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Deputy Secretary

**QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES #8
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 #8 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.

32. **QUESTION:** Based on the RFP, it appears that the engagement period for all Plans has changed from a fiscal year ending June 30th to a calendar year end. If this in fact the case, please confirm that the contract with the Vendor Contractors will permit a second claims audit of the period from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016.

RESPONSE:

The engagement period for all Plans changed from a fiscal plan year to a calendar plan year beginning with CY2014. The contract will not require a second claims audit of the period from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016. The transition to calendar year occurred on January 1, 2014. As such, the transition audit has already occurred for the period July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

33. **QUESTION:** If possible, could you confirm that the MBE/VSBE participation commitment is evaluated as part of the technical proposal in the selection process?

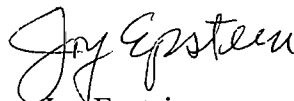
RESPONSE:

While MBE/VSBE participation commitment is an RFP technical requirement that will be considered under the standards set forth in RFP §1.33 and §1.41 and accompanying RFP Attachments D and M, MBE/VSBE participation commitment is not an evaluation factor under RFP §5.2 except to the extent Offeror qualifications and capabilities, including proposed subcontractors (which would include MBE and VSBE subcontractors), will be considered under RFP §5.2.3.

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 30, 2016

By



Joy Epstein
Procurement Officer