

## ADDENDUM ONE, QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Date: June 26, 2020  
To: All Bidders  
From: Holly Glasgow/Keith Roland, Buyers  
Department of Health and Human Services  
RE: Addendum for Contact Tracing Management System Request for Information  
to be opened July 6, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time

### Questions and Answers

Following are the questions submitted and answers provided for the above mentioned Request for Information. The questions and answers are to be considered as part of the Request for Information. It is the Respondent's responsibility to check the DHHS or State Purchasing Bureau website for all addenda or amendments.

<u>Question Number</u>	<u>RFP Section Reference</u>	<u>RFP Page Number</u>	<u>Question</u>	<u>State Response</u>
1.	Scope of Service	1	Please clarify if agency allows the Email submission for this response.	Respondents should submit responses via ShareFile as per Section II.F of the RFI.
2.	D.EXISTING CONTRACTS AND PRICING	6	What is the budget of this contract?	DHHS is gathering information at this time and a budget has not been determined.
3.	D.EXISTING CONTRACTS AND PRICING	6	Please clarify the duration of this contract?	DHHS is gathering information at this time and a duration has not been determined.
4.	D.EXISTING CONTRACTS AND PRICING	6	Please clarify if Agency is interested any other providers other than those mentioned?	The third-party software providers listed in this section currently have contracts with the State of Nebraska. Respondents should indicate if they can provide their system through one of the providers listed, can provide their system through an alternative provider, or can provide their system directly to the State.
5.	D.EXISTING CONTRACTS AND PRICING	5	Please clarify if non-GSA vendor can also submit this response?	Yes, a non-GSA vendor can submit a response.
6.	General		How many concurrent users using the system?	DHHS anticipates up to 1,000 concurrent users.
7.	General		Please clarify if the agency has any signed up/preferred cloud vendor?	No, DHHS has no preference.
8.	General		Please provide the details of current hardware and software?	DHHS uses the following hardware and software: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SFTP</li> <li>• Rhapsody</li> <li>• NBS which is our NEDSS Base System</li> <li>• ODSE (operational Datastore database)</li> <li>• RDB (Reporting database)</li> <li>• Nebraska Datamarts</li> <li>• SQL server</li> <li>• SQL and SAS</li> <li>• RedCap</li> <li>• Cloud based and physical servers</li> </ul>

9.	C.SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS	5	Please clarify if Vendor needs to provide third party assessment of the security plan as well?	The Third Party assessment should encompass an evaluation of the entire security regimen to include a Controls Assessment and a Technical Assessment of the solution. The Technical Assessment is an evaluation of the security of the application itself and the Controls Assessment is NIST based and evaluates the System Security Plan (SSP), Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA), Information Security Risk Assessment (ISRA), and Plan of Action and Milestones (PO&AM) against the guidance from CMS.
10.	F. SUBMISSION OF RESPONSE	3	Please clarify is there any pages limit for this RFI? Is there any response format? Can we add cover page?	There is no required format or page limit. A cover page is optional.
11.	N/A	N/A	What is the estimated budget for this project?	See answer to question #2.
12.	I A. Schedule of Events	1	Is there a timeline for a formal solicitation to be reached? If not, what steps are expected to make a decision on a formal solicitation?	DHHS is gathering information at this time and a timeline has not been determined. Refer to section II.B. in RFI.
13.			My question is surrounding the NEDSS system in place. Is there a requirement for the Contact Tracing System of choice to interface to the NEDSS system?  I ask because [REDACTED] has a full Disease Surveillance and Outbreak Management system (called [REDACTED]) as well; it is utilized by the California and Wisconsin Departments of Health. With our full [REDACTED] solution, the Contact Tracing functionality is fully integrated.	DHHS would prefer if the new system had an electronic interface with NEDSS. Other options such as a data dump or spreadsheet upload would be secondary options.

14.	II. G. Proprietary Information	4	<p>Instructions say to, "...must be submitted in a sealed package, which is separate from the remainder of the response. The separate package must be clearly marked "PROPRIETARY" on the outside of the package or if submitting the proposal or response electronically, as a separate electronic file that is named "PROPRIETARY".</p> <p>For smooth reading start to finish, may we request that the main response retain all proprietary information, though obviously marked as such, and then provide a separate redacted document for use in Public Disclosure, instead of being pulled out and separated?</p>	Yes.
15.	III. B. Current Environment	5	Please confirm if the current environment will continue to be utilized in the new proposed solution. If so, which components?	NEDSS will be used as the laboratory data repository. DHHS is uncertain if it would be used beyond that. REDCap and SharePoint would not be used.
16.	III. B. Current Environment	5	Is the State looking for the proposed system to interface with all three current systems: NEDSS, Redcap, and SharePoint?	The proposed system will only interface with NEDSS but may need some historical data from REDCap to be added to new solution.
17.	III. B. Current Environment	5	If the State is looking for the proposed system to interface with all three current systems: NEDSS, REDCap, and SharePoint, what types of interfaces (e.g. bi-directional) is the State requesting?	The proposed system will only interface with NEDSS. It is unknown whether it would be bidirectional or one direction and will be dependent on the solution and pros/cons of creating bidirectional.
18.	III. B. Current Environment	5	Will the State require a data migration or conversion of data from the current systems (NEDSS, REDCap, and SharePoint) into the proposed solution?	Data migration will likely be needed for NEDSS and REDCap, not SharePoint.

19.	III. C. System Requirements	5	What are the requirements regarding data storage? Specifically, the size, location, and retention period?	The data storage size is unknown at this time, but the data from REDCap will need to be migrated and will also be dependent on the extent of the COVID-19 pandemic. DHHS prefers a state-provisioned IT environment for data storage. The retention period will follow the Secretary of State schedule: <a href="https://sos.nebraska.gov/records-management/health-human-services-system-schedule-150">https://sos.nebraska.gov/records-management/health-human-services-system-schedule-150</a>
20.	III. C. System Requirements	5	Do the current systems interface with other systems or third parties and will the proposed solution require interfaces beyond what the current environment provides?	NEDSS interfaces with external laboratories. The proposed solution would not need to have these interfaces.
21.	III. C. System Requirements		What are the expected number of users a) NE Dept users and b) Contact Tracers accessing the proposed system? What is the anticipated number of contacts to be traced?	a) 300, which includes DHHS contact tracers and staff managing the system b) 700 contact tracers  Number of contacts is completely contingent on severity of outbreak and other factors such as contacts/case.
22.	III.C. System Requirements	5	What are the data integration mechanisms available to integrate the contact tracing solution with NEDSS?	DHHS would like to integrate other system into NEDSS, such as electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) messaging, perhaps HL7 or similar method.
23.	III. D. 1. b. Existing Contracts and Pricing	6	Will the State please confirm that the type of contract vehicle that it is referring to in Section III(D.)(1.)(b.) of the RFI is a contract vehicle that permits cooperative buying of established commodities and services using an existing contract, also known as a 'piggyback' type of relationship?	Yes, this is correct.

24.	III.B	5	Please list the reportable diseases that DHHS intends to track using the new Contact Tracing Management system. If possible, please include a rough timeline (by quarter) of when each reportable disease will be transitioned from RedCap to the new system.	Only COVID-19 is planned on being utilized by the new system for the foreseeable future. If the solution meets the needs of DHHS and it would be applicable to other pathogens, DHHS may consider using it for TB, measles, and other person-to-person pathogens.
25.	III.B	5	What is the current annual volume of cases (approx.), by reportable disease type?	See the <a href="#">State of Nebraska's COVID-19 dashboard</a> .
26.	III.B	5	How many contact tracers does DHHS anticipate will use the new Contact Tracing Management system?	See answer to question #6.
27.	III.B	5	Which organizations will provide people to perform contact tracing? (DHHS, county/city-county/district health departments, PCR, others)	DHHS, local health departments, and several contractors.
28.	III.B	5	Will contact tracers perform work solely in a call center/office environment? Or will there be a need to support field-based contact tracers?	There will be some field based contact tracers, in particular for local health departments.
29.	III.B	5	What data conversion strategy does DHHS have for contact tracing? Does DHHS desire to convert any data from RedCap and/or SharePoint? If yes, how many months/years?	DHHS would like to transfer current files from REDCap to the new system. It has been used for the past few months and has roughly 20,000 files as of 6/23/2020.
30.	III.B.6	5	The RFI identifies that a limitation of the existing systems is "case and contact data being stored in multiple locations". Does this mean that there is a single database for RedCap and a single database for SharePoint? Or are there multiple databases for each of those systems?	The case and contact data are in different systems, including cases in both NEDSS and REDCap, and contacts in a different REDCap project, as well as home grown sources used by local health departments.
31.	III.C	5	Does DHHS desire installing the new Contact Tracing Management system into a state-provisioned IT environment? Or does DHHS prefer a cloud-based approach?	DHHS prefers a state-provisioned IT environment.

32.			Please explain the workflow for how the cases are managed today.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lab report comes into NEDSS system,</li> <li>2. Assigned out in SharePoint,</li> <li>3. Case called and data entered in REDCap,</li> <li>4. Contacts identified assigned in SharePoint,</li> <li>5. Contacts called, and</li> <li>6. Data entered in REDCap.</li> </ol>
33.			Can you details around what kind of workflow automation you are look for.	DHHS is seeking the ability to put cases and contacts into different queues in regards to what their status is and potentially when cases need to be contacted again.
34.			How many contact tracers would be using the system?	See answer to question #6.

This addendum will become part of the response and should be acknowledged with the Request for Information.