



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS # 34349-53122  
AMENDMENT # 2  
FOR PUBLIC HEALTH LEVEL SEVEN (HL7) DATA  
TRANSFER, LOGGING AND MONITORING SERVICES**

DATE: November 2, 2022

RFP # 34349-53122 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. This RFP Schedule of Events updates and confirms scheduled RFP dates. Any event, time, or date containing revised or new text is highlighted.

EVENT	TIME (central time zone)	DATE
1. RFP Issued		September 26, 2022
2. Disability Accommodation Request Deadline	2:00 p.m.	September 29, 2022
3. Pre-response Conference	10:00 a.m.	September 30, 2022
4. Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline	2:00 p.m.	October 3, 2022
5. Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	October 6, 2022
6. State Response to Written "Questions & Comments"		November 2, 2022
7. Response Deadline	2:00 p.m.	November 16, 2022
8. State Completion of Technical Response Evaluations		November 28, 2022
9. State Opening & Scoring of Cost Proposals	8:00 a.m.	November 29, 2022
10. Negotiations		November 29 – December 7, 2022
11. State Notice of Intent to Award Released <u>and</u> RFP Files Opened for Public Inspection	2:00 p.m.	December 8, 2022
12. End of Open File Period		December 15, 2022

13. State sends contract to Contractor for signature		December 16, 2022
14. Contractor Signature Deadline	2:00 p.m.	December 20, 2022

**2. State responses to questions and comments in the table below amend and clarify this RFP.**

Any restatement of RFP text in the Question/Comment column shall NOT be construed as a change in the actual wording of the RFP document.

RFP Section	#	Question/Comment	State Response
RFP Section 1.a.	1	How did the state arrive at an estimated maximum liability for the 24 month term of \$800,000? Is that a suggested number or a not to exceed number?	The number at 1.a. of the RFP is an estimate. The Maximum Liability as outlined in C.1. of the proforma contract is a not-to-exceed number and is determined from awarded cost proposal.
Proforma Section A	2	Are there any tools that the Tennessee Department of Health is already using for dashboarding that you would like to continue using?	We currently use Tableau for several dashboards but we do not require that they be continued. We are fine with them being replaced.
Proforma Section A	3	What kind of a contract does the Tennessee Department of Health envision executing with the successful vendor: time and materials or fixed price or other?	See Pro Forma Section C.3. Payment Methodology.
Proforma Section A	4	Will the State clarify which data visualization tools are already available? For example, does the State have Power BI and/or Tableau licenses?	We currently use Tableau for several dashboards but we do not require that they be continued. We are fine with them being replaced. We do not have Power BI licensed currently, but we have it on our approved vendor contracts already. TDH will procure 5 or less licenses of each software if needed, to support this project.
RFP Section 3.2.3.	5	Will the State allow Appendix items in the response? We are considering including certain documents (e.g., resumes, Statement of Certs and Assurances, current bank reference, etc.) at the end of the proposal, in an Appendix section, rather than inserting them within the proposal.	This would be acceptable assuming the appendix items are sent in the same email that contains the technical response.
RFP Attachment 6.2 Section B.15	6	RFP Attachment 6.2 – Item B.15 asks for an estimated level of participation by business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, persons with disabilities and small business enterprises. Can the State please confirm that there is no solicitation requirement for this participation? Is there a minimum participation requirement?	Although there is no requirement for this participation, the B.15 portion of the proposal will be evaluated and is included with other questions in the General Qualifications and Experience section with point value. The Dept. of Health views diversity in their proposals as important, with 13% (\$24.7 million) of their overall spend coming from diversity businesses.
Proforma Section A	7	Can the State please confirm whether the [redacted] team should plan for	On site days are not required.

		onsite days at State offices, and if so, how many days?	
Proforma Section A	8	Can the State please confirm whether a cloud migration effort is to be included in scope?	Cloud migration is not required in the scope.
RFP Section 3.3.3.	9	Can the State please confirm whether vendors can propose optional, value-add services outside of the original scope but which would contribute to the program's success (i.e. organizational change management)?	Please see RFP section 3.3.3. for how the State will respond to responses that propose alternative goods or services outside of the scope. See also RFP section 3.1.2. If a Respondent fails to submit a cost proposal exactly as required, the State may deem the response to be non-responsive and reject it.
Proforma Section A	10	Can the State please confirm which systems/processes are currently electronic and which are manual?	Lab and case report data is received and processed electronically in production. As we move providers in staging there are some manual process that are not critical for this project. We receive spreadsheet COVID lab reports which are processed initially in SAS or R and then into Rhapsody manually.
Proforma Section A	11	Can the State please confirm how much data is transferred from the original source to its intended target, and what is the peak volume?	Average daily ELRs in 2021 was 56,000, peak was 122,000.
Proforma Section A	12	Can the State please confirm if there are security requirements beyond HL7 that are required?	The State can confirm that all pertinent security requirements are outlined in the proforma contract.
Proforma Section A	13	Can the State please confirm how data is secured, encrypted, and stored?	No, the State cannot confirm at this time.
Proforma Section A	14	Can the State please confirm future data storage requirements?	Not at this time.
Proforma Section A	15	Can the State please confirm the requirements for data failure and recovery?	All applications within TDH fall into a standard disaster recovery plan which this application/software would also fall under.
Proforma Section A	16	Can the State please confirm if there are any Service Level Agreements of which we should be aware?	None.
Proforma Section A	17	Can the State please confirm what data model structure is required to meet the performance characteristics from Data Delivery?	The State cannot confirm.
Proforma Section A	18	Can the State please confirm what technology platform will store the final data?	This will be part of the evaluation and recommendations expected from the selected vendor. We currently use SQL based environments.
Proforma Section A	19	Can the State please confirm the interface required for processing (filesystem, SDK, API, SQL, etc.)?	There are no current requirements for the interface. We would expect these to be reviewed and included in the initial system evaluation and recommendations.
Proforma Section A	20	Can the State please confirm if a storage system is already in place in the data platform? If so, are customizations needed?	We have several different archiving and storage locations currently. We would expect these to be reviewed and

			included in the initial system evaluation and recommendations.
Proforma Section A	21	Can the State please confirm if the expectation is that the data will be stored on our systems?	The data is expected to be stored locally on TDH assets or within our cloud environments.
Proforma Section A	22	Can the State please confirm what types of data are in scope (flat file / Relational Databases / Streams / APIs)?	We receive data in multiple formats and these would all need to be included in the monitoring and data quality functions. These formats include HL7, HL7-like flat files, CSV, and are processed into SQL monitoring tables and ultimately into our surveillance application which is a relational database.
Proforma Section A	23	Can the State please confirm if an industry standard or existing data model will be used?	We would expect this to be reviewed and included in the initial system evaluation and recommendations.
Proforma Section A	24	Can the State please confirm if there are multiple data sources for the same model?	We receive data in multiple formats and these would all need to be included in the monitoring and data quality functions.
Proforma Section A	25	Can the State please confirm what end to end latency is acceptable (i.e. "Latency must be 5 seconds or less at the 99th percentile")?	This is not defined for this project.
Proforma Section A	26	Can the State please confirm how it would like historical data to be migrated into the new formats (replay raw data, convert final products, etc.)?	We would expect these to be reviewed and included in the initial system evaluation and recommendations.
Proforma Section A	27	Can the State please confirm how much historical data should be converted?	We would expect these to be reviewed and included in the initial system evaluation and recommendations.
Proforma Section A.3	28	Is the State flexible on the budget or implementation schedule?	To some degree we are flexible. We do have funding deadlines for the monies allocated to this project so we are not able to extend indefinitely.
Proforma Section A.3.2	29	IS the State flexible to use a NoSQL database instead of sql as part of the solution?	Yes, as long as the vendor is not trying to use a NoSQL database as a transactional database. Oracle 19c and SQL 2019 do not need exceptions, however other products would need an exception.
Proforma Section A.3.	30	Can the State clarify the scope of "end users to configure functionality" listed in A.3.2.d, A.3.3, A.3.4, A.3.5, A.3.6 and A.3.7.	TDH SSI staff need the ability to configure changes after the solution is delivered. No functionality should be proprietary or inaccessible after the end of the contract term.
Proforma Section A.3.2	31	Can the State provide the number of end users that will need to be trained?	Less than 20.
Proforma Section A.3.	32	Can the State share the average and peak daily message volumes experienced within the State that this tool will need to handle?	Average daily ELRs in 2021 was 56,000, peak was 122,000.
„Proforma Section A.3.	33	Can the State provide the number of unique senders for ELR and eCR respectively?	We are continuing to onboard both ELR and eCR providers. We currently have 213 ELR providers and 2 eCR providers.

Proforma Section A.3.b.	34	Can the State provide the volume of the data that needs to be archived and how far back the data needs to be archived?	We would expect these to be reviewed and included in the initial system evaluation and recommendations.
Proforma Section A.3.	35	Can the State share the average size of an eICR that gets processed?	Average is 180kb
	36	Regarding the need for on premise work - is there flexibility wherein a cloud-based solution would be considered as they are primarily a cloud-based developer	We currently have contracts with both Azure and AWS for cloud hosting. But all solutions will need to use TDH resources.
	37	Does the State/TDH plan to maintain Rhapsody as its interface engine going forward or is there an option for other solutions.	TDH also uses Cloverleaf. We do have some NBS vendor-based commitments that mean that Rhapsody will need to be maintained to support that application and its ELR and eCR processing.

3. **RFP Amendment Effective Date.** The revisions set forth herein shall be effective upon release. All other terms and conditions of this RFP not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.