

1. We wanted to know if there was any kind of budgetary restrictions or funding limits to both the positions and/or the proposal as a whole.
  - a. IDPH will not know if there are any funding limits as we are seeking competitive bids and the duration for the COVID pandemic is unknown.
2. Due to the extremely short proposal response time, would the Department consider waiving the BEP requirement?
  - a. Submission of a BEP Utilization Plan is required
3. Would the state consider extending the proposal due date by at least 2 weeks to allow the Department to receive the most advantageous proposals?
  - a. The State will extend the proposal due date to September 27, 2021 at 1 p.m. CST due to the late posting of the Q&A
4. Who is the incumbent for this work?
  - a. There is no incumbent for this work as the scope of work has been newly defined.
5. Attachment B – IP RFP Budget appears to indicate that a Consultant with 20 plus years of experience is required. However, this is not a requirement within the text of the RFP. Please clarify.
  - a. The estimated number of positions by experience are to establish fixed hourly rates for pricing comparison in the chart. It is vendor's preference as to the experience level of their staff but they must adhere to, at a minimum, the specifications in 4. Vendor/Staff Specifications of the RFP. Estimated numbers are subject to change based on needs.
6. Would the Department please provide the number of facilities per region?
  - a. There are 1600 long-term care facilities in Illinois, of which approx. 600 are skilled nursing facilities. The regions have been set up to ensure coverage across the entire state and an equitable distribution among the infection preventionists by facility size and location. These regions are flexible and periodically undergo revision. Please see Attachment E.