

Addendum #1

Written Questions and Answers

RFP Questions and Answers:

Question 1: *What is the current per diem rates for the program?*

Answer: Currently the per diem ranges from \$125-\$150. However, the rates will be set with the new contracts.

Question 2: *At the top of the document it asks for the budget period. Does that mean that a separate worksheet for each period (year) of the contract needs to be provided? Or should the budget worksheet reflect the proposed budget for the entire term of the contract?*

Answer: Yes a separate worksheet for each period (year) is required.

Question 3: *All the sections on the budget attachment have a column for budget period match. Can you clarify what that means?*

Answer: Budget Period Match is the amount of funding the contractor contributes to the program if required.

Question 4: *Is the RFP requiring a match?*

Answer: No, match is not needed.

Question 5: *Are the allowances for groceries and personal expenses to be included in the per diem or are they a separate reimbursement from the State?*

Answer: The per diem rate shall include all expenses for providing all services described in the RFP.

Question 6: *If the contract is awarded and then extended, will the rate for the extension be at the Year 3 Per Diem?*

Answer: The per diem rate will remain firm at the Year 3 rate for any contract extension.

Question 7: *Licensing regulations require that approval from child welfare state office staff shall be obtained and documented prior to placing a youth in DCFS custody in a transitional placing program that has been suicidal, homicidal, and/or exhibited any psychotic behaviors in the past six months. Can you please clarify who in State office is the contact for these approvals should it be necessary.*

Answer: The state office manager over the contract would be the person approving the waiver.

Question 8: *In regards to extended foster care youth who are not in State's custody: licensing regulations state that if referred through an agency, the child-placing agency shall have signed and dated documentation from the referring agency that the youth is appropriate for independent living placement and meets the following criteria prior to placement in the program:*

a. youth has the ability to maintain his own household semi-independently with supports in cleaning, meal preparation, basic household maintenance, and homework completion;

b. youth has the maturity level appropriate to living semi-independently; and

c. youth has not been suicidal, been homicidal, or exhibited any psychotic behaviors in the past six months. The "six month" stipulation seems to present an issue to a program being able to readmit a youth who was absent for psychiatric treatment for suicidal, homicidal, or psychotic behaviors until at least six months have passed. Are we interpreting that regulation correctly?

Answer: Yes, this is a licensing regulation. There are waivers that can be granted for such instances when needed and appropriate.

Question 9: *If a program accepts "parenting youth" may it do so exclusively? (p 35)*

Answer: Yes, if a Contractor chooses to only accept pregnant or parenting youth, the Contractor may do so exclusively.

Question 10: *May a program serve "self-sufficient youth" exclusively? (p 37)*

Answer: Yes, a Contractor can serve self-sufficient youth exclusively.

Question 11: *May a program use age as an admission criteria and provide care for 18-20 year old youth only? For example, a provider that develops a program for "self-sufficient youth" serves 18-20 year old youth exclusively because, by definition, minors may not be self-sufficient.*

Answer: Yes, if a Contractor wishes to only provide services to young adults 18-20 years old the Contractor can. However, the Contractor might want to consider taking a young person at 17 before they transition into the Extended Foster Care Program. However, the child placing license will state that the Contractor is licensed to care for youth 16-20.