



Department of Health and Social Services
Finance and Management Services
Grants and Contracts Support Team
350 Main Street, Room 6
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RFP #2015-0600-2986
Medicaid Redesign and Expansion Technical Assistance

Amendment # THREE

Amendment Issue Date: March 11, 2015

Please alter the following language to match the amendment.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO OFFERORS: Only the following items referenced in this amendment are to be changed. All other sections of the RFP remain the same. This amendment serves to answer questions submitted by interested parties. A copy of the amendment is available on the State's Online Public Notice website.

• Vendor Questions have been answered as follows:

- 1) The RFP states one purpose of this engagement will be to identify "options that will assist with enrollment and benefit plans or waivers that will increase cost efficiencies for this group." Can the Authority expand on the reference to assisting with enrollment? Are there specific eligibility and enrollment issues Alaska sees as key to this engagement, or does the reference more broadly address assuring that cost effective care is provided to those who enroll as a result of the expansion?

ANSWER: Enrollment options are those that might increase the efficiency of initial enrollment such as changing from an assessment to a determination state through the Federally Facilitated Marketplace, enhancing Hospital Prospective Eligibility or other ways to streamline the application and determination process. This question can be viewed broadly in the context of providing cost effective care to those who enroll as a result of expansion.

- 2) Can the Authority provide the names of the vendors who submitted Letters of Interest by 12/15/14?

ANSWER: DHSS did not release the RFLOI that generated responses by vendors by 12/15/14. Interested parties who may be interested in the names provided can contact Valette Keller, The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Administrative Manager, Valette.Keller@alaska.gov

- 5) Will the winning vendor be precluded from bidding on any Medicaid Expansion implementation work should Alaska decide to move forward to expand?

ANSWER: No, the vendor will not be precluded from bidding on any Medicaid Expansion work.

- 6) On page 26, 4c states “provide technical assistance to the state in analyzing the financial impact of Medicaid expansion policies and regulations on health care industry sectors.” Does the RFP intend for the consulting team to provide technical assistance to state staff who will be analyzing the financial impact or does the RFP intend that the consultant team conduct the analysis of financial impact?

ANSWER: It might have been clearer if page 26, 4c said “provide technical assistance to the state *BY* analyzing the financial impact of Medicaid expansion policies---.” The RFP intends that the consultant team conduct the analysis of financial impact.

- 7) On page 27, 6a states “provide technical assistance to the state and its partners to determine reimbursement mechanisms which will promote patient access, improve patient outcomes, and contain cost.” Do you anticipate that data analysis/financial modeling will be required as part of this task?

ANSWER: Yes, we anticipate that data analysis/financial modeling will be required as part of this task.

- 8) Generally, can you provide an overview of any State or partner staff who will be dedicated to the project for the purposes of data, financial, or policy analysis?

ANSWER: Appropriate staff from the state will be assigned to this project as needed to assist with various analyses. The selected vendor will be advised of those assignments.

- 9) Does the State envision that there will be a stakeholder advisory committee(s) for the work identified under this RFP? Would the advisory group include the Medicaid Reform Advisory Group? Are there any plans to combine multiple stakeholder groups related to Medicaid Reform and Expansion into one Advisory Group? If so, about how large would that group(s) be and how many meetings should be anticipated for budgeting purposes? Would the contractor be responsible for the logistics? Will the Department and/or the Trust provide meeting space or should the contractor include funds for that? Should the contractor anticipate participating in the meetings in person?

ANSWER: The state does not intend to create an additional stakeholder advisory group to provide guidance for this project. We do expect to receive input and commentary from existing groups such as Commonwealth North, Alaska Behavioral Health Association, Alaska Primary Care Association, Alaska Hospital and Nursing Home Association and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. Face to face meetings with at least some of these groups will be necessary, others may be contacted through videoconferencing or teleconferencing. The vendor will be responsible for logistics and any necessary travel costs, although the state can assist by the provision of meeting space and teleconference or video conference capability. The vendor can decide, based on its proposal, how many advisory meetings to anticipate.

- 10) Pursuant to item 8a on page 27, the RFP requires "...an action plan and materials to increase public understanding of Medicaid reform and expansion initiatives." What type of materials does the State envision to help increase public understanding? Examples are surveys, blogs, videos, community forums, and others. Could the State provide guidance about what types of activities would be required by the contractor for budgeting purposes?

ANSWER: We would anticipate power points, master copies for flyers, brochures and inserts for print media, radio and TV news releases, and plans for community forums.

- 11) Is the State's current timeframe for expanding Medicaid still July 2015? If so, are there deliverables identified in the RFP that should be prepared prior to the date expansion becomes effective?

ANSWER: Yes, the state is still anticipating a July, 2015 Medicaid expansion implementation date, depending on legislative action. Should the implementation date remain on track, the state would need help with community outreach and engagement. Given the time frame based on the date of the award, the vendor can determine what materials can be produced to assist with the implementation effort.

- 12) What evidence would you like proposers to provide in order to meet the requirements under 6.06 demonstrating certifications and credentials of team members? Is it sufficient to list certifications, degrees, and other credentials within this section?

ANSWER: It will be sufficient for relevant degrees, certifications and other credentials to be listed in the resumes provided since the vendor will be responsible for assuring that all submissions are accurate and complete.

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