

**STATE PURCHASING DIVISION  
OF THE  
GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
AND  
MEDICAID AUDIT AGENT FOR MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS (MCOs)**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

**MEDICAID AUDIT AGENT**



**RFP# 17-630-8000-0006**

Release Date – March 20, 2017

Proposal Due Date- April 20, 2017

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **A. PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The purpose of the Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the State of New Mexico's Human Services Department (HSD), Medical Assistance Division (MAD) to solicit sealed proposals to establish a contract through competitive negotiations for the procurement of an audit agent. The audit agent will perform audits of the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) that participate in the New Mexico Medicaid Program.

The purpose of this RFP is to select Offerors with experience and knowledge to perform audits and consultation services as described in the Scope of Work. Work will be performed at the direction of the Project Manager.

### **B. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This section provides background on the HSD/MAD that may be helpful to Offerors in preparing a proposal. The information is provided as an overview and is not intended to be a complete and exhaustive description.

1. HSD Goals:
  - Promote Self-Sufficiency of our Recipients
  - Slow the Growth Rate of Health Care Costs and Improve Health Outcomes
  - Implement Person-Centric Service Models
  - Simplify and Improve Administrative Effectiveness
2. HSD Mission:

To reduce the impact of poverty on people living in New Mexico by providing support services that help families break the cycle of dependency on public assistance.
3. HSD Resources and Locations: Approximately seventy nine percent (79%) of HSD's Medicaid Revenue is from federal sources, sixteen percent (16%) is from the state general fund, and five percent (5%) is from other state funds.
4. Organization of HSD: HSD is a cabinet-level agency in the Executive Branch of New Mexico State Government, headed by a Cabinet Secretary who is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the New Mexico Senate. HSD consists of the Office of the Secretary and four program Divisions: Medical Assistance Division (MAD), Income Support Division (ISD), Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED), and Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD).

The Human Services Department is also a key member of the NM Behavioral Health Collaborative and works across state agencies to collaborate on behavioral health issues.

5. Overview of the Medicaid Program: The MAD manages and administers the Medicaid Program for the State of New Mexico. Medicaid is authorized under Title XIX of the Social Security Act. The program provides access to medically necessary health services for eligible individuals. The program is jointly funded by federal and state governments with the federal contribution determined by the relative national ranking of the state in per capita income.

Effective January 1, 2014, The Department moved into a predominately managed care program called Centennial Care. The design creates a single, comprehensive delivery system administered by four managed care plans, allowing for an integrated model of care and greater administrative simplicity. The program emphasizes care coordination and the provision of Physical Health, Behavioral Health and Long Term Services and Supports under a managed care model.

While New Mexico's Medicaid Program covers more than 40 eligibility categories, the following are the major groups of persons eligible for Medicaid. Individuals in households receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) under welfare reform; blind and disabled individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI); certain aged, blind, and disabled individuals requiring nursing home care; children under the jurisdiction of the state; pregnant women in households with incomes at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Level; and, children in households with income up to 235 percent of the Federal Poverty Level under Title XXI. The remaining categories are related to special circumstances and/or types of services needed.

As of December 31, 2016, there were approximately 690,045 individuals enrolled in New Mexico Medicaid managed care with 893,623 individuals on the Medicaid programs overall. The Medicaid program regulations allow reimbursement for a broad array of health services and providers. Mandated services include: general acute inpatient hospital care; outpatient hospital services; physician services provided in a variety of settings; nursing home care; home health care; hospice care, rural health clinic services including services in federally qualified health centers; laboratory and radiology; nurse practitioner services; medically necessary Early Periodic Screening, diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) services for clients under age 21; family planning; nurse mid-wife services; and, emergency and non-emergency transportation.

Optional services are provided to New Mexico Medicaid members as described in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and may be found in the HSD's Medicaid Managed Care Service Agreement for each Managed Care Organization(MCOs). The managed care program is a fully capitated, risk-based system under contract with four MCOs. The program uses several reimbursement methods for its providers.

Effective October 1, 1989, the New Mexico Medicaid Program began reimbursing covered inpatient hospital services using a prospective reimbursement system.

This prospective reimbursement system compensated hospitals on a designated amount “per discharge,” classified according to the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) method. Specialty hospitals and certified special units within the hospital are reimbursed on a Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) basis.

### **C. SCOPE OF PROCUREMENT**

The scope of procurement shall encompass the defined Scope of Work contained in the Sample Professional Services Contract (Appendix C) of this RFP. The contract is scheduled to begin on July 1, 2017 or upon receiving all required state approvals whichever is later, and end on June 30, 2019. The contract may be extended for two (2) additional one (1) year periods. In no circumstances shall the contract exceed a total of four (4) years in duration.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- If this is a procurement that will result in a statewide price agreement, that agreement is available to all executive agencies and other political subdivisions of the State of New Mexico. If this is not EXPLICITLY stated, the procurement will result in a contractual agreement only (see next).
- If this is a procurement that will result in a contractual agreement between two parties, the procurement may be used ONLY by those two parties exclusively.

### **D. PROCUREMENT MANAGER**

1. Human Services Department/ Medical Assistance Division has assigned a Procurement Manager who is responsible for the conduct of this procurement whose name, address, telephone number and e-mail address are listed below:

Name: Norma D. Lucero, Procurement Manager  
Address: Human Services Department/Medical Assistance Division  
P.O. Box 2348  
2025 South Pacheco Street  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2348  
Telephone: (505) 827-3127  
Fax: (505) 476-6877  
Email: norma.lucero@state.nm.us

2. All deliveries of responses via express carrier must be addressed as follows (except for electronic submissions through SPD’s electronic procurement system eProNM):

Name: Norma D. Lucero, Procurement Manager  
Reference RFP Name: Medicaid Audit Agent for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)  
Address: State Purchasing Division  
1100 St. Francis Dr. Room 2016  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

3. **Any inquiries or requests** regarding this procurement should be submitted in writing to the Procurement Manager. Offerors may contact **ONLY** the Procurement Manager regarding this procurement. Other state employees or Evaluation Committee members do not have the authority to respond on behalf of the HSD.

## **E. DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY**

This section contains definitions of terms used throughout this procurement document, including appropriate abbreviations:

**“Agency”** means the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department or that State Agency sponsoring the Procurement action.

**“Authorized Purchaser”** means an individual authorized by a Participating Entity to place orders against this contract.

**“Audit Agent”** means the selected Contractor.

**“Award”** means the final execution of the contract document.

**“BHSD”** means the Behavioral Health Services Division of the Human Services Department.

**“Border Area Services”** means services rendered within 100 miles of the New Mexico state border (Mexico excluded). The Medical Assistance Division pays for border area services to the same extent and subject to the same rules and requirements that such services are covered when provided within the state.

**“Business Hours”** means 8:00 AM thru 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time.

**“Close of Business”** means 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time.

**“CMS”** means the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Federal agency of the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for administering Medicare and Medicaid.

**“Confidential”** means confidential financial information concerning offeror’s organization and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act NMSA 1978 57-3-A-1 to 57-3A-7. See NMAC 1.4.1.45. As one example, no information that could be obtained from a source outside this request for proposals can be considered confidential information.

**“Contract”** means any agreement for the procurement of items of tangible personal property, services or construction.

**“Contract Year”** means the period beginning July 1 of each year and ending June 30.

**“Contractor”** means any business having a contract with a state agency or local public body.

**“Department”** means the Human Services Department of the State of New Mexico.

**“Desk Review”** means an in-house analysis of cost report data submitted by the provider. The purpose of the desk review is to arrive at an opinion as to whether the costs appear to be reasonable and allowable for reimbursement under relevant Federal and State regulations.

**“Determination”** means the written documentation of a decision of a procurement officer including findings of fact required to support a decision. A determination becomes part of the procurement file to which it pertains.

**“Desirable”** the terms "may", "can", "should", "preferably", or "prefers" identify a desirable or discretionary item or factor.

**“DFA”** means the Department of Finance and Administration of the Human Services Department.

**“Division”** means the Medical Assistance Division of the Human Services Department.

**“Electronic Version/Copy”** means a digital form consisting of text, images or both readable on computers or other electronic devices that includes all content that the Original and Hard Copy proposals contain. The digital form may be submitted using a compact disc (cd) or USB flash drive. The electronic version/copy can NOT be emailed.

**“Evaluation Committee”** means a body appointed to perform the evaluation of Offerors’ proposals.

**“Evaluation Committee Report”** means a report prepared by the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee for contract award. It will contain written determinations resulting from the procurement.

**“Field Audit”** means an on-site analysis of cost report data submitted by a provider. This constitutes an in-depth review of the providers’ financial and statistical records to verify data submitted on the cost report is accurate, complete, allowable and reasonable.

**“Finalist”** means an Offeror who meets all the mandatory specifications of this Request for Proposals and whose score on evaluation factors is sufficiently high to merit further consideration by the Evaluation Committee.

**“Hourly Rate”** means the proposed fully loaded maximum hourly rates that include travel, per diem, fringe benefits and any overhead costs for contractor personnel, as well as subcontractor personnel if appropriate.

**“HSD”** means the Human Services Department of the State of New Mexico, which is the executive department in New Mexico responsible for the administration of Title XIX (Medicaid). The term HSD may also indicate the Department’s designee, as applicable.

**“In-State”** means a rendering provider or facility operating within New Mexico and also includes border area services.

**“IT”** means Information Technology.

**“LTSS”** means Long Term Services and Supports.

**“MAD”** means Medical Assistance Division which is the Division at the Human Services Department administering the Medicaid program.

**“Mandatory”** – the terms "must", "shall", "will", "is required", or "are required", identify a mandatory item or factor. Failure to meet a mandatory item or factor will result in the rejection of the Offeror’s proposal.

**“Medicaid”** means the Medical Assistance Program, authorized under Section XIX of the Social Security Act, furnished to New Mexico residents who meet specific eligibility requirements.

**“MCO”** means managed care organization, which is an entity that participates in Centennial Care under contract with HSD to assist the State in meeting the requirements established under NMSA 1978, § 27-2-12.

**“Minor Technical Irregularities”** means anything in the proposal that does not affect the price quality and quantity or any other mandatory requirement.

**“Offeror”** is any person, corporation, or partnership that chooses to submit a proposal.

**“Procurement Manager”** means any person or designee authorized by a state agency or local public body to enter into or administer contracts and make written determinations with respect thereto.

**“Program Manual”** means the State of New Mexico Medical Assistance Division Program Policy Manual.

**“Procuring Agency”** means all State of New Mexico agencies, commissions, institutions, political subdivisions and local public bodies allowed by law to entertain procurements.

**“Project”** means a temporary process undertaken to solve a well-defined goal or objective with clearly defined start and end times, a set of clearly defined tasks, and a budget. The project terminates once the project scope is achieved and project acceptance is given by the project executive sponsor.



**“Provider”** means a Hospital, Home Health Agency, Federally Qualified Health Center, Rural Health clinic, or other Physical Health, Behavioral Health or Long Term Care provider certified by the Department to provide Medicaid services to a recipient under the Department’s regulations.

**“Redacted”** means a version/copy of the proposal with the information considered confidential as defined by NMAC 1.4.1.45 and defined herein and outlined in Section II.C.8 of this RFP blacked out BUT NOT omitted or removed.

**“RFP”** means Request for Proposals and are all documents, including those attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting proposals.

**“Responsible Offeror”** means an Offeror who submits a responsive proposal and who has furnished, when required, information and data to prove that his financial resources, production or service facilities, personnel, service reputation and experience are adequate to make satisfactory delivery of the services, or items of tangible personal property described in the proposal.

**“Responsive Offer” or “Responsive Proposal”** or means an offer which conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the request for proposals. Material respects of a request for proposals include, but are not limited to price, quality, quantity or delivery requirements.

**“Sealed”** means, in terms of a non-electronic submission, that the proposal is enclosed in a package which is completely fastened in such a way that nothing can be added or removed. Open packages submitted will not be accepted except for packages that may have been damaged by the delivery service itself. The State reserves the right, however, to accept or reject packages where there may have been damage done by the delivery service itself. Whether a package has been damaged by the delivery service or left unfastened and should or should not be accepted is a determination to be made by the Procurement Manager. By submitting a proposal, the Offeror agrees to and concurs with this process and accepts the determination of the Procurement Manager in such cases.

**“Secretary”** means the Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Human Services Department.

**“Services Schedule”** means a complete list, accompanied by the descriptive narrative, grouped by service categories, of services provided by Offerors.

**“Settlement”** means a final determination of reimbursable cost and/or the establishment of a prospective per diem rate for a provider.

**“SPD”** means State Purchasing Division of the New Mexico State General Services Department.

**“Staff”** means any individual who is a full-time, part-time, or an independently contracted employee with the Offerors’ company.

**“State (the State)”** means the State of New Mexico.

**“State Agency”** means any department, commission, council, board, committee, institution, legislative body, agency, government corporation, educational institution or official of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the government of this state.

“State agency” includes the purchasing division of the general services department and the state purchasing agent but does not include local public bodies.

**“State Purchasing Agent”** means the director of the purchasing division of the general services department.

**“Statement of Concurrence”** means an affirmative statement from the Offeror to the required specification agreeing to comply and concur with the stated requirement(s). This statement shall be included in Offerors proposal. (E.g. “We concur”, “Understands and Complies”, “Comply”, “Will Comply if Applicable” etc.)

**“Unredacted”** means a version/copy of the proposal containing all complete information including any that the Offeror would otherwise consider confidential, such copy for use only for the purposes of evaluation.

**“Value Based Purchasing”** means a broad set of payment strategies that link financial incentives to providers’ performance on a set of defined measures of quality and/or cost or resource use with the goal of achieving better value by driving improvements in quality and slowing the growth in health care spending.

**“Written”** means typewritten on standard 8 ½ x 11 inch paper. Larger paper is permissible for charts, spreadsheets, etc.

## **F. PROCUREMENT LIBRARY**

A procurement library has been established. Offerors are encouraged to review the material contained in the Procurement Library by selecting the link provided in the electronic version of this document through your own internet connection or by contacting the Procurement Manager and scheduling an appointment. The library contains information listed below:

Procurement Regulations and Request for Proposal – RFP instructions:

[http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/statepurchasing/ITBs\\_RFPs\\_and\\_Bid\\_Tabulation.aspx](http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/statepurchasing/ITBs_RFPs_and_Bid_Tabulation.aspx).

For Information related to HSD, the HSD website:

<http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/>

## II. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT

This section of the RFP contains the schedule, description and conditions governing the procurement.

### A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Procurement Manager will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Action	Responsible Party	Due Dates*
1. Issue RFP	SPD	03/20/2017
2. Distribution List	Agency	03/29/2017
3. Pre-Proposal Conference	Agency	03/29/2017
4. Deadline to submit Questions	Potential Offerors	03/31/2017
5. Response to Written Questions	Procurement Manager	04/07/2017
6. Submission of Proposal	<b>Potential Offerors</b>	04/20/2017
7. Proposal Evaluation	Evaluation Committee	04/21/2017 to 04/28/2017
8. Selection of Finalists	Evaluation Committee	04/28/2017
9. Best and Final Offers	Finalist Offerors	05/05/2017
10. Oral Presentation(s)	Finalist Offerors	05/09/2017 to 5/11/2017
11. Finalize Contractual Agreements	Agency/Finalist Offerors	05/12/2017
12. Contract Awards	Agency/ Finalist Offerors	05/31/2017
13. Protest Deadline	SPD	15 days after contract award notice

\*Dates subject to change based on number of responses to evaluate and final approval from federal partners, if applicable.

### B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

The following paragraphs describe the activities listed in the sequence of events shown in Section II.A., above.

#### 1. Issuance of RFP

This RFP is issued on behalf of the New Mexico State Human Services Department/Medical Assistance Division on the date stated in Section II. A., Sequence of Events. The RFP and amendments, if any, may be downloaded from the following address:

## **2. Distribution List**

Distribution List Potential Offerors should hand deliver, email, return by facsimile or by registered or certified mail the "Acknowledgement of Receipt of Request for Proposals Form" that accompanies this document, APPENDIX A, to have their organization placed on the procurement distribution list. The form should be signed by an authorized representative of the organization, dated and returned to the Procurement Manager by 5:00 pm Mountain Daylight Time on the date stated in Section II. A., Sequence of Events.

The procurement distribution list will be used for the distribution of written responses to questions. Failure to return the Acknowledgement of Receipt form shall constitute a presumption of receipt and rejection of the RFP, and the potential Offeror's organization name shall not appear on the distribution list.

## **3. Pre-Proposal Conference**

A pre-proposal conference will be held as indicated in the sequence of events beginning at 9:00 AM Mountain Daylight Time at the Administrative Services Division Conference Room, 1474 Rodeo Rd, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505. Potential Offeror(s) are encouraged to submit written questions in advance of the conference to the Procurement Manager (see Section I, Paragraph D). The identity of the organization submitting the question(s) will not be revealed. Additional written questions may be submitted at the conference. All written questions will be addressed in writing on the date listed in the Sequence of Events. A public log will be kept of the names of potential Offeror(s) that attended the pre-proposal conference.

Attendance at the pre-proposal conference is highly recommended, but not a prerequisite for submission of a proposal.

## **4. Deadline to Submit Written Questions**

Potential Offerors may submit written questions to the Procurement Manager as to the intent or clarity of this RFP until 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time, the date stated in Section II. A., Sequence of Events. All written questions must be addressed to the Procurement Manager as declared in Section I., Paragraph D. Questions shall be clearly labeled and shall cite the Section(s) in the RFP or other document which form the basis of the question.

## **5. Response to Written Questions**

Written responses to written questions will be distributed as indicated in the sequence of events to all potential Offerors whose organization name appears on

the procurement distribution list. An e-mail copy will be sent to all Offeror's that provide Acknowledgement of Receipt Forms described in II.B.2 before the deadline. Additional copies will be posted to:

[http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/statepurchasing/ITBs\\_RFPs\\_and Bid Ta\\_bulation.aspx](http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/statepurchasing/ITBs_RFPs_and_Bid_Ta_bulation.aspx).

## **6. Submission of Proposal**

**ALL OFFEROR PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION BY THE PROCUREMENT MANAGER OR DESIGNEE NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME/DAYLIGHT TIME ON the date stated in Section II. A., Sequence of Events.** Proposals received after this deadline will not be accepted. The date and time of receipt will be recorded on each proposal.

Proposals must be addressed and delivered to the Procurement Manager at the address listed in Section I, Paragraph D2 (except for electronic submissions through SPD's electronic procurement system). Proposals must be sealed and labeled on the outside of the package to clearly indicate that they are in response to the Medicaid Audit Agent for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) RFP #17-630-8000-0006. Proposals submitted by facsimile, or other electronic means other than through the SPD electronic e-procurement system, will not be accepted.

A public log will be kept of the names of all Offeror organizations that submitted proposals. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-116, the contents of proposals shall not be disclosed to competing potential Offerors during the negotiation process. The negotiation process is deemed to be in effect until the contract is awarded pursuant to this Request for Proposals. Awarded in this context means the final required state agency signature on the contract(s) resulting from the procurement has been obtained.

## **7. Proposal Evaluation**

An Evaluation Committee will perform the evaluation of proposals. This process will take place as indicated in the sequence of events, depending upon the number of proposals received. During this time, the Procurement Manager may initiate discussions with Offerors who submit responsive or potentially responsive proposals for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the proposals. However, proposals may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion. Discussions SHALL NOT be initiated by the Offerors.

## **8. Selection of Finalists**

The Evaluation Committee will select and the Procurement Manager will notify the finalist Offerors as per schedule Section II.A., Sequence of Events or as soon as possible. A schedule for the oral presentation and demonstration will be determined at this time.

## **9. Best and Final Offers**

Finalist Offerors may be asked to submit revisions to their proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers by as per schedule Section II.A., Sequence of Events or as soon as possible. Best and final offers may also be clarified and amended at finalist Offeror's oral presentation and demonstration.

## **10. Oral Presentations**

Finalist Offerors may be required to conduct an oral presentation at a location to be determined as per schedule Section II.A., Sequence of Events or as soon as possible. Whether or not oral presentations will be held is at the discretion of the Evaluation Committee and SPD.

## **11. Finalize Contractual Agreements**

Any Contractual agreement(s) resulting from this RFP will be finalized with the most advantageous Offeror(s) as per schedule Section II. A., Sequence of Events or as soon thereafter as possible. This date is subject to change at the discretion of the State Purchasing Division or relevant Agency Procurement office. In the event mutually agreeable terms cannot be reached with the apparent most advantageous Offeror in the time specified, the State reserves the right to finalize a contractual agreement with the next most advantageous Offeror(s) without undertaking a new procurement process.

## **12. Contract Awards**

After review of the Evaluation Committee Report and the signed contractual agreement, the Agency Procurement office will award as per the schedule in Section II.A., Sequence of Events or as soon as possible thereafter. This date is subject to change at the discretion of the State Purchasing Division or relevant Agency Procurement office.

The contract shall be awarded to the Offeror (or Offerors) whose proposals are most advantageous to the State of New Mexico and the Human Services Department/Medical Assistance Division, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP. The most advantageous proposal may or may not have received the most points. The award is subject to appropriate Department and State approval.

## **13. Protest Deadline**

Any protest by an Offeror must be timely and in conformance with NMSA 1978, § 13-1-172 and applicable procurement regulations. As a Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-172, ONLY protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. The 15 calendar day protest period shall begin on the day following the award of contracts and will end at 5:00 pm Mountain Standard Time/Daylight Time on the 15<sup>th</sup> day. Protests must be written

and must include the name and address of the protestor and the request for proposal number. It must also contain a statement of the grounds for protest including appropriate supporting exhibits and it must specify the ruling requested from the party listed below. The protest must be delivered to:

Office of General Counsel  
Pollon Plaza  
2009 South Pacheco  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Administrative Services Division / Human Services Department  
P.O. Box 2348  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348

Protests received after the deadline will not be accepted.

## **C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement**

Potential Offerors must indicate their acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement section in the letter of transmittal. Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP.

### **2. Incurring Cost**

Any cost incurred by the potential Offeror in preparation, transmittal, and/or presentation of any proposal or material submitted in response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the Offeror. Any cost incurred by the Offeror for set up and demonstration of the proposed equipment and/or system shall be borne solely by the Offeror.

### **3. Prime Contractor Responsibility**

Any contractual agreement that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of all requirements of the contractual agreement with a state agency which may derive from this RFP. The state agency entering into a contractual agreement with a vendor will make payments to only the prime contractor.

### **4. Subcontractors/Consent**

The use of subcontractors is allowed. The prime contractor shall be wholly responsible for the entire performance of the contractual agreement whether or not subcontractors are used. Additionally, the prime contractor must receive approval,

in writing, from the agency awarding any resultant contract, before any subcontractor is used during the term of this agreement.

## **5. Amended Proposals**

An Offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposals must be complete replacements for a previously submitted proposal and must be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. The Agency personnel will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.

## **6. Offeror's Rights to Withdraw Proposal**

Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. The Offeror must submit a written withdrawal request addressed to the Procurement Manager and signed by the Offeror's duly authorized representative.

The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations.

## **7. Proposal Offer Firm**

Responses to this RFP, including proposal prices for services, will be considered firm for one hundred twenty (120) days after the due date for receipt of proposals or ninety (90) days after the due date for the receipt of a best and final offer, if the Offeror is invited or required to submit one.

## **8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents**

- A. Proposals will be kept confidential until negotiations and the award are completed by the Agency. At that time, all proposals and documents pertaining to the proposals will be open to the public, except for material that is clearly marked proprietary or confidential. The Procurement Manager will not disclose or make public any pages of a proposal on which the potential Offeror has stamped or imprinted "proprietary" or "confidential" subject to the following requirements:
- B. Proprietary or confidential data shall be readily separable from the proposal in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential portion of the proposal.
- C. Confidential data is restricted to:
  - 1. confidential financial information concerning the Offeror's organization;
  - 2. and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, NMSA 1978 § 57-3A-1 to 57-3A-7.
  - 3. PLEASE NOTE: The price of products offered or the cost of services proposed **shall not be designated** as proprietary or confidential information.



If a request is received for disclosure of data for which an Offeror has made a written request for confidentiality, the State Purchasing Division or the Agency shall examine the Offeror's request and make a written determination that specifies which portions of the proposal should be disclosed. Unless the Offeror takes legal action to prevent the disclosure, the proposal will be so disclosed. The proposal shall be open to public inspection subject to any continuing prohibition on the disclosure of confidential data.

#### **9. No Obligation**

This RFP in no manner obligates the State of New Mexico or any of its Agencies to the use of any Offeror's services until a valid written contract is awarded and approved by appropriate authorities.

#### **10. Termination**

This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the agency determines such action to be in the best interest of the State of New Mexico.

#### **11. Sufficient Appropriation**

Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such terminations will be effected by sending written notice to the contractor. The Agency's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.

#### **12. Legal Review**

The Agency requires that all Offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any Offeror's concerns must be promptly submitted in writing to the attention of the Procurement Manager.

#### **13. Governing Law**

This RFP and any agreement with an Offeror which may result from this procurement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

#### **14. Basis for Proposal**

Only information supplied, in writing, by the Agency through the Procurement Manager or in this RFP should be used as the basis for the preparation of Offeror proposals.

#### **15. Contract Terms and Conditions**

The contract between an agency and a contractor will follow the format specified by the Agency and contain the terms and conditions set forth in the Sample Contract Appendix C. However, the contracting agency reserves the right to

negotiate provisions in addition to those contained in this RFP (Sample Contract) with any Offeror. The contents of this RFP, as revised and/or supplemented, and the successful Offeror's proposal will be incorporated into and become part of any resultant contract.

The Agency discourages exceptions from the contract terms and conditions as set forth in the RFP Sample Contract. Such exceptions may cause a proposal to be rejected as nonresponsive when, in the sole judgment of the Agency (and its evaluation team), the proposal appears to be conditioned on the exception, or correction of what is deemed to be a deficiency, or an unacceptable exception is proposed which would require a substantial proposal rewrite to correct.

Should an Offeror object to any of the terms and conditions as set forth in the RFP Sample Contract (APPENDIX C) strongly enough to propose alternate terms and conditions in spite of the above, the Offeror must propose **specific** alternative language. The Agency may or may not accept the alternative language. General references to the Offeror's terms and conditions or attempts at complete substitutions of the Sample Contract are not acceptable to the Agency and will result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal.

Offerors must provide a brief discussion of the purpose and impact, if any, of each proposed change followed by the specific proposed alternate wording.

If an Offeror fails to propose any alternate terms and conditions during the procurement process (the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror), no proposed alternate terms and conditions will be considered later during the negotiation process. Failure to propose alternate terms and conditions during the procurement process (the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror) is an **explicit agreement** by the Offeror that the contractual terms and conditions contained herein are **accepted** by the Offeror.

## **16. Offeror's Terms and Conditions**

Offerors must submit with the proposal a complete set of any additional terms and conditions they expect to have included in a contract negotiated with the Agency. Please see Section II.C.15 for requirements.

## **17. Contract Deviations**

Any additional terms and conditions, which may be the subject of negotiation (such terms and conditions having been proposed during the procurement process, that is, the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror), will be discussed only between the Agency and the Offeror selected and shall not be deemed an opportunity to amend the Offeror's proposal.

## **18. Offeror Qualifications**

The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the potential Offeror to adhere to the requirements

specified within this RFP. The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any potential Offeror who is not a Responsible Offeror or fails to submit a responsive offer as defined in NMSA 1978, § 13-1-83 and 13-1-85.

#### **19. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities**

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor irregularities. The Evaluation Committee also reserves the right to waive mandatory requirements provided that all of the otherwise responsive proposals failed to meet the same mandatory requirements and the failure to do so does not otherwise materially affect the procurement. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

#### **20. Change in Contractor Representatives**

The Agency reserves the right to require a change in contractor representatives if the assigned representative(s) is / (are) not, in the opinion of the Agency, adequately meeting the needs of the Agency.

#### **21. Notice of Penalties**

The Procurement Code, NMSA 1978, § 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, imposes civil, misdemeanor and felony criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

#### **22. Agency Rights**

The Agency in agreement with the Evaluation Committee reserves the right to accept all or a portion of a potential Offeror's proposal.

#### **23. Right to Publish**

Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, Offerors and contractors must secure from the agency written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by this procurement and/or agency contracts deriving from this procurement. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal or removal from the contract.

#### **24. Ownership of Proposals**

All documents submitted in response to the RFP shall become property of the State of New Mexico.

#### **25. Confidentiality**

Any confidential information provided to, or developed by, the contractor in the performance of the contract resulting from this RFP shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the contractor without the prior written approval of the Agency.

The Contractor(s) agrees to protect the confidentiality of all confidential information and not to publish or disclose such information to any third party without the procuring Agency's written permission.

## **26. Electronic mail address required**

A large part of the communication regarding this procurement will be conducted by electronic mail (e-mail). Offeror must have a valid e-mail address to receive this correspondence. (See also Section II.B.5, Response to Written Questions).

## **27. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP**

This RFP is being made available by electronic means. In the event of conflict between a version of the RFP in the Offeror's possession and the version maintained by the agency, the Offeror acknowledges that the version maintained by the agency shall govern. Please refer to:

[http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/statepurchasing/ITBs\\_RFPs\\_and Bid Ta\\_bulation.aspx](http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/statepurchasing/ITBs_RFPs_and_Bid_Ta_bulation.aspx).

## **28. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage**

- A. If the Offeror has, or grows to, six (6) or more employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, Offeror must agree to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.
- B. Offeror must agree to maintain a record of the number of employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) decline health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) decline health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.
- C. Offeror must agree to advise all employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following web site link to additional information  
<http://www.insurenemexico.state.nm.us/>.
- D. For Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Delivery contracts (price agreements without specific limitations on quantity and providing for an indeterminate number of orders to be placed against it); these requirements shall apply the first day of the second month after the Offeror reports combined sales (from state and, if applicable, from local public bodies if from a state price agreement) of \$250,000.

## 29. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

Offeror must complete, sign, and return the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form, APPENDIX B, as a part of their proposal. This requirement applies regardless whether a covered contribution was made or not made for the positions of Governor and Lieutenant Governor or other identified official. Failure to complete and return the signed unaltered form will result in disqualification.

## 30. Letter of Transmittal

Offeror's proposal must be accompanied by the Letter of Transmittal Form located in APPENDIX E which must be completed and signed by an individual person authorized to obligate the company. The letter of transmittal MUST:

1. Identify the submitting business entity.
2. Identify the name, title, telephone, and e-mail address of the person authorized by the Offeror organization to contractually obligate the business entity providing the Offer.
3. Identify the name, title, telephone, and e-mail address of the person authorized to negotiate the contract on behalf of the organization (if different than (2) above).
4. Identify the names, titles, telephone, and e-mail addresses of persons to be contacted for clarification/questions regarding proposal content.
5. Identify sub-contractors (if any) anticipated to be utilized in the performance of any resultant contract award.
6. Describe the relationship with any other entity which will be used in the performance of this awarded contract.
7. Identify the following with a check mark and signature where required:
  - a. **Explicitly** indicate acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement stated in Section II. C.1;
  - b. **Explicitly** indicate acceptance of Section V of this RFP; and
  - c. Acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP.
8. Be signed by the person identified in para 2 above.

## 31. Pay Equity Reporting Requirements

- A. If the Offeror has ten (10) or more employees OR eight (8) or more employees in the same job classification, Offeror must complete and submit the required reporting form (PE10-249) if they are awarded a contract. Out-of-state Contractors that have no facilities and no employees working in New Mexico are exempt if the contract is directly with the out-of-state contractor and fulfilled directly by the out-of-state contractor, and not passed through a local vendor.
- B. For contracts that extend beyond one (1) calendar year, or are extended beyond one (1) calendar year, Offeror must also agree to complete and submit the required form annually within thirty (30) calendar days of the annual bid or proposal submittal anniversary date and, if more than 180 days has elapsed since submittal of the last report, at the completion of the contract.

- C. Should Offeror not meet the size requirement for reporting at contract award but subsequently grows such that they meet or exceed the size requirement for reporting, Offeror must agree to provide the required report within ninety (90) calendar days of meeting or exceeding the size requirement.
- D. Offeror must also agree to levy these reporting requirements on any subcontractor(s) performing more than 10% of the dollar value of this contract if said subcontractor(s) meets, or grows to meet, the stated employee size thresholds during the term of the contract. Offeror must further agree that, should one or more subcontractor not meet the size requirement for reporting at contract award but subsequently grows such that they meet or exceed the size requirement for reporting, offer will submit the required report, for each such subcontractor, within ninety (90) calendar days of that subcontractor meeting or exceeding the size requirement.

### **32. Disclosure Regarding Responsibility**

- A. Any prospective Contractor and any of its Principals who enter into a contract greater than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) with any state agency or local public body for professional services, tangible personal property, services or construction agrees to disclose whether the Contractor, or any principal of the Contractor's company:
  - 1. is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for award of contract by any federal entity, state agency or local public body;
  - 2. has within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted in a criminal matter or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:
    - a. the commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) contract or subcontract;
    - b. violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes related to the submission of offers; or
    - c. the commission in any federal or state jurisdiction of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, violation of Federal criminal tax law, or receiving stolen property;
  - 3. is presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any (federal state or local) government entity with the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph A of this disclosure;
  - 4. has, preceding this offer, been notified of any delinquent Federal or state taxes in an amount that exceeds \$3,000.00 of which the liability remains unsatisfied. Taxes are considered delinquent if the following criteria apply.

- a. The tax liability is finally determined. The liability is finally determined if it has been assessed. A liability is not finally determined if there is a pending administrative or judicial challenge. In the case of a judicial challenge of the liability, the liability is not finally determined until all judicial appeal rights have been exhausted.
  - b. The taxpayer is delinquent in making payment. A taxpayer is delinquent if the taxpayer has failed to pay the tax liability when full payment was due and required. A taxpayer is not delinquent in cases where enforced collection action is precluded.
  - c. Have within a three year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any federal or state agency or local public body.)
- B. Principal, for the purpose of this disclosure, means an officer, director, owner, partner, or a person having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity or related entities.
- C. The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor learns that the Contractor's disclosure was at any time erroneous or became erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- D. A disclosure that any of the items in this requirement exist will not necessarily result in termination of this Agreement. However, the disclosure will be considered in the determination of the Contractor's responsibility and ability to perform under this Agreement. Failure of the Contractor to furnish a disclosure or provide additional information as requested will render the Offeror nonresponsive.
- E. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the disclosure required by this document. The knowledge and information of a Contractor is not required to exceed that which is the normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- F. The disclosure requirement provided is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making an award and is a continuing material representation of the facts during the term of this Agreement. If during the performance of the contract, the Contractor is indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any government entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any offenses named in this document the Contractor must provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement. If it is later determined that the Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous disclosure, in addition to other remedies available to the Government, the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may terminate the involved contract for cause. Still further the State Purchasing

Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may suspend or debar the Contractor from eligibility for future solicitations until such time as the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer.

### **33. New Mexico Preferences**

To ensure adequate consideration and application of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended), Offerors must include a copy of their preference certificate with their proposal. Certificates for preferences must be obtained through the New Mexico Department of Taxation & Revenue <http://www.tax.newmexico.gov/Businesses/in-state-veteran-preference-certification.aspx>.

A. New Mexico Business Preference

B. New Mexico Resident Veterans Business Preference

In addition to a copy of the certification, the Offeror should sign and complete the Resident Veterans Preference Certificate form, as provided in this RFP.

An agency shall not award a business both a resident business preference and a resident veteran business preference.

The New Mexico Preferences shall not apply when the expenditures for this RFP include federal funds.



### III. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION

#### A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES

Offerors shall submit only one proposal in response to this RFP.

#### B. NUMBER OF COPIES

##### Hard Copy Responses

Offeror's proposal must be clearly labeled and numbered and indexed as outlined in **Section III.C. Proposal Format**. Proposals must be submitted as outlined below. The original copy shall be clearly marked as such on the front of the binder. Each portion of the proposal (technical/cost) must be submitted in separate binders and must be prominently displayed on the front cover. Envelopes, packages or boxes containing the original and the copies must be clearly labeled and submitted in a sealed envelope, package, or box bearing the following information:

Offerors should deliver:

1. **Technical Proposals** – One (1) ORIGINAL, THREE (3) IDENTICAL HARD COPIES, and one (1) electronic copy of the proposal containing ONLY the Technical Proposal; ORIGINAL and COPIES shall be in separate labeled binders. **The electronic version/copy can NOT be emailed.**
  - Proposals containing confidential information **must** be submitted as two separate binders:
    - **Unredacted** version for evaluation purposes
    - **Redacted** version (information blacked out and not omitted or removed) for the public file
2. **Cost Proposals** – One (1) ORIGINAL, two (2) IDENTICAL HARD COPIES, and one (1) electronic copy of the proposal containing ONLY the Cost Proposal; ORIGINAL and COPY of Cost Proposal shall be in separate labeled binders from the Technical Proposals. **The electronic copy can NOT be emailed.**

The electronic version/copy of the proposal **must** mirror the physical binders submitted (i.e. One (1) **unredacted cd/usb**, one (1) **redacted cd/usb**). **The electronic version can NOT be emailed.**

3. The original, hard copy and electronic copy information **must** be identical. In the event of a conflict between versions of the submitted proposal, the Original hard copy shall govern.

## C. PROPOSAL FORMAT

All proposals must be submitted as follows:

Hard copies must be typewritten on standard 8 ½ x 11 inch paper (larger paper is permissible for charts, spreadsheets, etc.) and placed within binders with tabs delineating each section.

Organization of folders/envelopes for hard copy proposals and electronic copy proposals and proposals submitted via eProNM:

### 1. Proposal Content and Organization

Direct reference to pre-prepared or promotional material may be used if referenced and clearly marked. Promotional material should be minimal. The proposal must be organized and indexed in the following format and must contain, at a minimum, all listed items in the sequence indicated.

### 2. Technical Proposal (Binder 1):

- A. Signed Letter of Transmittal
- B. Table of Contents
- C. Proposal Summary (Optional)
- D. Response to Contract Terms and Conditions
- E. Offeror's Additional Terms and Conditions
- F. Response to Specifications (**except cost information which shall be included in Cost Proposal/Binder 2 only**)
  1. Organizational Experience
  2. Organizational References
  3. Oral Presentation
  4. Mandatory Specification
  5. Desirable Specification
  6. Financial Stability - Financial information considered confidential should be placed in the **Confidential Information** binder.
  7. Performance Surety Bond
  8. Signed Campaign Contribution Form
  9. New Mexico Preferences (If applicable)
- G. Other Supporting Material (If applicable)

### 3. Cost Proposal (Binder 2):

1. Completed Cost Response Form

Within each section of the proposal, Offerors should address the items in the order indicated above. All forms provided in this RFP must be thoroughly completed and

included in the appropriate section of the proposal. All discussion of proposed costs, rates or expenses must occur only in Binder #2 on the cost response form.

The proposal summary may be included by potential Offerors to provide the Evaluation Committee with an overview of the proposal; however, this material will not be used in the evaluation process unless specifically referenced from other portions of the Offeror's proposal.

## **IV. SPECIFICATIONS**

Offerors should respond in the form of a thorough narrative to each specification, unless otherwise instructed. The narratives, including required supporting materials will be evaluated and awarded points accordingly.

### **A. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK**

#### **1. Performance of Audits**

The audit agent will perform audits of the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) that participate in the New Mexico Medicaid Program. The audits will include desk and field audits as well as complete reports of the audits submitted to the Department on a timely basis. Audits will include, but are not limited to: Hospital, Behavioral Health, and Long-Term Services and Supports providers contracted with the MCOs.

#### **2. Planning and Development**

The objective of the planning and development task is to plan, in concert with the Department, the Offeror's activities and to develop working procedures to carry out the work required of Offerors by the RFP. The successful bidder will collaboratively develop audit parameters with HSD. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a) Audit objectives needed to define intended audit accomplishments;
- b) Audit procedures, which determine the quality of the financial information being provided;
- c) Audit instructions, which specify the requirements and guidelines for the audit;
- d) Audit forms, which are essential to maintain workplace safety and quality control;
- e) Time frames for completing audits, which identifies the timing for the audit and the time period to be covered;
- f) Reporting audit results to the department, which is the written opinion of the auditor regarding the audit results; and,
- g) Data needs, which identify the data needs necessary to complete the tasks necessary below.

#### **3. MCO Audit Operations**

Audit operations may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Provide for audits of the MCO Contractor's financial and other records at the discretion of the Department.
- b) Provide monitoring and report of findings for the MCOs using agreed upon parameters which may include, but are not limited to: systems, policies and processes related to claims adjudication, prior authorization, provider credentialing, provider contract loading, complaints, grievances and appeals, contract compliance, program integrity, and subcontractor/delegated services monitoring.
- c) Provide end-to-end process review for provider enrollment with an MCO including: credentialing, if applicable, within contractually required timeframes; days to enter the completed provider record into the MCO system/roster file such that claims may be accepted and paid (i.e. the provider record is entered sufficiently to the MCO system/roster file so that claims are not denied due to missing or inaccurate provider information).
- d) Meet with each MCO participating in the Centennial Care program. Gain and document an understanding of the MCOs' claims adjudication, adjustment, void and other processes.
- e) Conduct a review of the reimbursement systems and contracting process to identify potential vulnerabilities within the system that could lead to over or under payments or delays.
- f) Provide a summary report on claims adjudication time frames and claim denial rates including top denial reasons as a percent of the overall denial rates, and determine the turnaround times for manually priced claim adjudication. Denial rates shall be compared to regional and national benchmarks with each MCO's population composition taken into consideration (e.g. a significant number of members with a primary insurer).
- g) Utilizing a sample, conduct a detailed analysis on payment accuracy, including analysis on consistency of system edits with MCO, HSD and Medicaid policy.
- h) Provide and review specific claims data (such as nursing facilities) for each MCO and for all claims paid within a specified timeframe.
- i) For member and provider complaints, grievances, and appeals, the audit agent shall monitor and review end-to-end processes including any barriers to members' or providers' ability to submit a grievance or appeal, in addition to those accepted and processed per MCO policy.
- j) Review the individual contracts between each MCO and the Department to understand pertinent requirements.
- k) Analyze the data submitted by the MCOs and conduct independent tests to ensure all data has been received.
- l) Prepare and provide a report of the findings and observations identified from the activities listed above. Provide context to the reported information by including comparative statistics.
- m) Audit results and recommendations will be provided to HSD upon completion of all audits within the agreed upon timeframes.
- n) Identify potential issues and concerns with the processes outlined above.

- o) The Contractor will assist HSD in the development of criteria for administering a value based purchasing program, and perform auditing/administrative functions in its operation. It is the desire of HSD that the value based purchasing program be operated with a joint consideration of clinical and financial accountability between Managed Care Organizations and their provider networks.
- p) The Contractor will provide and perform information and analysis of uncompensated care pool renewal objectives to include, but not limited to, continued financing, Medicaid provider payment rates, beneficiary access to Medicaid services, financing providers that serve the low-income uninsured, support of managed care plans in managing care, and state specific circumstances.

#### **4. Training**

Provide training for appropriate state officials and MCOs on an as needed basis.

#### **5. Consultation**

Upon request provide consultation and assistance relating to revision or development of regulations, and policy compliance with Federal requirements, including new federal healthcare reforms and finance restructuring for Medicaid, or other consultation as requested. The auditing agent will provide consultation for HSD with its Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) for certain topics such as Value-Based Purchasing (VBP).

### **B. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

#### **1. Organizational Experience**

Offerors **must**:

- a) Provide a description of relevant corporate experience with state government and private sector. The experience of all proposed subcontractors must be described. The narrative **must** thoroughly describe how the Offeror has supplied expertise for similar contracts and must include the extent of their experience, expertise and knowledge as a provider of managed care audits. All managed care audits provided to private sector will also be considered;
- b) Indicate how many managed care audits have been installed in the last two years and what percentage of business revenue is derived from managed care audit engagements;
- c) Describe at least two project successes and failures of a managed care audit engagement. Include how each experience improved the Offeror's services;

- d) Offerors must submit five (5) references of previous clients who have received similar services as described in this RFP. Each reference must include the name of a contact person, address, telephone number, and description of services provided; and,
- e) Offerors must submit an organizational chart displaying Offeror's overall structure.

## 2. Organizational References

Offerors should provide a minimum of five (5) references from similar projects performed for private, state or large local government clients within the last three years. **Offerors are required to submit APPENDIX F, Organization Reference Questionnaire, to the business references they list. The business references must submit the Reference Form directly to the designee described in Sec I Paragraph D.** It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure the completed forms are received on or before the date stated in Section II.A., Sequence of Events for inclusion in the evaluation process.

Organizational References that are not received, or are not complete, may adversely affect the vendor's score in the evaluation process. The Evaluation Committee may contact any or all business references for validation of information submitted. If this step is taken, the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee must all be together on a conference call with the submitted reference so that the Procurement Manager and all members of the Evaluation Committee receive the same information. Additionally, the Agency reserves the right to consider any and all information available to it (outside of the Business Reference information required herein), in its evaluation of Offeror responsibility per Section II, Paragraph C.18.

Offerors shall submit the following Business Reference information as part of Offer:

- a) Client name;
- b) Project description;
- c) Project dates (starting and ending);
- d) Technical environment (i.e., Software applications, Internet capabilities, Data communications, Network, Hardware);
- e) Staff assigned to reference engagement that will be designated for work per this RFP; and
- f) Client project manager name, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

## 3. Oral Presentation

If selected as a finalist, Offerors agree to provide the Evaluation Committee the opportunity to interview proposed staff members identified by the Evaluation Committee, at the option of the Agency. The Evaluation Committee may request a

finalist to provide an oral presentation of the proposal as an opportunity for the Evaluation Committee to ask questions and seek clarifications.

#### **4. Mandatory Specification**

##### **a) Staff Experience**

- (1.) Personnel Resumes – Resumes of the project director, project manager, and key personnel, including previous experience relative to this project must be included.
- (2.) In a narrative format, Offerors must identify the staff member(s) proposed to perform each task required by the Scope of Work in order to enable the Evaluation Committee to match and evaluate the proposed staff member(s) qualifications to perform the required task.

Offerors must provide a statement of concurrence to the following requirements:

- (3.) Project Director: The Project Director will have direct experience in audit agent work related to hospitals, home health agencies, and federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics. The Director will serve as the point of contact for all contract work and will be a Certified Public Accountant.
- (4.) Project Manager: The Project Manager will have direct experience related to hospital, home health agencies, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, and cost accounting. Responsibilities will also include day-to-day project management and coordination, technical directions, and supervision of the supporting staff. The Project Manager will direct the development of procedures and systems necessary to successfully perform the various desk review, audit, rate settings, and related services requested under this RFP.
- (5.) Staff Members will have direct experience with on-site and desk audits as well as claims processing, credentialing and must be well-versed in health policy and contracts.
- (6.) Information: Offeror's staffing plan will provide adequate personnel to accomplish all work described in the Scope of Work. The successful Offeror must possess extensive knowledge and experience in financial accounting auditing; have working knowledge of and experience in hospital, home health agencies, federally qualified health centers, and rural health clinics including, but not limited to other healthcare organizations and have direct working knowledge and experience in cost accounting.

- (1.)“Audits of Providers of Health Care services,” issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants provides guidance on procedures to be applied and identified other authoritative literature to be used in the design of audits (desk/field).

## **b) Work Plan**

Offerors must demonstrate their ability to ensure successful and timely completion of all requirements as stated in this RFP. Offerors shall provide a description of how the project will be organized and managed including:

- (1) Planning, Development, and implementation Stage – Showing all personnel to be assigned to the planning, development and initial implementation stage of this project and the relationship of this project and the personnel to the corporate structure. Give a brief narrative of each individual’s responsibilities. Pursuant to the contract, the Department will have the prerogative of requiring personnel replacements as necessary.
- (2) Operations Stage – Showing all personnel to be assigned to the operation of the tasks of the Scope of Work and the relationship of these personnel and this portion of the project to the corporate structure. Give a brief narrative of each individual’s responsibilities.
- (3) In a narrative format, Offerors shall address the methodology that will be used to carry out the work required by this RFP. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - (i) audit objectives
  - (ii) audit procedures
  - (iii) audit instructions
  - (iv) audit forms
  - (v) time frames for completing audits; and,
  - (vi) reporting audit results to the Department in a timely manner.
- (4) In a narrative form, Offerors must describe how items identified in the summary scope of work will be accomplished.
- (5) Offerors must include a timetable and approach for phasing in all aspects of the work required by this RFP.
- (6) In a narrative format, Offerors must provide training, philosophy including training seminars including a description of the type of personnel which would conduct such training. Training shall include, but not be limited to, advising providers on specific Medicaid accounting and cost accounting techniques and practices.



(7) Offerors must describe how confidentiality and security of information will be maintained in accordance with Federal regulations.

**c) Statement of Concurrence**

Offerors shall provide a statement of concurrence that explicitly indicates acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procedures stated in Section II and that Offerors agree to comply with all requirements as described in this RFP, including all appendices, attachments, written clarifications, and amendments provided during the procurement process. Offerors shall specifically address acceptance of the Contract Terms and Conditions attached as Appendix X in the Compliance Statement.

**d) Responses to Suspension and Debarment Requirement**

Offerors must complete the form set out as Appendix X to certify compliance with the Federal Regulations relating to Suspension and Debarment.

**e) Other Support Material (Optional)**

This section is optional. Offerors may include any other relevant materials in Binder 3. No additional points will be awarded for this material.

Samples of material used in previous or similar projections may be submitted in Binder 3.

**f) Mandatory Cost Specifications**

Offerors must propose a total cost of a two year contract. The proposed cost will be evaluated using the following:

$$A + B(X) = C1$$

A = Price for conducting typical audit work for the two years

B = Hourly rate of consultation

X = Eighty hours of consultation

C1 = Total price of the two year contract

The Department will then evaluate the total price of the contract using the following:

$$C1 + C2 + C3 = T$$

C1 = Total prices for a two year contract

C2 = C1 plus inflator

C3 = C2 plus inflator

T = Total price of the two year contract plus two (2) one (1) year options.

The total price for the contract will be based on the number of facilities contained in the attached list of providers (Appendix X). Should the number of facilities increase or decrease during the course of the contract, the average cost per facility and average cost per hour reported through "A" above will be used to amend the contract price.

Offerors must supply and define the inflator to be used. The inflator shall be a set figure and must be the same for years three and four of the contract.

The Department recognizes that compensation rates for consultation will vary according to the level of factor A. A breakdown of average per facility cost and average per hour cost is a requirement. These amounts will be used to increase or decrease the contract amount if providers enter or leave the program.

Information: For each of the first two contract years, pursuant to Article 2 of the Contract Terms and Conditions, the Department shall pay the Contractor the agreed upon annual rate for the performance of the typical audit, prorated monthly. The Department shall pay the Contract for subsequent contract years, if extended the relevant contract year rate plus an agreed upon inflator percentage. Costs are subject to modifications based on the increase or decrease in the number of facilities. Payment for audit services includes all Contractor related expenses and applicable New Mexico gross receipts taxes.

The Department shall pay the Contractor equal monthly installments for the typical scope of audit services upon receipt of an invoice and a satisfactory detailed status report detailing work performed. The status report shall include at a minimum the following information: name of facility; type of service to be completed (desk review or field audit); date cost report due, date cost report received, date service (desk review or field audit) completed.

The Contractor shall submit separate billing statements for consultation and assistance services as described in Appendix X. These services require prior written approval by appropriate Department staff. The billing statement shall be provided with monthly statement by the Contractor and shall identify the date of the request, the subject matter of the requests, date(s) and type of service rendered, the number of hours billed and the total charge.

Do not include gross receipts taxes in the calculation. Gross receipts taxes will be a pass through from the State to the Contractor and be paid by the Contractor. The Contractor will be responsible for making all required tax payments.

## **Desirable Specification**

It is highly desirable that one or more staff members have medical coding experience with applicable certifications.

### **C. BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS**

#### **1. Financial Stability**

Offerors must submit copies of the most recent years independently audited financial statements and the most current 10K, as well as financial statements for the preceding three years, if they exist. The submission must include the audit opinion, the balance sheet, and statements of income, retained earnings, cash flows, and the notes to the financial statements. If independently audited financial statements do not exist, Offeror must state the reason and, instead, submit sufficient information (e.g. D & B report) to enable the Evaluation Committee to assess the financial stability of the Offeror.

#### **2. Performance Surety Bond**

Offeror(s) must have the ability to secure a Performance Surety Bond in favor of the Agency to insure the Contractor's performance upon any subsequent contract award. Each engagement will be different but the option to require a Performance Surety Bond must be available to the Agencies at time of contract award. **A statement of concurrence must be submitted in the Offeror's proposal.**

#### **3. Letter of Transmittal Form**

The Offeror's proposal **must** be accompanied by the Letter of Transmittal Form located in APPENDIX E. The form **must** be completed and must be signed by the person authorized to obligate the company.

#### **4. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form**

The Offeror must complete an unaltered Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form and submit a signed copy with the Offeror's proposal. This must be accomplished whether or not an applicable contribution has been made. (See APPENDIX B)

#### **5. Cost**

Offerors must complete the Cost Response Form in APPENDIX D. Cost will be measured by specifications in Section IV.B.4.F – Mandatory Cost Specifications. All charges listed on APPENDIX D must be justified and evidence of need documented in the proposal. The cost report form, which is included as Appendix X of this RFP, must be included as the last page of the Offeror's Cost Proposal.

#### **6. Resident Business or Resident Veterans Preference**

To ensure adequate consideration and application of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended), Offerors must include a copy of their preference certificate in this

section. In addition, for resident Veterans Preference, the attached certification Form (APPENDIX G) must accompany any Offer and any business wishing to receive the preference must complete and sign the form.

**V. EVALUATION**

**A. EVALUATION POINT SUMMARY**

The following is a summary of evaluation factors with point values assigned to each. These weighted factors will be used in the evaluation of individual potential Offeror proposals by sub-category.

<b>Factors – correspond to section IV.B and IV C</b>	<b>Points Available</b>
<b>B. Technical Specifications</b>	Points must be assigned and defined for all factors (must total 100% of available points)
B. 1. Organizational Experience	200
B. 2. Organizational References	50
B. 3. Oral Presentations	50
B. 4. Mandatory Specification	200
B. 5. Desirable Specification	200
<b>C. Business Specifications</b>	
C.1. Financial Stability	Pass/Fail
C.2. Performance Surety Bond	Pass/Fail
C.3. Letter Of Transmittal	Pass/Fail
C.4. Signed Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form	Pass/Fail
C.5. Cost	300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,000 points</b>
C.6. New Mexico Preference - Resident Vendor Points per Section IV C. 6	
C.6. New Mexico Preference - Resident Veterans Points per Section IV C.6	

Table 1: Evaluation Point Summary

**B. EVALUATION FACTORS**

**B.1 Organizational Experience (See Table 1)**

Points will be awarded based on the thoroughness and clarity of the response of the engagements cited and the perceived validity of the response.

Criteria: 1) The description of supplied expertise for similar contracts provided. 2) The number of managed care audits that have been conducted in the last two years and the percentage of business revenue derived from managed care audit engagements. 3) Description of two project successes and failures of a managed care audit engagement that improved the Offeror's services provided. 4) References of previous clients who have received similar services as described. 5) Provided contact persons, addresses, telephone numbers, and descriptions of services provided. 6) Organizational chart and company structure provided.

### **B.2 Organizational References (See Table 1)**

Points will be awarded based upon an evaluation of the responses to a series of questions as per Appendix F. Points will be awarded for each individual response up to 1/3 of the total points for this category. Lack of a response will be awarded zero (0) points.

Criteria: 1) All elements requested are provided. 2) Content and thoroughness of references provided. 3) Alignment of description of work with RFP Scope of Work.

### **B.3 Oral Presentation (See Table 1)**

Points will be awarded based on the quality, organization and effectiveness of communication of the information presented, as well as the professionalism of the presenters and technical knowledge of the proposed staff. Prior to Oral Presentation, Agency will provide the Offeror a presentation agenda. (If no Oral Presentations are required all Offerors will receive the same amount of total points for this evaluation factor).

Criteria: 1) Demonstrates ability to fulfill scope of work. 2) Demonstrates experience relevant to scope of work. 3) Ability to answer questions related to scope of work.

### **B.4 Mandatory Specifications**

Criteria: Provides thorough documentation that mandatory specifications are met.

### **B.5 Desirable Specifications**

Criteria: Provides thorough documentation that desirable specifications are met.

## **C. BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS**

### **C.1 Financial Stability (See Table 1)**

Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

### **C.2 Performance Bond (See Table 1)**

If required. Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

**C.3 Letter of Transmittal (See Table 1)**

Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

**C.4 Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (See Table 1)**

Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

**C.5 Cost (See Table 1)**

The evaluation of each Offeror’s cost proposal will be conducted using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Lowest Responsive Offer Bid}}{\text{This Offeror’s Bid}} \times \text{Available Award Points (300)}$$

**C.6. New Mexico Preferences**

Percentages will be determined based upon the point based system outlined in NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended).

**A. New Mexico Business Preference**

If the Offeror has provided their Preference Certificate the Preference Points for a New Mexico Business is 5%.

**B. New Mexico Resident Veterans Business Preference**

If the Offeror has provided their Preference Certificate **and** the Resident Veterans Certification Form the Preference Point are one of the following:

- 10% for less than \$1M (prior year revenue)
- 8% for more than \$1M but less than \$5M (prior year revenue)
- 7% for more than \$5M(prior year revenue)

**D. EVALUATION PROCESS**

1. All Offeror proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the requirements and specifications stated within the RFP. Proposals deemed non-responsive will be eliminated from further consideration.
2. The Procurement Manager may contact the Offeror for clarification of the response as specified in Section II.B.7.
3. The Evaluation Committee may use other sources of to perform the evaluation as specified in Section II.C.18.
4. Responsive proposals will be evaluated on the factors in Section IV, which have been assigned a point value. The responsible Offerors with the highest scores will

be selected as finalist Offerors, based upon the proposals submitted. The responsible Offerors whose proposals are most advantageous to the State taking into consideration the evaluation factors in Section IV will be recommended for award (as specified in Section II. B.8). Please note, however, that a serious deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.

**APPENDIX A**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM**



**APPENDIX A**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**MEDICAID AUDIT AGENT FOR MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS (MCOs)**

RFP# 17-630-8000-0006

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM**

In acknowledgement of receipt of this Request for Proposal the undersigned agrees that s/he has received a complete copy, beginning with the title page and table of contents, and ending with APPENDIX G.

The acknowledgement of receipt should be signed and returned to the Procurement Manager no later than the date stated in Section II.A., of this RFP. Only potential Offerors who elect to return this form completed with the indicated intention of submitting a proposal will receive copies of all Offeror written questions and the written responses to those questions as well as RFP amendments, if any are issued.

FIRM: \_\_\_\_\_

REPRESENTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

This name and address will be used for all correspondence related to the Request for Proposal.

Firm does/does not (circle one) intend to respond to this Request for Proposal.

Norma Lucero, Procurement Manager  
Medicaid Audit Agent for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)  
State Purchasing Division  
1100 St. Francis Dr. Room 2016  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Fax: (505) 476-3877  
E-mail: norma.lucero@state.nm.us

**APPENDIX B**

**CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM**

## Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-191.1 (2006), any person seeking to enter into a contract with any state agency or local public body for professional services, a design and build project delivery system, or the design and installation of measures the primary purpose of which is to conserve natural resources must file this form with that state agency or local public body. This form must be filed even if the contract qualifies as a small purchase or a sole source contract. The prospective contractor must disclose whether they, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor has made a campaign contribution to an applicable public official of the state or a local public body during the two years prior to the date on which the contractor submits a proposal or, in the case of a sole source or small purchase contract, the two years prior to the date the contractor signs the contract, if the aggregate total of contributions given by the prospective contractor, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor to the public official exceeds two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) over the two year period.

Furthermore, the state agency or local public body shall void an executed contract or cancel a solicitation or proposed award for a proposed contract if: 1) a prospective contractor, a family member of the prospective contractor, or a representative of the prospective contractor gives a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process or 2) a prospective contractor fails to submit a fully completed disclosure statement pursuant to the law.

THIS FORM MUST BE FILED BY ANY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR WHETHER OR NOT THEY, THEIR FAMILY MEMBER, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS MADE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.

The following definitions apply:

**“Applicable public official”** means a person elected to an office or a person appointed to complete a term of an elected office, who has the authority to award or influence the award of the contract for which the prospective contractor is submitting a competitive sealed proposal or who has the authority to negotiate a sole source or small purchase contract that may be awarded without submission of a sealed competitive proposal.

**“Campaign Contribution”** means a gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or other thing of value, including the estimated value of an in-kind contribution, that is made to or received by an applicable public official or any person authorized to raise, collect or expend contributions on that official's behalf for the purpose of electing the official to statewide or local office. “Campaign Contribution” includes the payment of a debt incurred in an election campaign, but does not include the value of services provided without compensation or unreimbursed travel or other personal expenses of individuals who volunteer a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee, nor does it include the administrative or solicitation expenses of a political committee that are paid by an organization that sponsors the committee.

**“Family member”** means spouse, father, mother, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law or son-in-law of (a) a prospective contractor, if the prospective contractor is a natural person; or (b) an owner of a prospective contractor.

**“Pendency of the procurement process”** means the time period commencing with the public notice of the request for proposals and ending with the award of the contract or the cancellation of the request for proposals.

**“Prospective contractor”** means a person or business that is subject to the competitive sealed proposal process set forth in the Procurement Code or is not required to submit a competitive sealed proposal because that person or business qualifies for a sole source or a small purchase contract.

**“Representative of a prospective contractor”** means an officer or director of a corporation, a member or manager of a limited liability corporation, a partner of a partnership or a trustee of a trust of the prospective contractor.

Name(s) of Applicable Public Official(s) if any: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Completed by State Agency or Local Public Body)

**DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR:**

Item	Description
Contribution Made By	
Relation to Prospective Contractor:	
Name of Applicable Public Official	
Date Contribution(s) Made	
Amount(s) of Contribution(s)	
Nature of Contribution(s)	
Purpose of Contribution(s)	

(Attach extra pages if necessary)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Title (position)

**--OR--**

**NO CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250) WERE MADE** to an applicable public official by me, a family member or representative.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title (Position)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor Name

## **APPENDIX C**

### **SAMPLE CONTRACT**

Appropriate **Sample Contract** (DoIT Template, Professional Services Template, State Purchasing Template for Goods/Services or Statewide Price Agreement, etc...) must be attached here. Refer to website for options.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

THIS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (“Agreement” or “Contract”) is made by and between the State of New Mexico, **Human Services Department**, hereinafter referred to as the “**HSD**,” and **Contractor**, hereinafter referred to as the “Contractor”, and is effective as of the date set forth below upon which it is executed by the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA).

**IT IS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES:**

**1. Scope of Work.**

The Contractor shall perform all services detailed in Exhibit A, Scope of Work, attached to this Agreement and incorporated herein by reference.

**2. Compensation.**

A. The HSD shall pay to the Contractor in full payment for services satisfactorily performed at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_\_) per hour (OR BASED UPON DELIVERABLES, MILESTONES, BUDGET, ETC.), such compensation not to exceed (AMOUNT), excluding gross receipts tax. The total amount payable to the Contractor under this Agreement, including gross receipts tax, if applicable, shall not exceed (AMOUNT). This amount is a maximum and not a guarantee that the work assigned to be performed by Contractor under this Agreement shall equal the amount stated herein. The parties do not intend for the Contractor to continue to provide services without compensation when the total compensation amount is reached. Contractor is responsible for notifying the HSD when the services provided under this Agreement reach the total compensation amount. In no event will the Contractor be paid for services provided in excess of the total compensation amount without this Agreement being amended in writing prior to those services in excess of the total compensation amount being provided.

B. Payment is subject to availability of funds pursuant to the Appropriations Paragraph set forth below and to any negotiations between the parties from year to year pursuant to Paragraph 1, Scope of Work, and to approval by the DFA. All invoices MUST BE received by the HSD no later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of the Fiscal Year in which the services were delivered. Invoices received after such date WILL NOT BE PAID.

**(—OR— CHOICE – MULTI-YEAR)**

A. The HSD shall pay to the Contractor in full payment for services satisfactorily performed pursuant to the Scope of Work at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_\_) in FYXX (USE FISCAL YEAR NUMBER TO DESCRIBE YEAR; DO NOT USE FY1, FY2, ETC.). The New Mexico gross receipts tax levied on the amounts

payable under this Agreement in FYXX totaling (AMOUNT) shall be paid by the HSD to the Contractor. **The total amount payable to the Contractor under this Agreement, including gross receipts tax and expenses, shall not exceed (AMOUNT) in FYXX.**

(REPEAT LANGUAGE FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR COVERED BY THE AGREEMENT -- USE FISCAL YEAR NUMBER TO DESCRIBE EACH YEAR; DO NOT USE FY1, FY2, ETC.).

B. Payment in FYXX, FYXX, FYXX, and FYXX is subject to availability of funds pursuant to the Appropriations Paragraph set forth below and to any negotiations between the parties from year to year pursuant to Paragraph 1, Scope of Work, and to approval by the DFA. All invoices MUST BE received by the HSD no later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of the Fiscal Year in which the services were delivered. Invoices received after such date WILL NOT BE PAID.

C. Contractor must submit a detailed statement accounting for all services performed and expenses incurred. If the HSD finds that the services are not acceptable, within thirty days after the date of receipt of written notice from the Contractor that payment is requested, it shall provide the Contractor a letter of exception explaining the defect or objection to the services, and outlining steps the Contractor may take to provide remedial action. Upon certification by the HSD that the services have been received and accepted, payment shall be tendered to the Contractor within thirty days after the date of acceptance. If payment is made by mail, the payment shall be deemed tendered on the date it is postmarked. However, the HSD shall not incur late charges, interest, or penalties for failure to make payment within the time specified herein.

**3. Term.**

THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL APPROVED BY THE DFA. This Agreement shall terminate on (Date), unless terminated pursuant to paragraph 4 (Termination), or paragraph 5 (Appropriations). In accordance with NMSA 1978, § 13-1-150, no contract term for a professional services contract, including extensions and renewals, shall exceed four years, except as set forth in NMSA 1978, § 13-1-150.

**4. Termination.**

A. Grounds. The HSD may terminate this Agreement for convenience or cause. The Contractor may only terminate this Agreement based upon the HSD's uncured, material breach of this Agreement.

B. Notice; HSD Opportunity to Cure.

1. Except as otherwise provided in Paragraph (4)(B)(3), the HSD shall give Contractor written notice of termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination.

2. Contractor shall give HSD written notice of termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination, which notice shall (i) identify all the HSD's material breaches of this Agreement upon which the termination is based and



(ii) state what they must do to cure such material breaches. Contractor's notice of termination shall only be effective (i) if the HSD does not cure all material breaches within the thirty (30) day notice period or (ii) in the case of material breaches that cannot be cured within thirty (30) days, the HSD does not, within the thirty (30) day notice period, notify the Contractor of its intent to cure and begin with due diligence to cure the material breach.

3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement may be terminated immediately upon written notice to the Contractor (i) if the Contractor becomes unable to perform the services contracted for, as determined by the HSD; (ii) if, during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor is suspended or debarred by the State Purchasing Agent; or (iii) the Agreement is terminated pursuant to Paragraph 5, "Appropriations", of this Agreement.

C. Liability. Except as otherwise expressly allowed or provided under this Agreement, the HSD's sole liability upon termination shall be to pay for acceptable work performed prior to the Contractor's receipt or issuance of a notice of termination; provided, however, that a notice of termination shall not nullify or otherwise affect either party's liability for pre-termination defaults under or breaches of this Agreement. The Contractor shall submit an invoice for such work within thirty (30) days of receiving or sending the notice of termination. THIS PROVISION IS NOT EXCLUSIVE AND DOES NOT WAIVE THE HSD'S OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS AND REMEDIES CAUSED BY THE CONTRACTOR'S DEFAULT/BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT.

D. Termination Management. Immediately upon receipt by either the HSD or the Contractor of notice of termination of this Agreement, the Contractor shall: 1) not incur any further obligations for salaries, services or any other expenditure of funds under this Agreement without written approval of the HSD; 2) comply with all directives issued by the HSD in the notice of termination as to the performance of work under this Agreement; and 3) take such action as the HSD shall direct for the protection, preservation, retention or transfer of all property titled to the HSD and records generated under this Agreement. Any non-expendable personal property or equipment provided to or purchased by the Contractor with contract funds shall become property of the HSD upon termination and shall be submitted to the HSD as soon as practicable.

## 5. Appropriations.

The terms of this Agreement are contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorization being made by the Legislature of New Mexico for the performance of this Agreement. If sufficient appropriations and authorization are not made by the Legislature, this Agreement shall terminate immediately upon written notice being given by the HSD to the Contractor. The HSD's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations are available shall be accepted by the Contractor and shall be final. If the HSD proposes an amendment to the Agreement to unilaterally reduce funding, the Contractor shall have the option to terminate the Agreement or to agree to the reduced funding, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed amendment.

**6. Status of Contractor.**

The Contractor and its agents and employees are independent contractors performing professional services for the HSD and are not employees of the State of New Mexico. The Contractor and its agents and employees shall not accrue leave, retirement, insurance, bonding, use of state vehicles, or any other benefits afforded to employees of the State of New Mexico as a result of this Agreement. The Contractor acknowledges that all sums received hereunder are reportable by the Contractor for tax purposes, including without limitation, self-employment and business income tax. The Contractor agrees not to purport to bind the State of New Mexico unless the Contractor has express written authority to do so, and then only within the strict limits of that authority.

**7. Assignment.**

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement or assign any claims for money due or to become due under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the HSD.

**8. Subcontracting.**

The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the services to be performed under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the HSD. No such subcontract shall relieve the primary Contractor from its obligations and liabilities under this Agreement, nor shall any subcontract obligate direct payment from the HSD.

**9. Release.**

Final payment of the amounts due under this Agreement shall operate as a release of the HSD, its officers and employees, and the State of New Mexico from all liabilities, claims and obligations whatsoever arising from or under this Agreement.

**10. Confidentiality.**

Any confidential information provided to or developed by the Contractor in the performance of this Agreement shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the HSD.

**11. Product of Service - Copyright.**

All materials developed or acquired by the Contractor under this Agreement shall become the property of the State of New Mexico and shall be delivered to the HSD no later than the termination date of this Agreement. Nothing developed or produced, in whole or in part, by the Contractor under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright or other claim of ownership by or on behalf of the Contractor.

**12. Conflict of Interest; Governmental Conduct Act.**

A. The Contractor represents and warrants that it presently has no interest and, during the term of this Agreement, shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance or services required under the Agreement.

B. The Contractor further represents and warrants that it has complied with, and, during the term of this Agreement, will continue to comply with, and that this Agreement complies with all applicable provisions of the Governmental Conduct Act, Chapter 10, Article 16 NMSA 1978. Without in anyway limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Contractor specifically represents and warrants that:

1) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-4.3, the Contractor does not employ, has not employed, and will not employ during the term of this Agreement any HSD employee while such employee was or is employed by the HSD and participating directly or indirectly in the HSD's contracting process;

2) this Agreement complies with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-7(A) because (i) the Contractor is not a public officer or employee of the State; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the State; (iii) the Contractor is not a business in which a public officer or employee or the family of a public officer or employee has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a public officer or employee of the State, a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the State, or a business in which a public officer or employee of the State or the family of a public officer or employee of the State has a substantial interest, public notice was given as required by NMSA 1978, § 10-16-7(A) and this Agreement was awarded pursuant to a competitive process;

3) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-8(A), (i) the Contractor is not, and has not been represented by, a person who has been a public officer or employee of the State within the preceding year and whose official act directly resulted in this Agreement and (ii) the Contractor is not, and has not been assisted in any way regarding this transaction by, a former public officer or employee of the State whose official act, while in State employment, directly resulted in the HSD's making this Agreement;

4) this Agreement complies with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-9(A) because (i) the Contractor is not a legislator; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of a legislator's family; (iii) the Contractor is not a business in which a legislator or a legislator's family has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a legislator, a member of a legislator's family, or a business in which a legislator or a legislator's family has a substantial interest, disclosure has been made as required by NMSA 1978, § 10-16-7(A), this Agreement is not a sole source or small purchase contract, and this Agreement was awarded in accordance with the provisions of the Procurement Code;

5) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-13, the Contractor has not directly participated in the preparation of specifications, qualifications or evaluation criteria for this Agreement or any procurement related to this Agreement; and

6) in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 10-16-3 and § 10-16-13.3, the Contractor has not contributed, and during the term of this Agreement shall not contribute, anything of value to a public officer or employee of the HSD.

C. Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 are material representations of fact upon which the HSD relied when this Agreement was entered into by the parties. Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the HSD if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, Contractor learns that

Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances. If it is later determined that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances, in addition to other remedies available to the HSD and notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, the HSD may immediately terminate the Agreement.

D. All terms defined in the Governmental Conduct Act have the same meaning in this Article 12(B).

**13. Amendment.**

A. This Agreement shall not be altered, changed or amended except by instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto and all other required signatories.

B. If the HSD proposes an amendment to the Agreement to unilaterally reduce funding due to budget or other considerations, the Contractor shall, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed Amendment, have the option to terminate the Agreement, pursuant to the termination provisions as set forth in Article 4 herein, or to agree to the reduced funding.

**14. Merger.**

This Agreement, including any and all attachments, exhibits and/or appendices, incorporates all the Agreements, covenants and understandings between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such covenants, Agreements and understandings have been merged into this written Agreement. No prior Agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

**15. Penalties for violation of law.**

The Procurement Code, NMSA 1978 §§ 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

**16. Equal Opportunity Compliance.**

The Contractor agrees to abide by all federal and state laws and rules and regulations, and executive orders of the Governor of the State of New Mexico, pertaining to equal employment opportunity. In accordance with all such laws of the State of New Mexico, the Contractor assures that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, or serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed under this Agreement. If Contractor is found not to be in compliance with these requirements during

the life of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies.

**17. Applicable Law.**

The laws of the State of New Mexico shall govern this Agreement, without giving effect to its choice of law provisions. Venue shall be proper only in a New Mexico court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 38-3-1 (G). By execution of this Agreement, Contractor acknowledges and agrees to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New Mexico over any and all lawsuits arising under or out of any term of this Agreement.

**18. Workers Compensation.**

The Contractor agrees to comply with state laws and rules applicable to workers compensation benefits for its employees. If the Contractor fails to comply with the Workers Compensation Act and applicable rules when required to do so, this Agreement may be terminated by the HSD.

**19. Records and Financial Audit.**

A. The Contractor shall maintain detailed records that indicate the nature and price of Services rendered during this Agreement's term and effect and retain them for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment under this Agreement.

B. Contract for an independent audit in accordance with 2 CFR 200 at the Contractor's expense, as applicable or upon HSD request, submit its most recent 2 CFR 200 audit. The Contractor shall ensure that the auditor is licensed to perform audits in the State of New Mexico and shall be selected by a competitive bid process. The Contractor shall enter into a written contract with the auditor specifying the scope of the audit, the auditor's responsibility, the date by which the audit is to be completed and the fee to be paid to the auditor for this service. Single audits shall comply with procedures specified by the HSD. The audit of the contract shall cover compliance with Federal Regulations and all financial transactions hereunder for the entire term of the Agreement in accordance with procedures promulgated by 2 CFR 200 or by Federal program officials for the conduct and report of such audits. An official copy of the independent auditor's report shall be available to the HSD and any other authorized entity as required by law within (fifteen) 15 days of receipt of the final audit report. The Contractor may request an extension to the deadline for submission of the audit report in writing to the HSD for good cause and the HSD reserves the right to approve or reject any such request. The HSD retains the right to contract for an independent financial and functional audit for funds and operations under this Agreement if it determines that such an audit is warranted or desired.

C. Upon completion of the audit under the applicable federal and state statutes and regulations, the Contractor shall notify the HSD when the audit is available for review and provide online access to the HSD, or the Contractor shall provide the HSD with four (4) originals of the audit report. The HSD will retain two (2) and one (1) will be sent to the

HSD/Office of the Inspector General and one (1) to the HSD/Administrative Services Division/Compliance Bureau.

D. Within thirty (30) days thereafter or as otherwise determined by the HSD in writing, the Contractor shall provide the HSD with a response indicating the status of each of the exceptions or findings in the said audit report. If either the exceptions or findings in the audit are not resolved within thirty (30) days, the HSD has the right to reduce funding, terminate this Agreement, and/or recommend decertification in compliance with state and/or federal regulations governing such action.

E. This audit shall contain the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards for each program to facilitate ease of reconciliation by the HSD. This audit shall also include a review of the schedule of depreciation for all property or equipment with a purchase price of \$5,000 or more pursuant to 2 CFR 200, specifically subpart F, and appendices where appropriate.

F. This audit shall include a report on compliance with requirements applicable to each major program and internal control over compliance in accordance with 2 CFR 200, specifically subpart F and appendices.

**20. Indemnification.**

The Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the HSD and the State of New Mexico from all actions, proceeding, claims, demands, costs, damages, attorneys' fees and all other liabilities and expenses of any kind from any source which may arise out of the performance of this Agreement, caused by the negligent act or failure to act of the Contractor, its officers, employees, servants, subcontractors or agents, or if caused by the actions of any client of the Contractor resulting in injury or damage to persons or property during the time when the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor thereof has or is performing services pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that any action, suit or proceeding related to the services performed by the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor under this Agreement is brought against the Contractor, the Contractor shall, as soon as practicable but no later than two (2) days after it receives notice thereof, notify the legal counsel of the HSD and the Risk Management Division of the New Mexico General Services Department by certified mail.

**21. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage.**

A. If Contractor has, or grows to, six (6) or more employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, Contractor certifies, by signing this agreement, to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees and offer that health insurance to those employees if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.

B. Contractor agrees to maintain a record of the number of employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) declined health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) declined health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.

C. Contractor agrees to advise all employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following web site link to additional information: <https://www.healthinsurance.org/new-mexico/>

**22. Employee Pay Equity Reporting.**

Contractor agrees if it has ten (10) or more New Mexico employees OR eight (8) or more employees in the same job classification, at any time during the term of this contract, to complete and submit the PE10-249 form on the annual anniversary of the initial report submittal for contracts up to one (1) year in duration. If contractor has (250) or more employees contractor must complete and submit the PE250 form on the annual anniversary of the initial report submittal for contracts up to one (1) year in duration. For contracts that extend beyond one (1) calendar year, or are extended beyond one (1) calendar year, contractor also agrees to complete and submit the PE10-249 or PE250 form, whichever is applicable, within thirty (30) days of the annual contract anniversary date of the initial submittal date or, if more than 180 days has elapsed since submittal of the last report, at the completion of the contract, whichever comes first. Should contractor not meet the size requirement for reporting at contract award but subsequently grows such that they meet or exceed the size requirement for reporting, contractor agrees to provide the required report within ninety (90) days of meeting or exceeding the size requirement. That submittal date shall serve as the basis for submittals required thereafter. Contractor also agrees to levy this requirement on any subcontractor(s) performing more than 10% of the dollar value of this contract if said subcontractor(s) meets, or grows to meet, the stated employee size thresholds during the term of the contract. Contractor further agrees that, should one or more subcontractor not meet the size requirement for reporting at contract award but subsequently grows such that they meet or exceed the size requirement for reporting, contractor will submit the required report, for each such subcontractor, within ninety (90) days of that subcontractor meeting or exceeding the size requirement. Subsequent report submittals, on behalf of each such subcontractor, shall be due on the annual anniversary of the initial report submittal. Contractor shall submit the required form(s) to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department, and other departments as may be determined, on behalf of the applicable subcontractor(s) in accordance with the schedule contained in this paragraph. Contractor acknowledges that this subcontractor requirement applies even though contractor itself may not meet the size requirement for reporting and be required to report itself.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if this Contract was procured pursuant to a solicitation, and if Contractor has already submitted the required report accompanying their response to such solicitation, the report does not need to be re-submitted with this Agreement.

**23. Invalid Term or Condition.**

If any term or condition of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected and shall be valid and enforceable.

**24. Enforcement of Agreement.**

A party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not waive or diminish that party's right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision. No waiver by a party of any of its rights under this Agreement shall be effective unless express and in writing, and no effective waiver by a party of any of its rights shall be effective to waive any other rights.

**25. Notices.**

Any notice required to be given to either party by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person, by courier service or by U.S. mail, either first class or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, as follows:

To the HSD: [name, address, email]

To the Contractor: [name, address, email]

**26. Debarment and Suspension.**

A. Consistent with all applicable federal and/or state laws and regulations, as applicable, and as a separate and independent requirement of this Agreement the Contractor certifies by signing this Agreement, that it and its principals, to the best of its knowledge and belief: (1) are not debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any Federal department or agency; (2) have not, within a three-year period preceding the effective date of this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, state, or local) contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; (3) have not been indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated above in this Paragraph A; (4) have not, within a three-year period preceding the effective date of this Agreement, had one or more public agreements or transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default; and (5) have not been excluded from participation from Medicare, Medicaid or other federal health care programs pursuant to Title XI of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7.



B. The Contractor's certification in Paragraph A, above, is a material representation of fact upon which the HSD relied when this Agreement was entered into by the parties. The Contractor's certification in Paragraph A, above, shall be a continuing term or condition of this Agreement. As such at all times during the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor must be capable of making the certification required in Paragraph A, above, as if on the date of making such new certification the Contractor was then executing this Agreement for the first time. Accordingly, the following requirements shall be read so as to apply to the original certification of the Contractor in Paragraph A, above, or to any new certification the Contractor is required to be capable of making as stated in the preceding sentence:

- 1) The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the HSD's Program Manager if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor learns that its certification in Paragraph A, above, was erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or has become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances.
- 2) If it is later determined that the Contractor's certification in Paragraph A, above, was erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or has become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances, in addition to other remedies available to the HSD, the HSD may terminate the Agreement.

C. As required by statute, regulation or requirement of this Agreement, and as contained in Paragraph A, above, the Contractor shall require each proposed first-tier subcontractor whose subcontract will equal or exceed \$25,000, to disclose to the Contractor, in writing, whether as of the time of award of the subcontract, the subcontractor, or its principals, is or is not debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment by any Federal department or agency. The Contractor shall make such disclosures available to the HSD when it requests subcontractor approval from the HSD. If the subcontractor, or its principals, is debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment by any Federal, state or local department or agency, the HSD may refuse to approve the use of the subcontractor.

**27. Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payments To Influence Certain Federal Transactions (Anti-Lobbying).**

A. The applicable definitions and exceptions to prohibited conduct and disclosures contained in 31 U.S.C. § 1352 and 45 C.F.R. Part 93, as applicable, are hereby incorporated by reference in subparagraph (B) of this certification.

B. The Contractor, by executing this PSC, certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that:

- 1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an

employee of a Member of Congress on his or her behalf in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement; and

- 2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds (including profit or fee received under a covered Federal transaction) have been paid, or will be paid, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress on his or her behalf in connection with this solicitation, the offeror shall complete and submit, with its offer, OMB standard form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, to the Contracting Officer.

C. The Contractor shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

D. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when this Agreement is made and entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making and entering into this Agreement imposed under 31 U.S.C. § 1352. It shall be a material obligation of the Contractor to keep this certification current as to any and all individuals or activities of anyone associated with the Contractor during the pendency of this Agreement. Any person who makes an expenditure prohibited under this provision or who fails to file or amend the disclosure form to be filed or amended by this provision, shall be subject to: (1) a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for such failure; and/or (2) at the discretion of the HSD, termination of the Agreement.

## **28. Non-Discrimination.**

A. The Contractor agrees to comply fully with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Public Law 93-112, as amended; and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336; in that there shall be no discrimination against any employee who is employed in the performance of this Agreement, or against any applicant for such employment, because of age, color, national origin, ancestry, race, religion, creed, disability, sex, or marital status.

B. This provision shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, promotion, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training including apprenticeship.

C. The Contractor agrees that no qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation or be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of the Contractor.

The Contractor further agrees to insert similar provisions in all subcontracts for services allowed under this Agreement under any program or activity.

D. The Contractor agrees to provide meaningful access to services for individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) in accordance with Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency."

**29. Drug Free Workplace.**

A. *Definitions.* As used in this paragraph—

"Controlled substance" means a controlled substance in schedules I through V of section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C 812, and as further defined in regulation at 21 CFR 1308.11 - 1308.15.

"Conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of *nolo contendere*) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes.

"Criminal drug statute" means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of any controlled substance.

"Drug-free workplace" means the site(s) for the performance of work done by the Contractor in connection with a specific contract where employees of the Contractor are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance.

"Employee" means an employee of a contractor directly engaged in the performance of work under a Government contract. "Directly engaged" is defined to include all direct cost employees and any other contractor employee who has other than a minimal impact or involvement in contract performance.

"Individual" means an offeror/contractor that has no more than one employee including the offeror/contractor.

B. The Contractor, if other than an individual, shall:

1) Publish a statement notifying its employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the Contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition;

2) Establish an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform such employees about:

(i) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(ii) The Contractor's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(iii) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(iv) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

a) Provide all employees engaged in performance of the PSC with a copy of the statement required by subparagraph B(1);

- b) Notify such employees in writing in the statement required by subparagraph (B)(1) of this clause that, as a condition of continued employment on this PSC, the employee will:
    - (i) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
    - (ii) Notify the employer in writing of the employee's conviction under a criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction;
  - c) Notify the HSD Program Manager in writing within ten (10) days after receiving notice under (B)(4)(ii) of this paragraph, from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. The notice shall include the position title of the employee;
  - d) Within thirty (30) days after receiving notice under B(4)(ii) of this paragraph of a conviction, take one of the following actions with respect to any employee who is convicted of a drug abuse violation occurring in the workplace:
    - (i) Taking appropriate personnel action against such employee, up to and including termination; or
    - (ii) Require such employee to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency; and
- 3) Make a good faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of B(1) through B(6) of this paragraph.

C. The Contractor, if an individual, agrees by entering into this PSC not to engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance while performing this contract.

D. In addition to other remedies available to the HSD, the Contractor's failure to comply with the requirements of subparagraph B or C of this paragraph will render the Contractor in default of this PSC and subject the Contractor to suspension of payments under the PSC and/or termination of the PSC in accordance with paragraph 4, above.

### **30. Findings and Sanctions.**

A. The Contractor agrees to be subject to the findings, sanctions and disallowances assessed or required as a result of audits pursuant to this agreement.

B. The Contractor will make repayment of any funds expended by the HSD, subject to which an auditor acting pursuant to this agreement finds were expended, or to which appropriate federal funding agencies take exception and so request reimbursement through a disallowance or deferral based upon the acts or omissions of the Contractor that violate applicable federal statutes and/or regulations, subject to sufficient appropriations of the New Mexico Legislature.

C. If the HSD becomes aware of circumstances that might jeopardize continued federal funding the situation shall be reviewed and reconciled by a mutually agreed upon panel of Contractor and the HSD officials. If reconciliation is not possible, both parties shall present their view to the Director of the Administrative Services Division who shall determine whether continued payment shall be made.

**30. Performance.**

In performance of this Agreement, the Contractor agrees to comply with and assume responsibility for compliance by its employees, its subcontractors, and/or Business Associates (BA), as applicable, with the following requirements:

A. All work will be performed under the supervision of the Contractor, the Contractor's responsible employees, and the Contractor's subcontracted staff.

B. Contractor agrees that, if Federal Tax Information (FTI) is introduced into Contractor's information systems, work documents, and/or other media by written agreement, any FTI as described in 26 U.S.C. § 6103, limited to FTI received from, or created on behalf of, HSD by Contractor; Protected Health Information (PHI) as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to PHI received from, or created on behalf of, HSD by Contractor; or Personally Identifiable Information (PII) as defined by the National Institute of Standards of Technology, limited to PII received from, or created on behalf of, HSD by Contractor pursuant to the Services; all together referred to hereafter in Article 10 as Confidential Information, made available to Contractor shall be used only for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this contract. Information contained in such material shall be treated as confidential and will not be divulged or made known in any manner to any person or entity except as may be necessary in the performance of this contract. Inspection by, or disclosure to, any person or entity other than an officer, employee, or subcontractor of the Contractor is prohibited.

C. Contractor agrees that it will account for all Confidential Information upon receipt and store such Confidential Information in a secure manner before, during, and after processing. In addition, all related output will be given the same level of protection by the Contractor as required for the source material.

D. The Contractor certifies that the Confidential Information processed during the performance of this Agreement will be deleted from, or otherwise wiped, removed, or rendered unreadable or incapable of reconstitution by known means on all electronic data storage components in Contractor's facilities, including paper files, recordings, video, written records, printers, copiers, scanners and all magnetic and flash memory components of all systems and portable media, and no output will be retained by the Contractor at the time the work is completed or when this Contract is terminated. If immediate purging of all electronic data storage components is not possible, the Contractor certifies that any Confidential Information remaining in any storage component will be safeguarded, using IRS Pub 1075 information storage safeguarding controls for FTI to prevent unauthorized disclosures beyond the term of this Agreement as long as Contractor is in possession of such Confidential Information.

E. Any spoilage or any intermediate hard copy printout that may result during the processing of Confidential Information will be given to the HSD or his or her designee. When this is not possible, the Contractor will be responsible for the destruction (in a manner approved by the HSD) of the spoilage or any intermediate hard copy printouts, and will provide the HSD or his or her designee with a statement containing the date of destruction, description of material destroyed, and the method used.

F. All of Contractor's computer systems, office equipment, written records, and portable media receiving, processing, storing, or transmitting Confidential Information must meet the requirements defined in relevant federal regulations such as IRS Publication 1075, HIPAA Privacy Rule (45 CFR Part 160 and Subparts A and E of Part 164), HIPAA Security Rule (45 CFR Part 160 and Subparts A and C of Part 164), and/or any other Federal requirements that may apply to this contract. To meet functional and assurance requirements, the security features of the Contractor's environment must provide for security across relevant managerial, operational, and technical controls. All security features must be available and activated to protect against unauthorized use of and access to Confidential Information.

G. No work involving Confidential Information furnished under this Agreement will be subcontracted without prior written approval of the HSD.

H. The Contractor will maintain a list of its personnel, subcontractors, and/or business related entities with authorized access (electronic or physical) to HSD Confidential Information. Such list will be provided to the HSD and, upon request, to the federal agencies as required.

I. The Contractor will provide copies of signed acknowledgments for its staff and its subcontractors and/or Business Associates, to provide certification that relevant information security awareness and training was completed. These certifications will be provided to the HSD upon contract start and, at a minimum, annually thereafter during the term of this Agreement.

J. Upon request, the Contractor will provide the HSD copies of current policies and/or summaries of its current plans that document Contractor's privacy and security controls as they relate to HSD Confidential Information. This includes, at a minimum, any System Security Plans which describe the administrative, physical, technical, and system controls to be implemented for the security of the Department's Confidential Information. The plan shall include the requirement for a Contractor notification to the Department Security Officer or Privacy Officer of breaches or potential breaches of information within 24 hours of their discovery.

K. All incidents affecting the compliance, operation, or security of the HSD's Confidential Information must be reported to the HSD. The Contractor shall notify the HSD of any instances of security or privacy breach issues or non-compliance promptly upon their discovery, but no later than a period of 24 hours (as stated above). Notification

shall include a description of the privacy and security non-compliance issue and corrective action planned and/or taken.

L. The Contractor must provide the HSD with a summary of a corrective action plan (if any) to provide any necessary safeguards to protect PII from security breaches or non-compliance discoveries. The corrective action plan must contain a long term solution to possible future privacy and security threats to PII. In addition to the corrective action, the Contractor must provide daily updates as to the progress of all corrective measures taken until the issue is resolved. The Contractor shall be responsible for all costs of implementing the corrective action plan.

M. The HSD will have the right to seek remedies consistent with the liability terms of this contract Agreement and/or terminate the Agreement if the Contractor or its Subcontractors or Business Associates fail to provide the safeguards or to meet the security and privacy requirements to safeguard Confidential Information as described above, consistent with the liability and/or termination clauses herein.

N. All client files and patient records created or used to provide services under this Agreement, as between the parties, are at all times property of HSD. Upon HSD's request, all such client files and patient records shall be returned to HSD upon HSD's request or no later than the final agreed upon termination date of this contract.

**31. Criminal/Civil Sanctions.**

A. Each officer, employee, and/or subcontractor of the Contractor to whom tax returns or tax return information is or may be disclosed shall be notified in writing by the Contractor that returns or return information disclosed to such officer or employee can be used only for a purpose and to the extent authorized herein, and that further disclosure of any such returns or return information for a purpose or to an extent unauthorized herein constitutes a felony punishable upon conviction by a fine of as much as \$5,000 or imprisonment for as long as five years, or both, together with the costs of prosecution. Contractor shall also notify each such officer and employee that any such unauthorized future disclosure of returns or return information may also result in an award of civil damages against the officer or employee in an amount not less than \$1,000 with respect to each instance of unauthorized disclosure. These penalties are prescribed by Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Sections 7213 and 7431 and set forth at 26 CFR 301.6103(n)-1.

B. Each officer, employee, and/or subcontractor to whom tax returns or tax return information is or may be disclosed shall be notified in writing by Contractor that any return or return information made available in any format shall be used only for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this contract. Information contained in such material shall be treated as confidential and shall not be divulged or made known in any manner to any person except as may be necessary in the performance of this contract. Inspection by or disclosure to anyone without an official need to know may constitute a criminal misdemeanor punishable upon conviction by a fine of as much as \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for as long as 1 year, or both, together with the costs of prosecution. Contractor shall also notify each such officer and employee that any such unauthorized

inspection or disclosure of returns or return information may also result in an award of civil damages against the officer or employee in an amount equal to the sum of the greater of \$1,000.00 for each act of unauthorized inspection or disclosure with respect to which such defendant is found liable or the sum of the actual damages sustained by the plaintiff as a result of such unauthorized inspection or disclosure plus in the case of a willful inspection or disclosure which is the result of gross negligence, punitive damages, plus the costs of the action. The penalties are prescribed by IRC Sections 7213A and 7431.

C. Additionally, it is incumbent upon Contractor to inform its officers and employees of the penalties for improper disclosure imposed by the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C.552a. Specifically, 5 U.S.C. 552a(i)(1), which is made applicable to contractors by 5 U.S.C. 552a(m)(1), provides that any officer or employee of a contractor, who by virtue of his/her employment or official position, has possession of or access to HSD records which contain individually identifiable information, the disclosure of which is prohibited by the Privacy Act or regulations established thereunder, and who knowing that disclosure of the specific material is so prohibited, willfully discloses the material in any manner to any person not entitled to receive it, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000. Furthermore, the Contractor will inform its officers and employees of the penalties imposed by the HIPAA Privacy Rule (45 CFR Part 160 and Subparts A and E of Part 164), and HIPAA Security Rule (45 CFR Part 160 and Subparts A and C of Part 164), which provide that any officer or employee of a contractor, who willfully discloses Protected Health Information in any manner to any person not entitled to receive it, may be subject to civil and criminal penalties of up to \$50,000 and up to one year imprisonment.

D. Contractor agrees that granting access to Confidential Information to any individual must be preceded by certifying that each individual understands the HSD's applicable security policy and procedures for safeguarding the Confidential Information. Contractors must maintain authorizations issued to such individuals to access Confidential Information through annual recertification. The initial certification and recertification must be documented and placed in a file for the HSD's review. As part of the certification and at least annually afterwards, Contractor will be advised of the provisions of IRC Sections 7431, 7213, and 7213A (see Exhibit 6, IRC Sec. 7431 Civil Damages for Unauthorized Disclosure of Returns and Return Information and Exhibit 5, IRC Sec. 7213 Unauthorized Disclosure of Information). The training provided before the initial certification and annually thereafter must also cover the incident response policy and procedure for reporting unauthorized disclosures and data breaches per Section 10 of IRS Publication 1075.)

**32. Inspection.**

The HSD and/or its regulating federal partners (such as IRS, CMS, FNS, etc.) shall have the right to send its officers and/or employees into the offices and plants of the Contractor for inspection of the facilities and operations provided for the performance of any work related to Confidential Information under this contract. On the basis of such inspection, the HSD and/or regulating federal partners may communicate specific



measures to be performed or met by the Contractor as may be required in cases where the Contractor is found to be noncompliant with contract safeguard.

**33. Contractor's Responsibility For Compliance With Laws and Regulations.**

A. The Contractor is responsible for compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and administrative rules that govern the Contractor's performance of the Scope of Work of this Agreement and Exhibit A, including but not limited to, applicable State and Federal tax laws, State and Federal employment laws, State and Federal regulatory requirements and licensing provisions.

B. The Contractor is responsible for causing each of its employees, agents or subcontractors who provide services under this Agreement to be properly licensed, certified, and/or have proper permits to perform any activity related to the Scope of Work of this Agreement and Exhibit A.

C. If the Contractor's performance of its obligations under the terms of this agreement qualifies it as a Business Associate of the HSD as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and regulations promulgated thereunder, the Contractor agrees to execute the HSD Business Associate Agreement (BAA), attached hereto as Exhibit B, and incorporated herein by this reference, and comply with the terms of the BAA and subsequent updates. *[Use this paragraph C only if a BAA is included as Exhibit B. Either way, delete this italicized comment.]*

**34. Contractor's Responsibility For Compliance With Laws and Regulations Relating To Information Technology.**

A. The Contractor agrees to monitor and control all its employees, subcontractors, consultants, or agents performing the Services under this PSC in order to assure compliance with the following regulations and standards insofar as they apply to Contractor's processing or storage of HSD's Confidential Information or other data:

1. The Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA);
2. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA);
3. The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH Act);
4. IRS Publication 1075 – Tax Information Security Guidelines for Federal, State and Local Agencies to include any Service Level Agreement requirements;
5. Electronic Information Exchange Security Requirements, Guidelines, And Procedures For State and Local Agencies Exchanging Electronic Information With The Social Security Administration; and
6. NMAC 1.12.20, *et seq.* "INFORMATION SECURITY OPERATION MANAGEMENT".

**35. Authority.**

If Contractor is other than a natural person, the individual(s) signing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor represents and warrants that he or she has the power

and authority to bind Contractor, and that no further action, resolution, or approval from Contractor is necessary to enter into a binding contract.

**The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the date of signature by the DFA below:

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brent Earnest, HSD Cabinet Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Danny Sandoval, HSD Chief Financial Officer

Approved for legal sufficiency:

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher P. Collins, HSD General Counsel

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor

The records of the Taxation and Revenue Department reflect that the Contractor is registered with the NM Taxation and Revenue Department to pay gross receipts and compensating taxes:

CRS ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax and Revenue Department Representative

This Agreement has been approved by the DFA Contracts Review Bureau:

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Exhibit A**

### **SCOPE OF WORK**

#### **Medicaid Audit Agent for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)**

##### **I. Performance of Audits**

Summary - The Contractor will perform audits of the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) that participate in the New Mexico Medicaid Program. The work includes desk and field audits as well as complete reports of the audits submitted to the Department on a timely basis. Audits will include, but are not limited to: Hospital, Behavioral Health, and Long-Term Services and Supports providers contracted with the MCOs.

##### **II. Planning and Development**

The objective of the planning and development task is to plan, in concert with the Department, the Offeror's activities and to develop working procedures to carry out the work required of Offerors by the RFP. The Contractor and HSD will collaboratively develop audit parameters. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a) Audit objectives needed to define intended audit accomplishments;
- b) Audit procedures, which determine the quality of the financial information being provided;
- c) Audit instructions, which specify the requirements and guidelines for the audit;
- d) Audit forms, which are essential to maintain workplace safety and quality control;
- e) Time frames for completing audits, which identifies the timing for the audit and the time period to be covered;
- f) Audit results, which is the written opinion of the auditor regarding the audit results reported to the department; and,
- g) Data needs, which identify the data needs necessary to complete the tasks necessary below.

##### **III. MCO Audit Operations**

Audit operations may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Provide for audits of the MCO Contractor's financial and other records at the discretion of the Department.

- b) Provide monitoring and report of findings for the MCOs using agreed upon parameters which may include, but are not limited to: systems, policies and processes related to claims adjudication, prior authorization, provider credentialing, provider contract loading, complaints, grievances and appeals, contract compliance, program integrity, and subcontractor/delegated services monitoring.
- c) Provide end-to-end process review for provider enrollment with an MCO including: credentialing, if applicable, within contractually required timeframes; days to enter the completed provider record into the MCO system/roster file such that claims may be accepted and paid (i.e. the provider record is entered sufficiently to the MCO system/roster file so that claims are not denied due to missing or inaccurate provider information).
- d) Meet with each MCO participating in the Centennial Care program. Gain and document an understanding of the MCOs' claims adjudication, adjustment, void and other processes.
- e) Conduct a review of the reimbursement systems and contracting process to identify potential vulnerabilities within the system that could lead to over or under payments or delays.
- f) Provide a summary report on claims adjudication time frames and claim denial rates including top denial reasons as a percent of the overall denial rates, and determine the turnaround times for manually priced claim adjudication. Denial rates shall be compared to regional and national benchmarks with each MCO's population composition taken into consideration (e.g. a significant number of members with a primary insurer).
- g) Using a sample, conduct a detailed analysis on payment accuracy, including analysis on consistency of system edits with MCO, HSD and Medicaid policy.
- h) Provide and review specific claims data (such as nursing facilities) for each MCO and for all claims paid within a specified timeframe.
- i) For member and provider complaints, grievances, and appeals, monitor and review end-to-end processes including any barriers to members' or providers' ability to submit a grievance or appeal, in addition to those accepted and processed per MCO policy.
- j) Review the individual contracts between each MCO and the Department to understand pertinent requirements.
- k) Analyze the data submitted by the MCOs and conduct independent tests to ensure all data has been received.
- l) Prepare and provide a report of the findings and observations identified from the activities listed above. Provide context to the reported information by including comparative statistics.
- m) Audit results and recommendations will be provided to HSD upon completion of all audits within the agreed upon timeframes.

- n) Identify potential issues and concerns with the processes outlined above.
- o) Assist HSD in the development of criteria for administering a value based purchasing program, and perform auditing/administrative functions in its operation. It is the desire of HSD that the value based purchasing program be operated with a joint consideration of clinical and financial accountability between Managed Care Organizations and their provider networks.
- p) Provide and perform information and analysis of uncompensated care pool renewal objectives to include, but not limited to, continued financing, Medicaid provider payment rates, beneficiary access to Medicaid services, financing providers that serve the low-income uninsured, support of managed care plans in managing care, and state specific circumstances.

#### **IV. Training**

Provide training for appropriate state officials and MCOs on an as needed basis.

#### **V. Consultation**

Upon request, provide consultation and assistance relating to revision or development of regulations, and policy compliance with Federal requirements, including new federal healthcare reforms and finance restructuring for Medicaid, or other consultation as requested. The auditing agent will provide consultation for HSD with its Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) for certain topics such as VBP.

## **Exhibit B**

*[use only in a PSC with a Business Associate]*

### **HIPAA Business Associate Agreement**

This Business Associate Agreement (“BAA”) is entered into between the New Mexico Human Services Department (“Department”) and [REDACTED], hereinafter referred to as “Business Associate” , in order to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”) as amended by Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (the “HITECH Act”), including the Standards of the Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information and the Security Standards at 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164.

**BUSINESS ASSOCIATE**, by this PSC [REDACTED] has agreed to provide services to, or on behalf of the HSD which may involve the disclosure by the Department to the Business Associate (referred to in PSC [REDACTED] as “Contractor”) of Protected Health Information. This Business Associate PSC is intended to supplement the obligations of the Department and the Contractor as set forth in PSC [REDACTED], and is hereby incorporated therein.

**THE PARTIES** acknowledge HIPAA, as amended by the HITECH Act, requires that Department and Business Associate enter into a written agreement that provides for the safeguarding and protection of all Protected Health Information which Department may disclose to the Business Associate, or which may be created or received by the Business Associate on behalf of the Department.

#### **1. Definition of Terms**

- a. **Breach.** “Breach” has the meaning assigned to the term breach under 42 U.S.C. § 17921(1) [HITECH Act § 13400 (1)] and 45 CFR § 164.402.
- b. **Business Associate.** "Business Associate", herein being the same entity as the Contractor in the same or Related Agreement, shall have the same meaning as defined under the HIPAA standards as defined below, including without limitation Contractor acting in the capacity of a Business Associate as defined in 45 CFR § 160.103.
- c. **Department.** "Department" shall mean in this agreement the State of New Mexico Human Services Department.
- d. **Individual.** "Individual" shall have the same meaning as in 45 CFR §160.103 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR §164.502 (g).
- e. **HIPAA Standards.** “HIPAA Standards” shall mean the legal requirements as set forth in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009, and the regulations and policy guidance, as each may be amended over time, including without limitation:

- 1) Privacy Rule. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information in 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E.
- 2) Breach Notification Rule. "Breach Notification" shall mean the Notification in the case of Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information, 45 CFR Part 164, Subparts A and D
- 3) Security Rule. "Security Rule" shall mean the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, Subparts A and C, including the following:
  - i. Security Standards. "Security Standards" hereinafter shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR §164.306.
  - ii. Administrative Safeguards. "Administrative Safeguards" shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR §164.308.
  - iii. Physical Safeguards. "Physical Safeguards" shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR §164.310.
  - iv. Technical Safeguards. "Technical Safeguards" shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR §164.312.
  - v. Policies and Procedures and Documentation Requirements. "Policies and Procedures and Documentation Requirements" shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR §164.316.
- f. Protected Health Information. "Protected Health Information" or "PHI" shall have the same meaning as in 45 CFR §160.103, limited to the information created, maintained, transmitted or received by Business Associate, its agents or subcontractors from or on behalf of Department.
- g. Required By Law. "Required By Law" shall have the same meaning as in 45 CFR §164.103.
- h. Secretary. "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, or his or her designee.
- i. Covered Entity. "Covered Entity" shall have the meaning as the term "covered entity" defined at 45 CFR §160.103, and in reference to the party to this BAA, shall mean the State of New Mexico Human Services Department.

Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this BAA shall have the same meaning as those terms in the HIPAA Standards. All terms used and all statutory and regulatory references shall be as currently in effect or as subsequently amended.



## 2. Obligations and Activities of Business Associate

- a. General Rule of PHI Use and Disclosure. The Business Associate may use or disclose PHI it creates for, receives from or on behalf of, the Department to perform functions, activities or services for, or on behalf of, the Department in accordance with the specifications set forth in this BAA and in this PSC [REDACTED]; provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the HIPAA Standards if done by the Department; or as Required By Law.
- i. Any disclosures made by the Business Associate of PHI must be made in accordance with HIPAA Standards and other applicable laws.
  - ii. Notwithstanding any other provision herein to the contrary, the Business Associate shall limit uses and disclosures of PHI to the “minimum necessary,” as set forth in the HIPAA Standards.
  - iii. The Business Associate agrees to use or disclose only a “limited data set” of PHI as defined in the HIPAA Standards while conducting the authorized activities herein and as delineated in PSC [REDACTED], except where a “limited data set” is not practicable in order to accomplish those activities.
  - iv. Except as otherwise limited by this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], Business Associate may use PHI for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate.
  - v. Except as otherwise limited by this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], Business Associate may disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate provided that the disclosures are Required By Law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as Required By Law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.
  - vi. Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate federal and state authorities, consistent with 45 CFR § 164.502(j).
  - vii. Business Associate may use PHI to provide Data Aggregation services to the Department as permitted by the HIPAA Standards.
- b. Safeguards. The Business Associate agrees to implement and use appropriate Security, Administrative, Physical and Technical Safeguards, and comply where applicable with subpart C of 45 C.F.R. Part 164, to prevent use or disclosure of PHI other than as required by law or as provided for by this BAA or PSC [REDACTED]. Business Associate shall identify in writing upon request from the Department all of those Safeguards that it uses to prevent impermissible uses or disclosures of PHI.

- c. Restricted Uses and Disclosures. The Business Associate shall not use or further disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], the HIPAA Standards, or otherwise as permitted or required by law. The Business Associate shall not disclose PHI in a manner that would violate any restriction which has been communicated to the Business Associate.
  - i) The Business Associate shall not directly or indirectly receive remuneration in exchange for any of the PHI unless a valid authorization has been provided to the Business Associate that includes a specification of whether the PHI can be further exchanged for remuneration by the entity receiving the PHI of that individual, except as provided for under the exceptions listed in 45 C.F.R. §164.502 (a)(5)(ii)(B)(2).
  - ii) Unless approved by the Department, Business Associate shall not directly or indirectly perform marketing to individuals using PHI.
- d. Agents. The Business Associate shall ensure that any agents that create, receive, maintain or transmit PHI on behalf of Business Associate, agree in writing to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the Business Associate with respect to PHI, in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(e)(1)(ii), and shall make that agreement available to the Department upon request. Upon the Business Associate's contracting with an agent for the sharing of PHI, the Business Associate shall provide the Department written notice of any such executed agreement.
- e. Availability of Information to Individuals and the Department. Business Associate shall provide, at the Department's request, and in a reasonable time and manner, access to PHI in a Designated Record Set (including an electronic version if required) to the Department or, as directed by the Department, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR § 164.524. Within three (3) business days, Business Associate shall forward to the Department for handling any request for access to PHI that Business Associate receives directly from an Individual. If requested by the Department, the Business Associate shall make such information available in electronic format as required by the HIPAA Standards to a requestor of such information and shall confirm to the Department in writing that the request has been fulfilled.
- f. Amendment of PHI. In accordance with 45 CFR § 164.526, Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to PHI in a Designated Record Set that the Department directs or agrees to, at the request of the Department or an Individual, to fulfill the Department's obligations to amend PHI pursuant to the HIPAA Standards. Within three (3) business days, Business Associate shall forward to the Department for handling any request for amendment to PHI that Business Associate receives directly from an Individual.

- g. Internal Practices. Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books and records, including policies, procedures and PHI, relating to the use and disclosure of PHI, available to the Department or to the Secretary within seven (7) days of receiving a request from the Department or receiving notice of a request from the Secretary, for purposes of the Secretary's determining the Department's compliance with the Privacy Rule.
- h. PHI Disclosures Recordkeeping. Business Associate agrees to document such disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosures as would be required for the Department to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with the HIPAA Standards and 45 CFR § 164.528. Business Associate shall provide such information to the Department or as directed by the Department to an Individual, to permit the Department to respond to an accounting request. Business Associate shall provide such information in the time and manner reasonably designated by the Department. Within three (3) business days, Business Associate shall forward to the Department for handling any accounting request that Business Associate directly receives from an individual.
- i. PHI Disclosures Accounting. Business Associate agrees to provide to the Department or an Individual, within seven (7) days of receipt of a request, information collected in accordance with Section 2 (h) of this Agreement, to permit the Department to respond to a request for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528.
- j. Security Rule Provisions. As required by 42 U.S.C. § 17931 (a) [HITECH Act Section 13401(a)] , the following sections as they are made applicable to business associates under the HIPAA Standards, shall also apply to the Business Associate: 1) Administrative Safeguards; 2) Physical Safeguards; 3) Technical Safeguards; 4) Policies and Procedures and Documentation Requirements; and 5) Security Standards. Additionally, the Business Associate shall either implement or properly document the reasons for non-implementation of all safeguards in the above cited sections that are designated as "addressable" as such are made applicable to Business Associates pursuant to the HIPAA Standards.
- k. Civil and Criminal Penalties. Business Associate agrees that it will comply with the HIPAA Standards as applicable to Business Associates, and acknowledges that it may be subject to civil and criminal penalties for its failure to do so.
- l. Performance of Covered Entity's Obligations. To the extent the Business Associate is to carry out the Department's obligations under the HIPAA Standards, Business Associate shall comply with the requirements of the HIPAA Standards that apply to the Department in the performance of such obligations.
- m. Subcontractors. The Business Associate shall ensure that any subcontractors that create, receive, maintain or transmit PHI on behalf of

Business Associate, agree in writing to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the Business Associate with respect to PHI, with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(e)(1)(ii), and shall make such information available to the Department upon request. Upon the Business Associate's contracting with an agent for the sharing of PHI, the Business Associate shall provide the Department written notice of any such executed agreement. Upon the Business Associate's contracting with a subcontractor for the sharing of PHI, the Business Associate shall provide the Department written notice of any such executed agreement.

### **3. Business Associate Obligations for Notification, Risk Assessment, and Mitigation**

During the term of this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], the Business Associate shall be required to perform the following pursuant to the Breach Notification Rule regarding Breach Notification, Risk Assessment and Mitigation:

#### Notification

- a. Business Associate agrees to report to the Department Contract Manager or HIPAA Privacy and Security Officer any use or disclosure of PHI not provided for by this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], and HIPAA Standards, including breaches of unsecured PHI as required by 45 C.F.R. § 164.410, as soon as it (or any employee or agent) becomes aware of the Breach, and in no case later than three (3) business days after it (or any employee or agent) becomes aware of the Breach, except when a government official determines that a notification would impede a criminal investigation or cause damage to national security.
- b. Business Associate shall provide the Department with the names of the individuals whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been, the subject of the Breach and any other available information that is required to be given to the affected individuals, as set forth in 45 CFR §164.404(c), and, if requested by the Department, provide information necessary for the Department to investigate promptly the impermissible use or disclosure. Business Associate shall continue to provide to the Department information concerning the Breach as it becomes available to it, and shall also provide such assistance and further information as is reasonably requested by the Department.

#### Risk Assessment

- c. When Business Associate determines whether an impermissible acquisition, use or disclosure of PHI by an employee or agent poses a low probability of the PHI being compromised, it shall document its assessment of risk in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.402 (in definition of "Breach", ¶ 2) based on at least the following factors: (i) the nature and extent of the protected health information involved, including the types of identifiers and the likelihood of re-identification; (ii) the unauthorized person who used the protected health information or to whom the disclosure was made; (iii)

whether the protected health information was actually acquired or viewed; and (iv) the extent to which the risk to the protected health information has been mitigated. Such assessment shall include: 1) the name of the person(s) making the assessment, 2) a brief summary of the facts, and 3) a brief statement of the reasons documenting the determination of risk of the PHI being compromised. When requested by the Department, Business Associate shall make its risk assessments available to the Department.

- d. If the Department determines that an impermissible acquisition, access, use or disclosure of PHI, for which one of Business Associate's employees or agents was responsible, constitutes a Breach, and if requested by the Department, Business Associate shall provide notice to the individuals whose PHI was the subject of the Breach. When requested to provide notice, Business Associate shall consult with the Department about the timeliness, content and method of notice, and shall receive the Department's approval concerning these elements. The cost of notice and related remedies shall be borne by Business Associate. The notice to affected individuals shall be provided as soon as reasonably possible and in no case later than 60 calendar days after Business Associate reported the Breach to the Department.

#### Mitigation

- e. In addition to the above duties in this section, Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of PHI, by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement, the Related Agreement or the HIPAA Standards. Business Associate shall draft and carry out a plan of corrective action to address any incident of impermissible use or disclosure of PHI. If requested by the Department, Business Associate shall make its mitigation and corrective action plans available to the Department.
- f. The notice to affected individuals shall be written in plain language and shall include, to the extent possible, 1) a brief description of the Breach, 2) a description of the types of Unsecured PHI that were involved in the Breach, 3) any steps individuals can take to protect themselves from potential harm resulting from the Breach, 4) a brief description of what the Business Associate and the Department are doing to investigate the Breach, to mitigate harm to individuals and to protect against further Breaches, and 5) contact procedures for individuals to ask questions or obtain additional information, as set forth in 45 CFR §164.404(c).

#### Notification to Clients

- g. Business Associates shall notify individuals of Breaches as specified in 45 CFR §164.404(d) (methods of individual notice). In addition, when a Breach involves more than 500 residents of a State or jurisdiction, Business Associate shall, if requested by the Department, notify prominent media outlets serving such location(s), following the requirements set forth in 45 CFR §164.406.

#### 4. **Obligations of the Department to Inform Business Associate of Privacy Practices and Restrictions**

- a. The Department shall notify Business Associate of any limitation(s) in the Department's Notice of Privacy Practices, implemented in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- b. The Department shall notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of, permission by an Individual to use or disclose PHI, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- c. The Department shall notify Business Associate of any restriction in the use or disclosure of PHI that the Department has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- d. The Department shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if done by the Department.

#### 5. **Term and Termination**

- a. Term. This BAA terminates concurrently with PSC [REDACTED], except that obligations of Business Associate under this BAA related to final disposition of PHI in this Section 5 shall survive until resolved as set forth immediately below.
- b. Disposition of PHI upon Termination. Upon termination of this PSC [REDACTED] and BAA for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all PHI in its possession, and shall retain no copies of the PHI. In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the PHI is not feasible, Business Associate shall provide to the Department notification of the conditions that make return or destruction of PHI not feasible. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties that return or destruction of the PHI is infeasible, Business Associate shall agree, and require that its agents, affiliates, subsidiaries and subcontractors agree, to the extension of all protections, limitations and restrictions required of Business Associate hereunder, for so long as the Business Associate maintains the PHI.
- c. If Business Associate breaches any material term of this BAA, the Department may either:
  - i. provide an opportunity for Business Associate to cure the Breach and the Department may terminate this PSC [REDACTED] and BAA without liability or penalty in accordance with Article 4, Termination, of PSC [REDACTED], if Business Associate does not cure the breach within the time specified by the Department; or,

- ii. immediately terminate this PSC [REDACTED] without liability or penalty if the Department determines that cure is not reasonably possible; or,
- iii. if neither termination nor cure are feasible, the Department shall report the breach to the Secretary.

The Department has the right to seek to cure any breach by Business Associate and this right, regardless of whether the Department cures such breach, does not lessen any right or remedy available to the Department at law, in equity, or under this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], nor does it lessen Business Associate's responsibility for such breach or its duty to cure such breach.

## **6. Penalties and Training.**

Business Associate understands and acknowledges that violations of this BAA or PSC [REDACTED] may result in notification by the Department to law enforcement officials and regulatory, accreditation, and licensure organizations. If requested by the Department, Business Associate shall participate in training regarding use, confidentiality, and security of PHI.

## **7. Miscellaneous**

- a. Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this BAA, or any inconsistency between the provisions of this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], shall be resolved to permit the Department to comply with the HIPAA Standards.
- b. Business Associate's Compliance with HIPAA. The Department makes no warranty or representation that compliance by Business Associate with this BAA or the HIPAA Standards will be adequate or satisfactory for Business Associate's own purposes or that any information in Business Associate's possession or control, or transmitted or received by Business Associate, is or will be secure from unauthorized use or disclosure. Business Associate is solely responsible for all decisions made by Business Associate regarding the safeguarding of PHI.
- c. Change in Law. In the event there are subsequent changes or clarifications of statutes, regulations or rules relating to this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], the Department shall notify Business Associate of any actions it reasonably deems necessary to comply with such changes, and Business Associate shall promptly take such actions. In the event there is a change in federal or state laws, rules or regulations, or in the interpretation of any such laws, rules, regulations or general instructions, which may render any of the material terms of this BAA unlawful or unenforceable, or which materially affects any financial arrangement contained in this BAA, the parties shall attempt amendment of this BAA to accommodate such changes or interpretations. If the parties are unable to agree, or if amendment is not possible, the parties may terminate the BAA and PSC [REDACTED] pursuant to its termination provisions.

- d. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing express or implied in this BAA is intended to confer, nor shall anything herein confer, upon any person other than the Department, Business Associate and their respective successors or assigns, any rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities whatsoever.
  
- e. Assistance in Litigation or Administrative Proceedings. Business Associate shall make itself and any agents, affiliates, subsidiaries, subcontractors or workforce members assisting Business Associate in the fulfillment of its obligations under this BAA and PSC [REDACTED] available to the Department, at no cost to the Department, to testify as witnesses or otherwise in the event that litigation or an administrative proceeding is commenced against the Department or its employees based upon claimed violation of the HIPAA standards or other laws relating to security and privacy, where such claimed violation is alleged to arise from Business Associate's performance under this BAA or PSC [REDACTED], except where Business Associate or its agents, affiliates, subsidiaries, subcontractors or employees are named adverse parties.
  
- f. Additional Obligations. Department and Business Associate agree that to the extent not incorporated or referenced in any Business Associate PSC between them, other requirements applicable to either or both that are required by the HIPAA Standards, those requirements are incorporated herein by reference.



**APPENDIX D**  
**COST RESPONSE FORM**

## COST RESPONSE FORM

### Sample Below

**(Buyers note: Ensure statutory requirements of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-150 regarding Multi Term Contracts limits are complied with when establishing Pricing/Term periods or extension pricing)**

Description	Type	Quantity	Cost per Item

**Example Format: Base Period: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Price: \$ (Includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, fees and taxes to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)**

Option Year 1: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Price:\$\_\_\_\_\_

(includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

Option Year 2: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Price:\$\_\_\_\_\_

(includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

Option Year 3: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Price:\$\_\_\_\_\_

(includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

Option Year 4: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Price:\$\_\_\_\_\_

(Includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, fees and taxes to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

**APPENDIX E**

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL FORM**

**Letter of Transmittal Form**

**RFP#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Offeror Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FED ID#**

Items #1 to #7 EACH MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL Failure to respond to all seven items WILL RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE PROPOSAL!

**1. Identity (Name) and Mailing Address** of the submitting organization:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. For the person authorized by the organization to contractually obligate on behalf of this Offer:**

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Title

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number -

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. For the person authorized by the organization to negotiate on behalf of this Offer:**

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Title

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number -

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. For the person authorized by the organization to clarify/respond to queries regarding this Offer:**

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Title

---

E-Mail Address

---

Telephone Number -

---

5. Use of Sub-Contractors (Select one)

No sub-contractors will be used in the performance of any resultant contract OR

The following sub-contractors will be used in the performance of any resultant contract:

---

(Attach extra sheets, as needed)

6. Please describe any relationship with any entity (other than Subcontractors listed in (5) above) which will be used in the performance of any resultant contract.

---

(Attach extra sheets, as needed)

7.  On behalf of the submitting organization named in item #1, above, I accept the Conditions

Governing the Procurement as required in Section II. C.1.

I concur that submission of our proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP.

I acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP.

---

2014

Authorized Signature and Date (Must be signed by the person identified in item #2, above.)

**APPENDIX F**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

The State of New Mexico, as a part of the RFP process, requires Offerors to submit a minimum of three (3) business references as required within this document. The purpose of these references is to document Offeror's experience relevant to the scope of work in an effort to establish Offeror's responsibility.

Offeror is required to send the following reference form to each business reference listed. The business reference, in turn, is requested to submit the Reference Form directly to: Norma Lucero, Procurement Manager, 2025 S. Pacheco, P.O. Box 2348, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2348 by the date stated in Section II.A., Sequence of Events of this RFP for inclusion in the evaluation process. The form and information provided will become a part of the submitted proposal. Business references provided may be contacted for validation of content provided therein.

**RFP # 17-630-8000-0006**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**FOR:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Offeror)

This form is being submitted to your company for completion as a business reference for the company listed above. This form is to be returned to the State of New Mexico, Human Services Department/Medical Assistance Division via facsimile or e-mail at:

Name: Norma Lucero, Procurement Manager  
Address: 2025 S. Pacheco Street  
P.O. Box 2348  
Santa Fe, NM 87504  
Telephone: 505-827-3127  
Fax: 505-476-6877  
Email: norma.lucero@state.nm.us

no later than **the date stated in section II.A., Sequence of Events of this RFP**, and **must not** be returned to the company requesting the reference.

For questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact the State of New Mexico Procurement Manager listed above. When contacting us, please be sure to include the Request for Proposal number listed at the top of this page.

<b>Company providing reference:</b>	
<b>Contact name and title/position</b>	
<b>Contact telephone number</b>	
<b>Contact e-mail address</b>	
<b>Project description;</b>	
<b>Project dates (starting and ending);</b>	
<b>Technical environment for the project your providing a reference (i.e., Software applications, Internet capabilities, Data communications, Network, Hardware);</b>	

QUESTIONS:

1. In what capacity have you worked with this vendor in the past?  
COMMENTS:

2. How would you rate this firm's knowledge and expertise?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)  
COMMENTS:

3. How would you rate the vendor's flexibility relative to changes in the project scope and timelines?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)  
COMMENTS:

4. What is your level of satisfaction with hard-copy materials produced by the vendor?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)  
COMMENTS:

5. How would you rate the dynamics/interaction between the vendor and your staff?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)  
COMMENTS:



6. Who were the vendor's principal representatives involved in your project and how would you rate them individually? Would you comment on the skills, knowledge, behaviors or other factors on which you based the rating?  
(3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating:

COMMENTS:

7. How satisfied are you with the products developed by the vendor?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)  
COMMENTS:

8. With which aspect(s) of this vendor's services are you most satisfied?  
COMMENTS:

9. With which aspect(s) of this vendor's services are you least satisfied?  
COMMENTS:

10. Would you recommend this vendor's services to your organization again?  
COMMENTS:

**APPENDIX G**  
**RESIDENT VETERANS CERTIFICATION**

## **New Mexico Preference Resident Veterans Certification**

**Reminder, a copy of Resident Veterans Preference Certificate must be submitted with the proposal in order to ensure adequate consideration and application of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended).**

\_\_\_\_\_ (NAME OF CONTRACTOR) hereby certifies the following in regard to application of the resident veterans' preference to this procurement:

### **Please check one box only**

- I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is less than \$1M allowing me the 10% preference on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.
- I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is more than \$1M but less than \$5M allowing me the 8% preference on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.
- I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is more than \$5M allowing me the 7% preference on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.

"I agree to submit a report, or reports, to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department declaring under penalty of perjury that during the last calendar year starting January 1 and ending on December 31, the following to be true and accurate:

"In conjunction with this procurement and the requirements of this business' application for a Resident Veteran Business Preference/Resident Veteran Contractor Preference under NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 or 13-1-22, when awarded a contract which was on the basis of having such veterans preference, I agree to report to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department the awarded amount involved. I will indicate in the report the award amount as a purchase from a public body or as a public works contract from a public body as the case may be.

"I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information on this report constitutes a crime."

I declare under penalty of perjury that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that giving false or misleading statements about material fact regarding this matter constitutes a crime.

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(Signature of Business Representative)\* (Date)

\*Must be an authorized signatory for the Business. The representations made in checking the boxes constitutes a material representation by the business that is subject to protest and may result in denial of an award or termination of award of the procurement involved if the statements are proven to be incorrect.