

RFP # 062 24000000082**Medicaid Pharmacy Average Acquisition Cost Program****Proposer Questions and Agency Answers****10/07/2024**

Question ID:	1
Date Question Asked:	09/13/2024
Question:	How many Alabama pharmacies are surveyed bi-annually?
Section Number:	N/A
RFP Page Number:	N/A
Agency Answer:	Currently, the process is a bi-annual (twice yearly) survey to randomly selected pharmacies once every two years. Mathematically, this equates to an average of ¼ of the currently enrolled pharmacies, which equates to approximately 300 pharmacies twice yearly. However, if the need should arise, or if the Vendor recommends otherwise and approved by the State and/or CMS, the Vendor must adapt to increased or decreased surveys throughout the contract period.
Question ID:	2
Date Question Asked:	09/13/2024
Question:	Does the survey include out-of-state specialty and/or mail-order pharmacies shipping prescriptions into Alabama?
Section Number:	N/A
RFP Page Number:	N/A
Agency Answer:	Alabama Medicaid enrolls pharmacies outside the state of Alabama; pharmacies within a 30-mile radius of the state border may enroll as a provider, as well as out of state pharmacies for certain specialty drugs. Therefore, the Vendor may need to include enrolled pharmacies that have a physical location outside the state of Alabama.
Question ID:	3
Date Question Asked:	09/13/2024
Question:	How many of the bi-annually surveyed pharmacies are chain pharmacies? How many are independent pharmacies?
Section Number:	N/A
RFP Page Number:	N/A
Agency Answer:	The surveyed pharmacies are approximately 50% chain pharmacies and 50% independent pharmacies.

Question ID:	4
Date Question Asked:	09/13/2024
Question:	How many cost review requests are received annually?
Section Number:	N/A
RFP Page Number:	N/A
Agency Answer:	<p>According to reporting parameters, it is projected for FY 2024, approximately 1854 help desk requests were received.</p> <p>The selected Vendor must address, and complete pricing appeals and any/all calls/inquiries related to AAC.</p>
Question ID:	5
Date Question Asked:	09/13/2024
Question:	How much is the fee being paid to the current vendor to complete this work annually?
Section Number:	N/A
RFP Page Number:	N/A
Agency Answer:	Medicaid will not provide this information through the procurement process.
Question ID:	6
Date Question Asked:	09/20/2024
Question:	In addition to the review, maintenance, and reporting requirements listed in the RFP, are there additional ad-hoc reports required by the State? If so, what are examples and to what frequency?
Section Number:	General
RFP Page Number:	General

Agency Answer:	<p>With each bi-annual survey, the selected Vendor must submit reports to identify trends as described in the RFP, plus monthly reports to include contract maintenance criteria. <u>In addition</u> to the requirements listed in the RFP under review, maintenance, and reporting section, there are ad-hoc reports requested by the State which require the selected Vendor to be well-versed in pharmacy pricing models. For example, the state may request (ad-hoc or routine):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparison of the state-based AAC to NADAC, FUL, WAC, and/or other pricing types • Comparison of the state-based AAC to other state/third party pricing types • Research of other states' reimbursement methodology, State Plans, and policy • Recommendations by the selected Vendor for policy changes • Cost savings related to recommendations by the selected Vendor for policy changes • Comparison/cost savings related to national trends • Specific drug and/or drug grouping comparison/cost savings analysis • Specialty drug market reporting/comparison • Dispensing fee analysis/research
Question ID:	7
Date Question Asked:	09/20/2024
Question:	Does Alabama Medicaid expect AAC rates to be calculated for products that are considered non-drug products (e.g. bulk powders, diabetic supplies, vaccines)?
Section Number:	Section II
RFP Page Number:	7
Agency Answer:	The Agency does not currently calculate AAC rates on certain non-drug products; however, if the need should arise, the Vendor must calculate AAC rates on these products.
Question ID:	8
Date Question Asked:	09/20/2024
Question:	Will the AAC vendor leverage the Alabama license subscription to FDB or will the AAC vendor be required to provide its own license and access to FDB? Is the vendor allowed to change to Medi-Span?
Section Number:	Section I
RFP Page Number:	7

Agency Answer:	The selected Vendor is required to obtain their own licensing through FDB. The Vendor must have the ability to receive pricing updates and all other components from FDB, be well-versed in FDB groupings and file transfers, and be knowledgeable to receive, interpret, and make recommendations to the Agency based on various updates and file transfers from FDB. The Agency does not anticipate moving to MediSpan at this time.
Question ID:	9
Date Question Asked:	09/20/2024
Question:	Is the expectation for the new AAC vendor to use the existing infrastructure (e.g. website, links, policies, etc.) to administer the AAC program or do we have to create one from scratch?
Section Number:	Section II
RFP Page Number:	8
Agency Answer:	The current AAC website maintained by the current Vendor will not transfer if a new Vendor is selected; a new product/links/website will be required. Existing policies developed and maintained by the State will remain with the State and the selected Vendor must abide by state policy. Should a new Vendor be selected, the selected Vendor must create any other document/policy/etc. that is considered proprietary by the current Vendor.