

RFP # 2023-IH-01
Inpatient Hospital Quality Assurance
Proposer Questions and Agency Answers
08/31/2023

Question ID:	1
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	In A. Medical Record Selection, it is stated that that the contractor must “Review a five percent sample of each hospital’s admissions.” How many cases has this included per quarter over the past two years?
Section Number:	II.A
RFP Page Number:	8
Agency Answer:	Q3 2020-1314'; Q4 2020-1289' Q1 2021-1296; Q2 2021-1352; Q3 2021-1390; Q4 2021-1347; Q1 2022-1323; Q2 2022;-1329
Question ID:	2
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	How would any future enhancements to the MMIS or Gainwell VPN be managed by the QIO Contractor, assuming the enhancements impact operations described within the RFP? Must any planning and budgeting for such enhancements be included in the proposed fixed price?
Section Number:	II.J
RFP Page Number:	17-18
Agency Answer:	17-The Contractor agrees to enter into a contract with Medicaid’s Fiscal Agent, Gainwell; this item would be between the Contractor and the Fiscal Agent.
Question ID:	3
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	Given the short turnaround time from the estimated response to questions to the proposal due date (7 business days), would the Agency consider extending the due date of the proposal by two weeks?
Section Number:	B
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	No.

Question ID:	4
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	RFP Section I (p.7) states the Agency is requesting proposals from a qualified Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) entity. Per the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), under Section 1902 (d) of the Social Security Act, a State can contract with a QIO or QIO-like entity to perform medical and utilization review functions required by law. Please confirm that if an offeror is certified by CMS as QIO-like under Section 1152 of the Social Security Act, the Agency will accept this certification as meeting the requirement in the RFP.
Section Number:	I
RFP Page Number:	7
Agency Answer:	The Agency is requesting proposals from qualified Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) entities
Question ID:	5
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	RFP Section II.A (p.8) states “The initial medical record review will be selected on October 1, 2023...”. Can the Agency please clarify what the expected start date is for the Contractor’s operations phase and whether this date will be negotiated with the selected vendor following contract award?
Section Number:	II.A
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	Please see Amendment 1
Question ID:	6
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	Approximately how many Utilization Review Plans did the current contractor review in each of the last 3 full years (state fiscal or calendar) to ensure the plan meets federal requirements?
Section Number:	II.A.2
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	Calendar years. 2020-289; 2021-321; 2022-263

Question ID:	7
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	Approximately how many Medical Care Evaluation studies did the current contractor review in each of the last 3 full years (state fiscal or calendar) to ensure the study meets federal requirements?
Section Number:	II.A.2
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	Calendar years. 2020-280; 2021-308; 2022-246
Question ID:	8
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	Approximately how many informal reviews did the current contractor process in each of the last 3 full years (state fiscal or calendar)?
Section Number:	II.A.2
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	2020-4 2021-2 2022-4
Question ID:	9
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	What was the average annual number of fair hearing cases in which the current contractor participated in over the last 3 full years?
Section Number:	II.A.5
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	1-2 hearings per year per Fair Hearings Coordinator

Question ID:	10
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	RFP Section II.K (p.18) states “Contractor shall complete all prospective, concurrent, and retrospective reviews and prior approval requests of medical equipment, procedures, and inpatient services not completed by previous Contractor, and shall provide support for any pending fair hearings as directed by Medicaid”. a.) Please confirm it was the Agency’s intent in this requirement to include reviews outside of inpatient hospital services (the core scope of this RFP). b.) Please provide the expected backlogged volumes (reviews, requests, hearings) the new Contractor should expect to process for each of these services.
Section Number:	II.K
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	See Amendment 1
Question ID:	11
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	Please provide the current fees being paid to the current contractor.
Section Number:	III
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	The Agency is not paying any fees other than the contracted amount.
Question ID:	12
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	Please provide the total amount paid by the Agency to the current contractor in the last full fiscal (or calendar) year?
Section Number:	III
RFP Page Number:	
Agency Answer:	\$499,999.92 in the last 12 months, spanning 2 contracts, neither fiscal or calendar years.

Question ID:	13
Date Question Asked:	8/21/2023
Question:	<p>RFP Section VIII.C (p.27) states “The initial contract term shall be for two years effective November 1, 2023, through October 31, 2025. Alabama Medicaid shall have four, one-year options for extending this contract if approved by the Legislative Contract Review Oversight Committee.”</p> <p>However, the pricing form in Appendix C (p.53) only allows the bidder to submit pricing for 5 years. Please clarify whether the contract term, including option years, is 5 years or 6 years.</p>
Section Number:	III
RFP Page Number:	27
Agency Answer:	See Amendment 1