



State of Rhode Island
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August 29, 2017

ADDENDUM # 1

RFP: 7554619

Title: Application Service Provider to Support Rhode Island NEDSS

Submission Deadline: Wednesday September 13, 2017 @ 10:00 AM (Eastern Time)

Notice to Vendors:

Attached are the vendor questions with state responses. No further questions will be entertained.

Question 1: On Page 4, within the Introduction Section, item 15 references a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement may need to be signed. Is this agreement readily available for review?

Answer 1: HIPAA Business Associate agreement will be distributed at the time of award.

Question 2: On Page 4, within the Introduction Section, item 16 states: "In order to perform the contemplated services related to the Rhode Island Health Benefits Exchange (HealthSourceRI), the vendor hereby certifies that it is an "eligible entity," as defined by 45 C.F.R. § 155.110, in order to carry out one or more of the responsibilities of a health insurance exchange." However, the Section 3 (Scope of Work) does not list any work that the vendor may be responsible for directly with the Health Benefits Exchange. Please clarify this requirement and/or provide examples of the type of work that would be required within the exchange?"

Answer 2: This requirement is not applicable to this RFP.

Question 3: On Page 4, Point#14. Indicates the State of RI's goal of 10% participation by Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) in all State Procurements. Is the Contractor required to subcontract 10% of the proposed work to a MBE?

Answer 3: Vendors are encouraged to subcontract 10% of the work proposed in order to qualify for bonus points as stated in the evaluation section of the RFP. For more information please click on the link below to view the MBE regulations. <http://www.purchasing.ri.gov/documents/mbe-regulations-vendor-presentation.pdf>

Question 4: Section 1 (Introduction) and Section 2 (Background) reference that the current bid is for Application Service Provider (ASP) services for the RI-NBS and eHARS applications. The specific services required for eHARS support are not identified within the scope of work. We assume based on the background that NBS is used as a pass through for data streams into eHARS, outside of this assumption, what other tasks would be expected to be supported for eHARS?

Answer 4: The technical and program support required for EHARS will be to maintain and facilitate the data stream that passes through the integration engine (Rhapsody, currently) for NEDSS.

Question 5: Is the state open to having the hosting of the RI-NBS within the cloud/virtual machine that conforms to TIA-942 Tier 1 data center parameters and outside of Rhode Island state boundaries, or is the requirement for the infrastructure to be at a specific physical Rhode Island location?

Answer 5: Yes. RI-NBS is currently hosted in an Amazon Web Services cloud environment. The state is open to hosting services that are outside of state lines as long as they remain within the United States.

Question 6: Is Rhode Island open to having a IT configuration that exceeds the recommendations provided in the table on Pages 7 and 8? It may be more beneficial for these configurations to be exceeded depending on the current version of the NBS that is being run.

Answer 6: Yes.

Question 7: Is the entire bid fixed cost, or is the State open to a hybrid proposal that includes both Time and Materials and Fixed-Price components?

Answer 7: As outlined in Appendix C: Budget Detail Worksheet, the state is requesting a hybrid proposal that includes time and materials (personnel) and fixed price components (maintenance, hosting).

Question 8: Is the state open to other methods of authentication outside of RSA tokens? Will the vendor be responsible for providing new RSA tokens?

Answer 8: Yes

Question 9: Is there an expectation on the number of streams of data for ELR and ECR that will be brought online per year? How many streams currently exist?

Answer 9: Currently there are five ELR streams that exist. There are approximately 8-10 new ELR streams that need to be brought on board in the upcoming year. The expectation is to have ECR streams brought online by 2020.

Question 10: Can the Appendix C-Budget Detail Worksheet be modified to reflect the Contractor's specific cost accounting structure (i.e. companies often have a cost structure that reflect additional elements of cost such as overhead, G&A and Profit that are in additional to base salary and Fringe.

Answer 10: Any additional elements not captured in salary and fringe or consultant categories can be included in the other category of Appendix C.

Question 11: Page 1 of the solicitation states that offers received without the entire completed three-page RIVIP Generated Bidder Certification Form attached may result in disqualification. Please provide a copy of the Certification Form.

Answer 11: The RIVIP Certification is located on our website at the top of the search results screen, vendors are instructed to register in order to download a copy of this form.



Question 12: Page 3, paragraph 1 – The first paragraph in section 1 indicates that eHARS Application Service Provider (ASP) services are in scope, but eHARS is only mentioned in one other area in the RFP and is not listed in the scope of work section. Can RI confirm if eHARS ASP services are in scope?

Answer 12: The technical and program support required for EHARS will be to maintain and facilitate the data stream that passes through the integration engine (Rhapsody, currently) for NEDSS.

Question 13: Page 4, item #10 – Vendor proposal responses include information about processes, proprietary methods, vendor intellectual property, and trade secrets which are typically protected from public disclosure. Per RI 38-2-2(4)(B), will RI allow portions of the bidder's proposal to be marked proprietary and confidential and excluded from the public record?

Answer 13: All proprietary and confidential information is reviewed by our legal department to determine if it should be excluded from public record.

Sharon Louro
Buyer II

Interested parties should monitor this website, on a regular basis, for any additional information that may be posted.