



AUSTIN
Independent School District

Contract and
Procurement Services

ADDENDUM 1

Questions and Answers

Request for Proposals 21RFP062 School Mental Health Centers at Elementary, Middle and High Schools

Issue Date: November 30, 2020

Questions regarding this posting should be directed to:
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1. Can you please provide more information in regards to RFP #21RFP062?
Answer: As provided in the RFP, sections I-VI explains in detail AISD's scope of service and performance requirements for school mental health centers.
2. Who are the current vendors providing services? What are their rates?
Answer: Our current vendor is Vida Clinic, PLLC. We operate the School Mental Health Centers using a fee-for-service model. This model does not change based on licensure. This model will require the contractor(s) to maintain the financial stability of this program with revenue generated through third party billing private insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, and other insurers. Billing for uninsured encounters will be provided to AISD on a monthly basis with a detailed invoice.
3. What is the anticipated award date? How will vendors be notified of award?
Answer: As stated in the RFP document, the tentative award date of award February 1, 2021. All vendors will be notified of award results in writing.
4. What is the anticipated # of full-time positions by discipline?
The District does not currently have this data to provide. However, we estimate that for the fee-for-service model to be successful and sustainable, there would be a need for about 25-35 full-time therapists to effectively serve the District's 43 School Mental Health Centers, with each therapist providing 6 hours of direct, clinical (face-to-face) therapy daily. The full-time equivalent (FTE) will vary by campus School Mental Health Center. In order to collect this data in the future and ensure we are able to better service our students, contractor(s) will be expected to collaborate with the Director of Health Services, Project Director, and/or School Mental Health Coordinator(s), regarding the staffing of each Mental Health Center, plus the addition or elimination of therapists, the transfer of therapists between campuses, the addition of campus mental health centers, etc. Contractor(s) will remain in communication with the District

School Mental Health Coordinator(s), regarding day-to-day operational information impacting the ability for contractor(s) to provide direct clinical services on campuses. Therapists should have the ability and flexibility to travel from one clinic to another to accommodate varying caseloads.

5. Are your current vendors meeting your needs?

Answer: As the District grows and changes, so do the mental health needs of the District. Considering this, the Contractor(s) need to be willing and able to allow for flexibility, collaboration, transparency, and full disclosure surrounding all decisions impacting the operations of the District's School Mental Health Centers.

6. Do you anticipate awarding one or multiple vendors?

Answer: As stated in the RFP document, AISD may award to more than one vendor.

7. Will assigned therapists have access to therapy materials, supplies, equipment, evaluation kits, and protocols provided by your schools?

Will assigned therapists have access to computers/ laptops and printers provided by your schools?

Answer: Therapists will have access to District protocols. Therapy materials, supplies, equipment and evaluation kits are the responsibility of the Contractor(s). The district will provide a private space, access to WiFi, utilities, phone, furniture that is available in the AISD Warehouse (sofa, locking file cabinets, desk chairs, bookcases, etc.) at each campus at no cost to the contractor. The District will not provide additional furniture; however, the contractor(s) may bring in additional/alternative furniture that will be the property and responsibility of the contractor(s).

8. Can pricing increase during the term of the contract?

Answer: We operate the School Mental Health Centers using a fee-for-service model. This model does not change based on licensure. This model will require the contractor(s) to maintain the financial stability of this program with revenue generated through third party billing private insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, and other insurers. Billing for uninsured encounters will be provided to AISD on a monthly basis with a detailed invoice as provided in the RFP under Section VI. C. Financial Sustainability Plan.

9. Do you require resumes of potential contracted therapists to be included in our submission?

Answer: We are not requiring that a therapist's resume and license be submitted with the proposal. The expectation is if the District requests proof of licensure, the Contractor(s) need to be willing to provide such documentation to the District in a timely manner.

10. Would we be required to bill Medicaid directly?

Answer: We operate the School Mental Health Centers using a fee-for-service model. This model does not change based on licensure. This model will require the contractor(s) to maintain the financial stability of this program with revenue generated through third party billing private insurance, Medicaid, CHIP, and other insurers. Billing for uninsured encounters will be provided to AISD on a monthly basis with a detailed invoice as provided in the RFP under Section VI. C.

11. As a part of this RFP, would we be required to run/maintain clinics?

Answer: As provided in the RFP, sections I-VI explains in detail AISD's scope of service and performance requirements for the school mental health centers.