

**MISSISSIPPI STATE AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES  
HEALTH INSURANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
FOR  
THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATION SERVICES**

Vendor Questions and Board Responses Number 2  
January 20, 2016

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- 1. Would the Board consider a proposal from a TPA bidder specifically outlining its capabilities in providing a non-exclusive PPO/Open Access statewide and national network that includes all services and access standards required inside and outside of the state of Mississippi? The TPA can create network arrangements exclusive to the Board. The network proposed would be maintained by the TPA with applicable access and transparency, where allowed by its network provider contracts, to the Board.**

*Please refer to **SECTION 2 - MINIMUM VENDOR REQUIREMENTS** in the Third Party Administration Services Request for Proposals, including but not limited to the following:*

*“The following proposal requirements are **mandatory (Emphasis added)**. Failure to meet any of these requirements will result in disqualification of the proposal submitted by your organization...”*

*“5. Agree to provide and manage a comprehensive provider network in the State of Mississippi that will serve the State and School Employees’ Health Insurance Plan (Plan) **exclusively (Emphasis added)**, and agree that the Board will have approval authority for any or all contracted rates and terms of the provider contracts for purposes of assuring that the contracted providers agree to participate in or cooperate with the Plan’s medical management and utilization review programs, health and wellness promotion programs, and all other features and programs of the Plan as appropriate.”*

- 2. Would the Board consider a proposal that includes any type of network risk sharing arrangements?**

*Please refer to **SECTION 5 QUESTIONNAIRE**, Questions 158 through 172 of the Third Party Administration Services Request for Proposals, regarding the types of provider reimbursement methodologies the Board would expect, as well as Question 187 as it relates to risk sharing arrangements. Vendors proposing risk sharing arrangements as an additional option over traditional reimbursement structures should fully describe same.*

- 3. Would the Board provide the details of the cost containment programs, allowable benefits and other features of the plan that cause the Board to require an exclusive statewide network?**

*Please refer to Appendix B - Plan Document for a description of the cost containment programs, allowable benefits, and features of the State and School Employees’ Health Insurance Plan. Responding vendors should fully describe any specific features of their proposed network cost containment provisions relative to medical policy, provider contract provisions, etc., designed to help ensure affordable access to quality services delivered in a cost efficient/effective manner in accordance with the exclusive Plan design.*

4. **If the TPA bidder can deliver all the functionality needed to meet the cost containment programs, allowable benefits and other features of the plan would the Board accept a non-exclusive statewide network proposed?**

*Please refer to the response to Question 1 above.*

5. **Would the Board accept a proposal that includes its participation in key provider negotiations, additions and disruptions with network providers as identified by the Board; and also gives the Board the contractual right to accept changes or negotiate specific arrangements to be administered by the TPA?**

*Please refer to the response to Question 1 above.*

6. **Can the RFP be available as a WORD document?**

*The Third Party Administration Services Request for Proposals is available online in Word® format, at <http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/Content/BidandRFP.htm>. NOTE: Certain RFP appendices are only available in Excel® or Adobe PDF® format, and likewise may be accessed online at the website listed above.*