the summer term that they are required to attend to be promoted therefore leading to students being retained or needing to be passed along through a waiver. DCPS is seeking a partnership that can provide an innovative curricular and pedagogical approach to summer programming that could boost the 6-8 grade student promotion rate during the summer term.
- Generation Teach and its exclusive partnership with AmeriCorps would meet DCPS' need as well by investing local undergraduate and high school students in tutoring our students after they have attended its award-winning AmeriCorps Summer Teaching Fellowship. At the same time, Generation Teach and its partnership with AmeriCorps would engage our 6th-8th-grade summer school students in summer learning through its 5-week Generation Teach STEAM Academy which would be hosted at one DCPS middle school site.

#### 4.A Background and History

Generation Teach (GT) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization which partners with district and charter schools to engage 6th-8th grade students in summer learning, invest undergraduate and high-school students in teaching, and develop professional teachers as leaders. GT's summer program includes a pre-summer training period for Teaching Fellows and a STEM Academy designed for middle-school students (or elementary-school students). GT recruits and selects its own staff to conduct the activities of the Program and is responsible for managing and paying GT staff.

#### 4.B Generation Teach - Program Overview

- Generation Teach offers a high-quality 7.5-hour program (GT STEM Academy), 5 days/week, for 5 weeks, to 150 rising 6th-8th-grade district students at no cost to families. The GT STEM Academy provides engineering, law, math, and reading classes designed to develop reading and writing skills, as well as the academic background knowledge critical to successful reading in middle and high school. Generation Teach also provides enrichment programming, including sports, art, games, and field trips.
- AmeriCorps Summer Teaching Fellows - undergraduate and high-school students recruited from DC schools, local colleges, and DC communities - teach the classes in the GT STEM Academy. AmeriCorps Leadership Residents - local teachers who complete multiple months of training in coaching, restorative practices, culturally responsive teaching, and program management - provide daily support for the teaching fellows. A full-time, year-round Generation Teach Director recruits, trains, and supports the AmeriCorps members as they teach, guide, support, and engage DC students and partner with DC families.

#### 4.C Project Goals:

The goals for Generation Teach as a pilot in DCPS are:

- Reverse summer slide, enroll and teach 150 students representing the district's demographics.
- Minimum of 80% average daily attendance; growth on socio-emotional assessments and academic growth is evidenced in student reflections and artifacts.
- Build a local, diverse teacher pipeline: recruit, select, and train 32 summer teaching fellows; 90% will grow as teachers, 90% will grow as leaders.
- Strengthen leadership pathways: recruit and engage 7 DCPS professional educators; 90% will report improved skills.

#### 4.D Vendor's Unique Qualifications

DCPS recommends Generation Teach (GT) as the sole source partner due to the significant level of expertise and their key partnership with AmeriCorps which is necessary to provide DCPS students with the resources, partnerships, and levels of support critical to middle school student success.

- Specifically, Generation Teach has ten years of experience leading no-cost summer programming. Generation Teach launched in Denver in 2014, opened in Boston in 2015, partnered with Holyoke and Providence in 2017, then expanded to Worcester (2022), and Dallas (2023).

- On average, 20% of students who have been served by GT are students with disabilities. GT recruits linguistically diverse AmeriCorps members to support its students; 44% of its 2023 AmeriCorps Teaching Fellows were bilingual; 38% of their national team members are bilingual. Nationwide, over the past ten years, over 7,400 6th-8th-grade students have participated in GT STEAM Academies. Over 1,730 undergraduate and high school students have completed Generation Teach summer teaching fellowships with daily coaching from professional teachers.
- Over 330 professional teachers have completed Generation Teach summer residencies; GT has coached teaching fellows, led restorative practices, and managed operations with daily coaching from Generation Teach National Team Members.
- GT's partners have included Denver Public Schools (2014 - present), Bridge Boston Charter School (2017-present); Providence Public Schools (2017-present); Holyoke Public Schools (2017-present); and Worcester Public Schools (2022-present), among others.
- All of GT's school district partners have been provided access to the GT STEAM Academy, AmeriCorps Summer Teaching Fellowship (AmeriCorps program since 2019), and AmeriCorps Leadership Residency (AmeriCorps program beginning in 2023).

#### **4.E Adverse impact of not choosing this vendor or completing this project**

Generation Teach has a proven record of accomplishment throughout the country for improving social- emotional outcomes for middle school students during the summer. In large city school districts like DCPS, such as Denver and Boston, Generation Teach has established successful partnerships with student demographics like Washington, DC. Further, Generation Teach is uniquely positioned through its partnership with AmeriCorps which helps underwrite many of the costs that would otherwise need to be assumed by a partner organization such as DCPS. While other organizations may exist that serve middle school students during the summer, they would not be organized in a way that could replicate the unique approach that Generation Teach takes.

Considering the above findings a sole source award is in the best interest of DCPS and would be the most efficient and cost-effective procurement method for these and other requirements with similar services, to ensure strategic goals at the district and school level are met.

#### **CERTIFICATION BY DCPS PROGRAM DIRECTOR:**

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Date 02/28/2024



Matthew Reif, Director – Extended Learning and Academic Recovery  
Office of Teaching and Learning

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the above certified findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Official Code §2-354.04) and 27 DCMR 1304, and 1701. Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Contracting Officer