



STATE OF WISCONSIN
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CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 11, 2014
TO: Group Insurance Board Strategic Planning Workgroup
FROM: Lisa Ellinger, Administrator, Division of Insurance Services
SUBJECT: Benefits Consultant Update

This memo is for informational purposes only. No action is required.

Background

At the January 7, 2014 meeting of the Group Insurance Board Strategic Planning Workgroup (Workgroup), Workgroup members expressed interest in procuring the services of a benefits consultant to assist with data analysis and plan design development for the state employee health insurance program.

Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) staff is working collaboratively with the Department of Administration (DOA) procurement staff to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) for benefits consulting services. The purpose of this memo is to share the progress of this initiative to date, anticipated next steps, and seek feedback from the Workgroup regarding the desired scope of services for this procurement.

Scope of Services

The benefits consultant will be expected to perform a full range of services related to the analysis, design, management, and communication of the State of Wisconsin health insurance program.

Prospective vendors should be able to demonstrate successful experience assisting large employers in designing initiatives in the following areas:

- data analytics and data warehousing,
- quality improvement initiatives,

Reviewed and approved by Robert J. Marchant, Deputy Secretary

Electronically signed:
03/12/2014

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- targeted population interventions,
- identification of trends and utilization patterns,
- plan design changes,
- cost containment strategies,
- strategies at the health plan, clinic, and provider levels,
- employee/member engagement and communication,
- development of a long term strategic plan.

Prospective vendors should be able to demonstrate expertise and experience assisting large employers with the following plan design strategies and issues:

- Data and Measurement / Data Warehousing
- Tiering, Steerage Models, Reference Pricing, Centers of Excellence
- Prevention / Wellness / Disease Management / Chronic Care
- Shared Decision Making
- Pharmacy and Specialty Pharmacy
- Member Education / Communication / Engagement
- Consumer Driven Health Care Design
- Affordable Care Act Impacts
- Benefits and Challenges of Insured vs. Self-insured Models

Staff has also identified the following capabilities as desirable:

- experience with large, public sector employers,
- ability to analyze the Wisconsin Health Information Organization (WHIO) data,
- ability to integrate and analyze data from multiple sources,
- knowledge of the Wisconsin healthcare/insurance landscape,
- knowledge of successful strategies used by other large employers,
- auditing capabilities.

The successful vendor will be expected to produce two deliverables in the first year of the contract:

- 6 Month Report -- 2016 plan year recommendations
- 12 Month Report – 2017 plan year recommendations

Next Steps

Staff are aiming to issue the RFP by the end of April, and have the benefits consultant contract begin in September 2014. This timeline would enable the consultant to assist with recommendations for the 2016 plan year.

Staff will be at the meeting to answer any questions.