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DAVID R. BRINKLEY
Secretary

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Deputy Secretary

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES # 6
PROJECT NO. F10B6400003
Audit Services for State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program
January 28, 2016

Ladies/Gentlemen:

This List of Questions and Responses #6 is being issued to clarify certain information contained in the above named RFP. The statements and interpretations of contract requirements, which are stated in the following questions of potential offerors, are not binding on the State unless the State expressly amends the RFP. Nothing in the State's responses to these questions is to be construed as agreement to or acceptance by the State of any statement or interpretation on the part of the vendor asking the question as to what the contract does or does not require.

Please note that many vendors submitted questions that were significantly similar or requested the same information. Duplicate questions of this type are not repeated in this Q&A. Therefore, a vendor may not see its question reproduced here exactly. Please read through all the Q&As carefully before re-submitting a question. Thank you.

27. **QUESTION:** For purposes of section 4.4.2.15, Economic Benefit Factors, we need to know the locations where the medical, pharmacy, dental and FSA claims will be audited. For example, we know that UHC typically requires claims to be audited in Florida. Please advise of the locations for auditing CareFirst, Aetna, UHC, United Concordia, Delta, Connect Your Care and ESI.

RESPONSE:

Based on responses from our Vendor Contractors, the locations for claims auditing are anticipated to be:

Carefirst – Baltimore, MD
UHC – Oldsmar, FL
Aetna – Blue Bell, PA
UCCI – Harrisburg, PA
ESI – St. Louis, MO
CYC – Hunt Valley, MD
Kaiser – Denver, CO

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28. **QUESTION:** If a contractor has two separate certified MBE and VSBE's subcontractors and the VSBE is also an MBE, can we give the 1% of work to the VSBE and split the MBE work between the pure MBE and the MBE/VSBE subs? The VSBE would account for the full VSBE obligation and a portion of the MBE obligation.

RESPONSE:

If a Prime Contractor has a subcontractor who is a certified MBE and a subcontractor who is certified as both an MBE and a VSBE, the MBE who is also a VSBE may satisfy the 1% VSBE goal and a portion of the MBE goal.

29. **QUESTION:** Can a MBE and/or VSBE bid on proposals with two or more prime contractors?

RESPONSE:

If your question is can the same MBE and/or VSBE commit to be a subcontractor on more than one offeror's proposal for this procurement, then the answer is yes.

30. **QUESTION:** Would the state accept a MBE subcontractor who is in the process of getting certified with the Maryland State Department of Transportation (MDOT), Office of Minority Business Enterprise for this procurement?

RESPONSE:

The state would NOT accept an MBE subcontractor who is in the process of getting certified with the Maryland State Department of Transportation (MDOT), Office of Minority Business Enterprise. Under the MBE statute, pending certifications are not acceptable and an offeror that proposes a commitment to a pending MBE risks having its proposal rejected as certain MBE errors may not be corrected after proposal submission. See SFP §§14-303(c); COMAR 21.11.13.15.

Remember Proposals are due on March 31, 2016 no later than 2:00 p.m. If there are questions concerning this solicitation, please contact me via e-mail at joy.epstein@maryland.gov or call me at (410) 260-7570 as soon as possible.

Date Issued: March 25, 2016

By



Joy Epstein
Procurement Officer