

July 11, 2022

Addendum 1

To: Interested Parties

Re: Questions and Answers, Solicitation #044.22.B1, School-Based Mental Health Services

From: Howard County Public School System

Question 1: Is the requesting agency seeking to select and award one offeror to fulfill the terms of the contract, or is the requesting agency seeking to select and award multiple offerors to fulfill the terms of the contract?

Answer 1: HCPSS is seeking multiple offerors who can support a minimum of five schools but will also accept offerors who can support more schools, depending on the offeror's staffing capacity.

Question 2: Are there any specific format guidelines (i.e., type and size of font for narrative for tables and graphs, margins, and page limits for the referenced RFP?

Answer 2: No, except for the formats outlined on pages 15-17, sections 3.2 and 3.3; or pages 17-18, sections, 3.4; or page 22, section 4.3.3.

Question 3: Can you clarify the elements and format for the requested proposal? Should we follow the format outlined in pages 15-17, sections 3.2 and 3.3 or; page 22, section 4.3.3.

Answer 3: Yes, follow the format outlined in pages 15-17, sections 3.2 and 3.3; or pages 17-18, section 3.4; or page 22, section 4.3.3.

Question 4: Will you accept telehealth/virtual services only without online staff?

Answer 4: No, we will not accept telehealth/virtual services. We are only seeking offerors who can provide therapy services onsite in HCPSS school buildings during the school day.

Question 5: Do you have specific provider types in mind? LCSW? Psychiatrist? Psychologist?

Answer 5: Provider types may be any licensed mental health clinician, but not psychiatry only. We will accept psychiatry in addition to other licensed mental health provide types, but not psychiatry only.

Question 6: If the answer to question 5 is yes, how many FTE's of each?

Answer 6: The number of FTE's will depend on the needs of individual schools however; we are estimating at least three FTE's for every five schools served. We are seeking offerors who can support a minimum of five schools, but we will also accept offerors who can support more schools, depending on the offeror's staffing capacity.

Question 7: Would HCPSS be open to digital mental health offerings that enable synchronous coaching models rather than live, face-to-face visits?

Answer 7: No, HCPSS is only seeking offerors who can provide therapy services onsite in HCPSS school buildings during the school day.

Question 8: Is clinician attendance at IEP and SST meetings mandatory?

Answer 8: No.

Question 9: How is clinician attendance at IEP and SST meetings compensated?

Answer 9: Since the school system does not require attendance at IEP and SST meetings, no compensation is provided for these meetings.

Question 10: Will HCPSS accept a blended model that would support a full-time clinician dedicated to one school, where there are many children, and a model where a clinician would serve multiple schools?

Answer 10: Yes, HCPSS will accept a blended model. In addition, if the needs of the students in one school exceed the caseload capacity of a full-time clinician, HCPSS may request multiple clinicians at the same school.