1 2 3	Adult Education and Literacy Accelerate VI Request for Applications Approval Discussion Paper
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Background Accelerate Texas VI seeks applicants that will create Integrated Education and Training (IET) Career Pathway models to help Basic Skills Deficient (BSD) individuals by providing concurrent enrollment in Workforce Training and AEL services. The purpose of this Request for Application (RFA) is to solicit applications to design and deliver quality IET programs that address the educational needs of priority populations such as BSD individuals, English language learners (ELLs), and those without high school credentials. A secondary purpose of Accelerate Texas VI is to demonstrate and disseminate effective and innovative models statewide that expand Texas' capacity to deliver quality IET services for BSD individuals. Grant awards may develop and provide:
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	 expansion and targeted enhancement of existing IET models; IET designs that develop ESL curriculum contextualized for the workforce training that enable ELLs to simultaneously accelerate learning, increase language proficiency, and enter employment; ability-to-benefit (ATB) coenrollment models, as outlined in the Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) ID: GEN-16-09, for individuals without a high school credential; innovative IET models responsive to distancing protocols, remote instruction, and/or virtual training environments designed to maximize support for individuals with little or no access to technology in their home environments; and alignment with other core programs to serve common customers for coenrollment in collaboration with Local Workforce Development Boards; the Texas workforce system; employers; and other community partners, including institutions of higher education in order to create and expand pipelines and IET services to BSD individuals.
27 28 29 30	AEL legislation from the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2019), HB 1949 and Rider 46, states that " all grant applications and awards for the Adult Education and Family Literacy program shall be reviewed and approved by TWC's Commissioners prior to notification of award to the grant recipient."
31 32 33 34	Issue The anticipated grant start date is July 2021, and four winners have been recommended for a total award of up to \$2,018,677. This amount is higher than the original budget of \$2 million for the project, as proposed on July 28, 2020.
35 36 37	The following awards, totaling up to \$2,018,677, await the approval of the Texas Workforce Commission's three-member Commission (Commission): • One grant award, totaling up to \$520,248

One grant award, totaling up to \$542,741 38 39

- One grant award, totaling up to \$205,688
- - One grant award, totaling up to \$750,000

Decision Point: 41

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Staff seeks consideration and Commission approval of: 42

- the addition of \$18,677 to the budgeted amount for this RFA; and the four grant awards.