

Request for Information



State of Alaska
Department of Health and Social Services
Division of Public Health

Date Issued: September 16, 2021
Response Deadline: September 27, 2021 at 2:00PM (AKST)

SUPPORT FOR ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS (ASBHC)

Introduction:

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, Section of Women's, Children's and Family Health is seeking letters of interest from qualified parties capable and interested in providing contracted support for Anchorage School Based Health Centers (ASBHC). In partnership with the Anchorage School District, ASBHC will provide care at Begich Middle School, Clark Middle School, Bartlett High School and East High School in Anchorage to keep students healthy and in school.

Background Information:

School Based Health Centers provide comprehensive wellness exams, sports physicals, and appointments for ill students. Services are provided by licensed healthcare providers such as physicians, advanced nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. The goals are: 1) To increase access to health care for students, 2) reduce school absences, 3) increase participation in school sports, and 4) reduce inappropriate emergency room visits. These goals align with Healthy Alaska 2030 Leading Health Priorities (or health indicators), by increasing comprehensive wellness exams for Alaskan youth, and having a significant adult in their life they can seek help from. Please see <https://aksbhc.org/> for more information.

Minimum Requirements

- Vendor must provide quality, coordinated health services on-site to students to support their success at school at the selected sites, whose parents have given their consent for care/treatment.
- Services must be provided by licensed healthcare providers such as physicians, advanced nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.
- Vendor must be able to coordinate with students' private health care provider for any services received at school.
- Vendor must serve families regardless of the ability to pay and discount services based on income and family size.
- Vendor must be able to submit bills to insurance, including Denali Kid Care for physical exams and other health services provided.
- Vendor must have an Advisory Council with school, youth, medical, and community members.

Scope of Work

- Available services will include comprehensive and age-appropriate care similar to what is provided in a pediatric or family medicine office, i.e., acute illness and infection, injury assessment and treatment and/or referral, and physical exams.

- Services must be provided by licensed healthcare providers such as physicians, advanced nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.
- Vendor will coordinate services received at school with private health care providers at the request of parents or refer families to community healthcare providers, including primary care, as needed.
- Vendor must serve families regardless of the ability to pay and discount services based on income and family size. Vendor must be able to submit bills to insurance, including Denali Kid Care for physical exams and other health services provided.
- Must be flexible in offering services to students during lunchtime, some class times, and immediately after school.
- Vendor should have an Advisory Council with school, youth, medical, and community members.
- Vendor will initiate a risk assessment screening tool.

Budget

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, estimates a budget of \$30,000 per year and is intended to cover operating costs for salaries, insurance, risk assessment screening tools, medical equipment, and administrative costs.

Deliverables

- Deliverable 1 The vendor will use a risk assessment tool to assess students when they come in the school-based health office for services. This data will be provided in the semi-annual reporting,
- Deliverable 2 Vendor will provide semi-annual reporting of the number of students who received services at school-based healthcenters, including telehealth services, for comprehensive wellness visits.
- Deliverable 3 Vendor will provide an annual report of services delivered and final expenditures of funding.

Response Information:

How to Participate

Interested applicants/firms who believe they can provide the services described above should indicate their interest by submitting an electronic response (.pdf format is preferable) with the following information:

- Applicant/firm name
- Individual authorized to sign contracts
- Mailing and physical addresses
- Phone number
- Email address
- A summary that clearly describes how the applicant/firm meets or exceeds the minimum requirements shown in the minimum requirements section above.
- A statement confirming that the firm/applicant anticipates the project Scope of Work and Deliverables sections, as shown above, are reasonably within the estimated budget provided. Or, if not, why not?
- A summary of any concerns regarding the project as described. What potential obstacles should be anticipated?

Submission Instructions:

Applicants/firms must submit their response as a PDF file, sent via email, by September 27, 2021 at 2:00PM.

Responses should be attached and sent via email to the following:

Annalisa Haynie
Procurement Specialist
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
annalisa.haynie@alaska.gov

Important Notice:

This RFI does not extend any rights to prospective vendors or obligate the state to conduct a solicitation or purchase any goods or services. Nor will the State be financially responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of any response for the requested information. This RFI is issued for the sole purpose of obtaining information as described in this notice. However, the information obtained from this request may be used to prepare a purchase, contract, or solicitation in the future.