

Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference
Mississippi Department of Corrections
Comprehensive Correctional Healthcare Services RFP # 3120002800

Conference Location:
Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum
1150 Lakeland Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE
BIDDER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

January 8, 2024

As required in RFP Section 4.4.2, MDOC herein provides written answers to all questions asked at the Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference:

1. *“On the questions and answers, are you going to do a rolling process? So if we submit questions today, you might post them today and answer them in time, or is it all the way up to the due date and then we see them after? ... I just raise it --- may keep us from all asking the same questions if they’re kind of posted or something as we go. We could all look before we ask, see if it’s already asked. Not overload you with repetitive questions.”* (Transcript pg. 16, lines 17-22 through page 17, lines 20, 22-25 and page 18, lines 1-2)

MDOC anticipates providing answers to all Bidder questions by February 16, 2024, as provide in Section 3 of the RFP, Calendar of Events.

2. *“I had a question on the bottom of Page 8 [of the RFP] and the top of Page 9 regarding Section 5.2.1 and 5.2.2. 5.2.1 says the external hard drive or thumb drive containing the bidder’s proposal should clearly identify the bidder and include the name, et cetera, et cetera. And then Section 5.2.2 says, the ten paper copies of the proposal and external hard drive or thumb drive required in this section shall not include any identifying information to include, but not limited to bidder’s prior, current or future company names or addresses, et cetera, et cetera. And that’s regarding the blind scoring process in 5.2.2. So those two sections seem to be contradictory. So I guess my question really is, are you in fact looking for a blind bid, because there are other sections of the RFP that do require identifying information?”* (Transcript pg. 20, lines 19-25, through pg. 21, lines 1–13)
“And if I may, just to continue a little bit. If you look at Page 9[] [of the RFP] 5.6.1.1, requests the name of the bidder – excuse me – the name of the

bidder. And, again, there are, I think, some other areas of the RFP that are going to require identifying information.” (Transcript pg. 22, lines 6-12)

Bidder shall submit one (1) paper copy of its Technical Submittal, (1) paper copy of its Cost Submittal in a separately sealed, properly labeled envelope as required in RFP Section 5.6.7, and one (1) corresponding USB or thumb drive all marked “Original Copy.” These three items shall comply with RFP Sections 5.2 and 5.2.1 and include all customary means of Bidder identification.

Bidder shall also submit ten (10) paper copies of its Technical Submittal, (10) paper copies of its Cost Submittal in a separately sealed, properly labeled envelope, and ten (10) corresponding USB or thumb drives all marked “Blind Copy.” Blind copies shall comply with Section 5.2.2 of the RFP and not include any identifying Bidder information.

Bidder shall insure that the original guarantee or bid bond payable to the State of Mississippi, required in Section 1 of the RFP, is included with the “Original Copy” of Bidder’s Submittals. A copy of said guarantee or bid bond, with all identifying Bidder information redacted, shall also be include with each of the ten (10) “Blind Copy” Submittals.

3. *“[Sections] 7.8.8.11 [of the RFP] and 7.8.8.12 talk about the monitoring of acutely suicidal inmates. It indicates selected bidder will document any activities on a routine basis throughout the period of observation. Is the intent that the bidder company will be responsible for the observation, monitoring and documentation of patients on suicide watch?”* (Transcript pg. 24, lines 14-22)

Trained Inmate Observers, monitored by an officer assigned to the area where suicide watch is taking place, conduct constant one-on-one mental health observation. Certified Medical Assistants or mental health staff who are trained in observation and suicide watch shall be used to conduct watch if an Inmate Observer is not available. RFP Sections 7.8.8.11 and 7.8.8.12. require mental health staff and medical staff to do periodic random checks and ensure the documentation and assessment by the Inmate or mental health staff observers comply with protocol and document the same.

4. *“[W]hat’s the bandwidth for each facility you have for internet service?”* (Transcript pg. 25, lines 22-23)

Central Mississippi Correctional Facility	2Gbps bandwidth
Mississippi State Penitentiary	2Gbps bandwidth
South Mississippi Correctional Institution	2Gbps bandwidth

Delta Correctional Facility	1Gbps bandwidth
Marshall County Correctional Facility	1Gbps bandwidth
Walnut Grove Correctional Facility	1Gbps bandwidth
East Mississippi Correctional Facility	2Gbps bandwidth
Wilkinson County Correctional Facility	1Gbps bandwidth

5. *“What is your EHR provider?”* (Transcript pg. 26, lines 4-5)

Sapphire Health Systems

6. *“What version is [your EHR]?”* (Transcript pg. 26, line 8)

Sapphire Health Systems

7. *“[Y]ou referenced imaging storage, does MDOC currently have a PAC system? If not – or if so, what is it? If not, does your EHR support integration of a PAC system?”* (Transcript pg. 26, lines 9-13)

X-ray imaging is managed by contracted imaging company. Dental x-ray storage is cloud based.

8. *“[W]hat major medical equipment is provided by MDOC?”* (Transcript pg. 26, lines 15-16)

See Section 7.7.26 of the RFP. MDOC provides medical equipment that is affixed to the structure of an MDOC facility, as well as medical grade beds in the infirmaries of the major facilities.

9. *“So this is the mental health services and restricted housing. 7.8.17.4 indicates mental health services and restricted housing for inmates not on the mental health caseload. Right below that, it says inmates on the mental health caseload. I would think that would be on the mental health caseload, but I wanted a clarification since it’s contradictory. ... 7.8.17.2, so above that, refers to in not on the mental health case load.”* Transcript pg. 27, lines 3-11, 25; pg. 28, lines 1-2)

RFP Section 7.8.17.4 should read as follows: “Mental health services in restrictive housing for inmates on the mental health caseload shall include:”

10. *“Would MDOC be willing to provide the appendices in an Excel format where possible? ... They do PDF on the site. ... Any of them have – any of them of that same nature? Cost submittal. Any of them that are math -- ... based type?”* (Transcript pg. 30, lines 24-25 through pg. 31, lines 1, 10-12, 14)

Please see attached Appendix A, RFP Staffing.

11. *“I didn’t receive a confirmation from my submission for the credentials for the driver’s license to do the tour, so I resubmitted it yesterday evening after reading through this thing. I did submit it to your healthcare RFP e-mail address. ... So I wanted to make sure that – A, that I was able to get clearance, but, B, earlier you stated that those items were posted to the website, and I have some concerns about my personal identification stuff being posted to a website.”* (Transcript pg. 34, lines 22-25 through pg. 35, lines 1-2, 4-9)

MDOC confirmed at the Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference that information provided by Bidders’ representatives attending facility tours, in response to RFP Section 4.4.5, was utilized for security purposes and would not be made public. MDOC further acknowledged receipt of this individual’s information and clearance to attend facility tours. (Transcript pg. 35, lines 10-16)

12. *“The tour at CMCF, where is the meeting point? ... Reception and classification? ... Can I just make a comment? ... For people that may not have been there, when you enter into the main gate, you will turn to the right, follow that road all of the way around, and you will end up in that parking area.”* (Transcript pg. 39, lines 17-18, 25 through pg. 40, lines 1, 7, 9-13)

MDOC confirmed at the Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference the tour of CMCF would begin at CMCF’s male Reception and Classification building.