

Request for Information 1624-031



State of Alaska
Department of Health
Division of Finance and Management Services

Date Issued: 11/17/2023

PROJECT FIRSTLINE (PFL) – STATEWIDE INFECTION PREVENTION EDUCATION & TRAINING

Introduction:

The Alaska Department of Health, Division of Public Health, is seeking information from qualified parties capable and interested in providing Project Firstline education and training curriculum to healthcare facilities statewide in Alaska. Project Firstline (PFL) is a Center for Disease Control funded project focused on training all healthcare facility staff in the core concepts of infection prevention and control (IPC).

Background Information:

This project is federally-funded CDC program with grant metrics and reporting requirements. More information about PFL can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/index.html>

Budget

The State of Alaska, Division of Public Health, anticipates \$100,000 to \$150,000 per year for approximately four (4) years. The maximum budget is \$600,000 for total life of the project.

Scope of Work

The State of Alaska, Division of Public Health, Section of Epidemiology is seeking professional services to continue developing, promoting, and implementing CDC's Project Firstline (PFL) program. PFL is a federally funded program aimed at providing infection control education and training for all frontline healthcare workers – so they can protect their patients, their coworkers, and themselves from infectious disease threats in the healthcare setting.

The Section of Epidemiology is seeking a vendor to conduct continuous infection control training needs assessments and develop infection control curriculum as needed within the State of Alaska. The vendor will have an established network within the Alaska healthcare setting, staffed with employees who have on-site infection prevention experience, and will be well-versed in delivering educational material to a diverse group of recipients throughout the State of Alaska.

This project is likely to carry on through July of 2027. The vendor selected and implemented program will be reevaluated for continuation on a yearly basis upon review of performance and budget.

See here: <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/about.html>

Deliverables

If a solicitation is conducted, the following deliverables may be included:

- 1) PFL training curriculum tailored to meet Alaska's unique healthcare facility needs
- 2) PFL training curriculum available in different mediums/venues (ex: live webinar, recorded webinars, weekly live office hours, etc.)
- 3) PFL training available in different languages (ex: Spanish, Tagalog)
- 4) Increased engagement of healthcare facilities with DPH's Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program.
- 5) Increased knowledge and preparedness (among healthcare facility staff) for emerging multi-drug resistant organisms (MDROs) such as carbapenemase producing organisms (CPOs) and *Candida auris*.

*We offer and welcome organizations with unique and innovative approaches to delivering this content. Please note, there are federal CDC reporting metrics that the vendor will be responsible for tracking and submitting.

Preferred Minimum Experience:

- 1) Personnel with a minimum of three (3) years of experience as an Infection Preventionist in an Alaska healthcare facility; rural location experience
- 2) Previous experience implementing, designing, or delivering a PFL curriculum. This includes previous experience working with the CDC PFL Project Officers.
- 3) Established relationships and networks with most of the healthcare facilities statewide in Alaska.
- 4) Established as a trusted public health partner.

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 preferred) with the following information:

- a. Company name
- b. Contact Information, including email address, for the individual(s) who should be notified if DOH releases a solicitation.
- c. A summary that clearly describes your company's capabilities and experience related to providing the services described in this RFI, to include:
 1. What resources does your firm have to engage healthcare facilities statewide?
 2. Does your firm have an established network within Alaska's healthcare settings?
 3. Does your firm have the ability to conduct a needs analysis and then tailor the content to meet/address identified infection prevention and control (IPC) gaps?
- d. A summary that clearly describes how the applicant/firm meets or exceeds the preferred minimum experience.
- e. A statement confirming that the company anticipates the project deliverables are reasonably within the estimated budget or, if not, why?
- f. 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 November 30, 2023, at 2:00PM**. Responses should be attached and sent via email to the following:

Ashley Palembas

Procurement Specialist

Department of Health

Ashley.Palembas@alaska.gov

(907) 269-7867

It is the responsibility of the interested party to follow up with the person(s) listed above to ensure your response was received prior to the time and date specified at the top of this RFI.

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.