



September 6, 2013

Iowa Department of Human Services Announces Issuance of Request for Proposal for Core Standardized Assessments as Required by the Balancing Incentive Program

The Iowa Department of Human Services is pleased to announce issuance of a Request for Proposals to contract with a vendor for the performance of Core Standardized Assessments and the development of a resource allocation methodology for specific Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver populations. These assessments will include the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) and other core standardized assessments yet to be determined. The request for proposal may be accessed at: <http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov/>.

This issuance is consistent with recommendations of the mental health and disability services (MHDS) redesign (2011 Iowa Acts Chapter 121, Section 14), Balancing Incentive Program grant with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Section 10202- Pub. L 111-148, and Iowa Senate File 446; Division V, Section 12, Paragraph 19.a. (7); Paragraph 21.c.; and Paragraph 23.

Key requirements for respondents include:

- Conducting SIS assessments for all members with intellectual disabilities.
- Analyzing and selecting appropriately rigorous tools for other HCBS waiver populations including AIDS/HIV, Brain Injury, Elderly, Health and Disability, and Physical Disability.
- Assisting the agency in gathering stakeholder input throughout the process of tool selection for these other populations.
- Conducting core standardized assessments using the selected tools for these other populations.
- Developing a methodology for the use of Standardized Assessments for resource allocation.

Proposals must be submitted by November 16, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. It is anticipated that the contract award announcement will be made on December 17, 2013, with work beginning January 3, 2014.

The award of this contract is an essential element in the Balancing Incentive Program. The Iowa Department of Human Services looks forward continuing work on the Balancing Incentive Program.