

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH STRATEGY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
FOR
PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS STUDY
FIFTH ADDENDUM
RELEASE DATE – 11-15-23**

UPDATE: The submission due date is changed to **Friday, November 24, 2023**. Please **note updated timelines**.

Applicable Dates:

Request for Proposals Release Date **October 4, 2023**

Pre-Bid Conference **November 2, 2023 1pm Eastern**

Link: [Pre-Bid Conference Registration](#)

This conference will be recorded

Deadline for Respondent Questions **November 9, 2023**

Deadline for Answers to Questions **Rolling basis by November 13, 2023**

Application Due Date: **November 24, 2023**

Anticipated Issuance of Notice of Award: **December 22, 2023**

Anticipated Period of Performance: **January 2, 2024 to January 1, 2025**

1. Q. Based on previous Q&A responses and the guidance provided at the proposers meeting, HDS believed we were ineligible to meet the minimum requirements (audited financial statements) for proposers, therefore we halted our efforts to develop our response. In lieu of this new guidance, HDS requests that the State extend the time of proposal submission for up to an additional 5 days to allow proposers (HDS and potentially others) adequate time to formulate their responses.
 - A. The submission date has been changed to **Friday, November 24, 2023**.
2. Q. Would OHS consider a phased approach to this project that starts with outlining potential approaches to analytics and reporting based on a legal analysis of authority to collect such data?
 - A. Yes, OHS would consider a phased approach, provided all deadlines determined by OHS and the contractor are met, including the statutorily required deadline of January 1, 2025, for the report.
3. Q. Which lines of businesses are in scope for this study? The proposal included Medicare Advantage, state employees, self-insured, fully-insured, and exchange. Are Medicaid and Medicare Part D included in the scope of this study?
 - A. Medicaid and Medicare Part D could be included in the scope of this study. This could be discussed between OHS and the contractor.
4. Q. Will actual rebate and profit information be provided? This information is not contained in the CT All-Payer Claims Database.
 - A. No, rebate and profit information will not be provided. It would be the responsibility of the contractor to obtain this information.
5. Q. Can the State elaborate what the scope of “drug distribution practices conducted by PBMs in other states” includes? For example, is this limited to reimbursement and network oversight? Or does this also include regulatory changes to Medicaid programs that can affect PBM contracting?
 - A. The drug distribution practices are not limited. It can include any kind of regulatory programs that affect PBMs.
6. Q. Page 15, Section D, Number 4.7 is missing. Is this a numbering typo or is there a section missing?

A. UPDATE - OHS reviewed the RFP and the request for financial information was unintentionally left out of the original RFP.
Section 4.7 below should have been included after section 4.6 Work plan:

4.7 Financial Profile

- a. Annual Budget and Revenues
- b. Financial Standing
- c. Any History of Violations (financial or programming)

OHS asks proposers to submit their most recent audited financial statements if available. In lieu of audited financial statements, proposers may submit financial policies and procedures signed by the CEO/CFO, as well as the items listed above, that show the organization to be in good financial standing. The purpose is to review the proposer's fiscal stability.

7. Q. How often does OHS expect to meet with the contractor during the engagement? Are onsite meetings or virtual meetings preferred?

A. The meeting frequency will be determined by OHS and contractor. The start of the project could require weekly meetings but eventually may become bi-weekly or monthly. Meetings would be expected to be virtual but could be in-person if planned in advance.

8. Q. Should the cost proposal be a separate document (in the budget template), or would like us to take the template and embed it within the main proposal document?

A. The cost proposal should be in the main proposal document. It is listed as the last section of the main proposal document.

4.8 Cost Competitiveness and Budget Narrative

- a. *Narrative*
- b. *Line Item Budget Form*
- c. *Subcontractor Costs*