

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT
523 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182

**Executive Secretary for South Dakota Board of Examiners for
Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists**

PROPOSALS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN APRIL 3RD, 2024 5:00 PM CDT

RFP10112

BUYER:
South Dakota Board of Examiners for
Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists

POC: Kirsten Blachford
Kirsten.Blachford@state.sd.us

READ CAREFULLY

FIRM NAME: _____ AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: _____
(Digital Signature allowed)

ADDRESS: _____ TYPE OR PRINT NAME: _____

CITY/STATE: _____ TELEPHONE NO: _____

ZIP (9 DIGIT): _____ FAX NO: _____

FEDERAL TAX ID#: _____ E-MAIL: _____

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT NAME: _____ TELEPHONE NO: _____

FAX NO: _____ E-MAIL: _____

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 **PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

The purpose of this RFP is to solicit an entity to serve as the Executive Secretary for the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. The entity will provide administrative services for the Board. Administrative services encompass all aspects of running the office including representing the board, communicating with consumers, licensees, those seeking to become licensed, and the general public.

1.2 **ISSUING OFFICE AND RFP REFERENCE NUMBER**

The South Dakota Department of Social Services is the issuing office for this document and all subsequent addenda relating to it, on behalf of the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. The reference number for the transaction is RFP10112. Refer to this number on all proposals, correspondence, and documentation relating to the RFP.

Please refer to the Department of Social Services website link

<http://dss.sd.gov/keyresources/rfp.aspx> for the RFP, any related questions/answers, changes to schedule of activities, amendments, etc.

1.3 **LETTER OF INTENT**

All interested offerors are requested to submit a non-binding Letter of Intent to respond to this RFP. While preferred, a Letter of Intent is not mandatory to submit a proposal. Please see Schedule of Activities for deadline.

POC: Kirsten Blachford

Kirsten.Blachford@state.sd.us

Be sure to reference the RFP number in your letter.

1.4 **SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

RFP Publication	<u>February 14, 2024</u>
Letter of Intent to Respond Due	<u>February 28, 2024</u>
Deadline for Submission of Written Inquiries	<u>March 6, 2024</u>
Responses to Offeror Questions	<u>March 20, 2024</u>
Request for SFTP folder	<u>April 3, 2024</u>
Proposal Submission	<u>April 3, 2024</u>
Oral Presentations/discussions (if required)	<u>TBD</u>
Deadline for Completion of Site Visits (if required)	<u>TBD</u>
Proposal Revisions (if required)	<u>TBD</u>
Anticipated Award Decision/Contract Negotiation	<u>May 1, 2024</u>

1.5 **SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL**

All proposals must be completed and received by the South Dakota Department of Social Services by the date and time indicated in the Schedule of Activities.

Proposals received after the deadline will be late and ineligible for consideration.

Proposals **MUST** submitted as PDF's via Secured File Transfer Protocol (SFTP). Offerors must request an SFTP folder no later than April 3, 2024, by emailing Kirsten Blachford at the email indicated on page one.

The subject line should be "**RFP10112 SFTP Request**". The email should contain the name and the email of the person who will be responsible for uploaded the document(s).

Please note, offeror will need to work with their own technical support staff to set up an SFTP compatible software on offeror's end. While the State of South Dakota can answer questions, State of South Dakota is not responsible for the software required.

All proposals may be signed in ink or digitally by an officer of the offeror legally authorized to bind the offeror to the proposal, and sealed in the form intended by the respondent. Proposals that are not properly signed may be rejected.

No proposal may be accepted from, or any contract or purchase order awarded to any person, firm or corporation that is in arrears upon any obligations to the State of South Dakota, or that otherwise may be deemed irresponsible or unreliable by the State of South Dakota.

1.6 CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION – LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

By signing and submitting this proposal, the offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation, by any Federal department or agency, from transactions involving the use of Federal funds. Where the offeror is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, the bidder shall attach an explanation to their offer.

1.7 NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The State of South Dakota requires that all contractors, vendors, and suppliers doing business with any State agency, department, or institution, provide a statement of non-discrimination. By signing and submitting their proposal, the offeror certifies they do not discriminate in their employment practices with regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, ancestry, national origin or disability.

1.8 RESTRICTION OF BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

For contractors, vendors, suppliers, or subcontractors with five (5) or more employees who enter into a contract with the State of South Dakota that involves the expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more, by submitting a response to this solicitation or agreeing to contract with the State, the bidder or offeror certifies and agrees that the following information is correct:

The bidder or offeror, in preparing its response or offer or in considering proposals submitted from qualified, potential vendors, suppliers, and subcontractors, or in the solicitation, selection, or commercial treatment of any vendor, supplier, or subcontractor, has not refused to transact business activities, has not terminated business activities, and has not taken other similar actions intended to limit its commercial relations, related to the subject matter of the bid or offer, with a person or entity on the basis of Israeli national origin, or residence or incorporation in Israel or its territories, with the specific intent to accomplish a boycott or divestment of Israel in a discriminatory manner. It is understood and agreed that, if this certification is false, such false certification will constitute grounds for the State to reject the bid or response submitted by the bidder or offeror on this project and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid or response. The successful bidder or offeror further agrees to provide immediate written notice to the contracting executive branch agency if during the term of the contract it no longer complies with this certification and agrees such noncompliance may be grounds for contract termination.

1.9 CERTIFICATION RELATING TO PROHIBITED ENTITY

For contractors, vendors, suppliers, or subcontractors who enter into a contract with the State of South Dakota by submitting a response to this solicitation or agreeing to contract with the State, the bidder or offeror certifies and agrees that the following information is correct:

The bidder or offeror, in preparing its response or offer or in considering proposals submitted from qualified, potential vendors, suppliers, and subcontractors, or in the solicitation, selection, or commercial treatment of any vendor, supplier, or subcontractor, is not an entity, regardless of its

principal place of business, that is ultimately owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by a foreign national, a foreign parent entity, or foreign government from China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, Cuba, or Venezuela, as defined by South Dakota Executive Order 2023-02. It is understood and agreed that, if this certification is false, such false certification will constitute grounds for the State to reject the bid or response submitted by the bidder or offeror on this project and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid or response. The successful bidder or offeror further agrees to provide immediate written notice to the contracting executive branch agency if during the term of the contract it no longer complies with this certification and agrees such noncompliance may be grounds for contract termination.

1.10 CERTIFICATION OF NO STATE LEGISLATOR INTEREST

Offeror (i) understands neither a state legislator nor a business in which a state legislator has an ownership interest may be directly or indirectly interested in any contract with the State that was authorized by any law passed during the term for which that legislator was elected, or within one year thereafter, and (ii) has read South Dakota Constitution Article 3, Section 12 and has had the opportunity to seek independent legal advice on the applicability of that provision to any Agreement entered into as a result of this RFP. By signing an Agreement pursuant to this RFP, Offeror hereby certifies that the Agreement is not made in violation of the South Dakota Constitution Article 3, Section 12.

1.11 MODIFICATION OR WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS

Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by the offeror prior to the established due date and time.

No oral, telephonic, telegraphic or facsimile responses or modifications to informal, formal bids, or Request for Proposals will be considered.

1.12 OFFEROR INQUIRIES

Offerors may email inquiries concerning this RFP to obtain clarification of requirements. No inquiries will be accepted after March 6, 2024. Email inquiries must be sent to Kirsten.Blachford@state.sd.us with the following wording, exactly as written, in the subject line: **RFP10112 Questions**.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) will respond to offerors' inquiries by posting offeror aggregated questions and Department responses on the DSS website at <http://dss.sd.gov/keyresources/rfp.aspx> no later than March 20, 2024. For expediency, DSS may combine similar questions. Offerors may not rely on any other statements, either of a written or oral nature, that alter any specification or other term or condition of this RFP. Offerors will be notified in the same manner as indicated above regarding any modifications to this RFP.

1.13 PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

The proposal of the successful offeror(s) becomes public information.

Proprietary information can be protected under limited circumstances such as client lists and non-public financial statements. An entire proposal may not be marked as proprietary. Offerors must clearly identify in the Executive Summary and mark in the body of the proposal any specific proprietary information they are requesting to be protected. The Executive Summary must contain specific justification explaining why the information is to be protected. Proposals may be reviewed and evaluated by any person at the discretion of the State. All materials submitted become the property of the State of South Dakota and may be returned only at the State's option.

Offerors may submit a redacted copy of their proposal when they respond though this is optional.

1.14 LENGTH OF CONTRACT

The length of the contract will be for one (1) year with the option of four (4) one (1) year extensions.

1.15 GOVERNING LAW

Venue for any and all legal action regarding or arising out of the transaction covered herein shall be solely in Hughes County, State of South Dakota. The laws of South Dakota shall govern this transaction.

1.16 DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS (ORAL PRESENTATION/NEGOTIATIONS)

An oral presentation by an offeror to clarify a proposal may be required at the sole discretion of the State. However, the State may award a contract based on the initial proposals received without discussion with the offeror. If oral presentations are required, they will be scheduled after the submission of proposals. Oral presentations will be made at the offeror's expense.

This process is a Request for Proposal/Competitive Negotiation process. Each Proposal shall be evaluated, and each respondent shall be available for negotiation meetings at the State's request. The State reserves the right to negotiate on any and/or all components of every proposal submitted. From the time the proposals are submitted until the formal award of a contract, each proposal is considered a working document and as such, will be kept confidential. The negotiation discussions will also be held as confidential until such time as the award is completed.

2.0 STANDARD AGREEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Any contract or agreement resulting from this RFP will include, at minimum, the State's standard terms and conditions as seen in **Attachment A**.

Part of **Attachment A** is the Business Associate Agreement (BAA).

The offeror should indicate in their response any issues they have with any specific contract terms. If the offeror does not indicate any contract term issues, then the State will assume the terms are acceptable.

3.0 SCOPE OF WORK

The offeror must describe in their proposal how they can fulfil each of the following requirements:

3.1 Interpret, implement, and administer federal and state statutes and administrative rules to ensure compliance and protect consumers.

3.2 Provide leadership to the Board to enhance continuity of operations.

3.2.1 Advise the Board of laws, rules, issues, investigations, and all other aspects to keep them apprised and updated;

3.2.2 Establish goals and priorities; and

3.2.3 Coordinate Board meetings and ensure that Board directives are carried out.

3.3 Oversee licensing process to ensure that licenses are issued to qualified persons.

3.3.1 Coordinate with the national organization to assist with licensing examinations by approving examination applications, preparing examinations, negotiating contracts for national examinations, maintaining security during examinations, monitoring examination sessions, and informing applicants of results;

3.3.2 Approve initial and continuing applications for licensure and renewal;

3.3.3 Review and approve continuing education courses attended by licensees;

3.3.4 Provide technical assistance to licensees and the public by answering questions regarding license laws and practice;

- 3.3.5** Coordinate and evaluate licensing activity with other states for reciprocity purposes;
 - 3.3.6** Write and publish informational and educational literature as needed; and
 - 3.3.7** Determine if the new applicant or applicants for renewal are able to obtain the required professional license with regard to compliance with SDCL 25-7A-56.1 – child support arrearages. Provide applicants the contact information for the Division of Child Support (DCS) so they may resolve the issues that are preventing the issuance of their license.
- 3.4** Draft proposed changes in statute or administrative rules, monitor the rule promulgation process, lobby legislators and testify before legislative committees to ensure necessary laws and rules are created, updated, and remain consistent with the education of the profession and for the protection of the public.
- 3.5** Oversee all fiscal activities of the Board to ensure proper control over revenues and expenditures.
 - 3.5.1** Monitor collection and deposits of revenues;
 - 3.5.2** Approve vouchers and expenditures;
 - 3.5.3** Draft preliminary annual budget proposals;
 - 3.5.4** Maintain records and monitor budget;
 - 3.5.5** Prepare and submit statistical reports as directed by the Department of Social Services;
 - 3.5.6** Work with Board members to negotiate contracts for legal counsel or other professional services needed by the Board, but outside the Scope of Work and or area of expertise of the Board's executive secretary; and
 - 3.5.7** Utilize State protocols for purchases, reimbursements, travel requests, and other administrative procedures as directed by the Department of Social Services.
- 3.6** Work with the Office of the Attorney General's assigned attorney or contract attorney to investigate, initiate and present complaints against licensees or unlicensed administrators to ensure potential problems are resolved in compliance with applicable policies.
 - 3.6.1** Initiate complaints against licensees on behalf of the Board;
 - 3.6.2** Analyze investigative material and evaluate legal procedures with legal counsel;
 - 3.6.3** Present findings and recommendations to the Board or law judge to ensure rule violations are corrected;
 - 3.6.4** Schedule information proceedings and disciplinary hearings;
 - 3.6.5** Administer disciplinary actions on behalf of the Board;
 - 3.6.6** Serve as a resource in complaint proceedings by making reference to pertinent statutes and rules to aid the Board when reviewing complaints for possible violations; and
 - 3.6.7** Provide testimony at court hearings resulting from applicant or licensee appeals and illegal actions of the unlicensed individuals.
- 3.7** Fulfill all administrative needs of the Board to include activities such as:

- 3.7.1** Arranging and facilitating Board meeting;
 - 3.7.2** Handling correspondence;
 - 3.7.3** Maintaining databases.
- 3.8** As needed, represent the Board at national and regional meetings to learn, understand, and gather and exchange information and monitor national trends for education of the licensees and the protection of the public.
- 3.9** Serve as Board liaison to applicants, licensees, professional associations, government entities, and general population.
- 3.10** Research, gather, analyze, and appraise the Board regarding use and application of new policies and procedures, occupational hazards and safety precautions, and the need for new technologies to enhance the capability of the Board to serve the public.
- 3.11** Evaluate, recommend, and implement technological changes such as web site development, computerized testing, e-commerce, national databases, and licensee databases.
- 3.12** Receive and participate in an annual review and performance evaluation by the Board.
- 3.13** Performs other work as assigned.
- 3.14** Reporting relationships:
 - 3.14.1** Typically reports to the Board president and South Dakota Department of Social Services liaison.
 - 3.14.2** Subordinates reporting to the executive secretary include clerical staff and other support staff.

4.0 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND COMPANY QUALIFICATIONS

- 4.1** Provide the following information related to at ***least*** three previous and current service/contracts performed by the offeror's organization which are similar to the requirements of this RFP. Provide this information as well for any service/contract that has been terminated, expired or not renewed in the past three years:
 - a. Name, address and telephone number of client/contracting agency and a representative of that agency who may be contacted for verification of all information submitted;
 - b. Dates of the service/contract; and
 - c. A brief, written description of the specific prior services performed and requirements thereof.
- 4.2** The offeror must submit information that demonstrates their availability and familiarity with the locale in which the project (s) are to be implemented.
- 4.3** The offeror must detail examples that document their ability and proven history in handling special project constraints.
- 4.4** The offeror must describe their proposed project management techniques.
- 4.5** The offeror is cautioned that it is the offeror's sole responsibility to submit information related to the evaluation categories and that the State of South Dakota is under no obligation to solicit such

information if it is not included with the proposal. The offeror's failure to submit such information may cause an adverse impact on the evaluation of the proposal.

4.6 **Offeror's Contacts:** Offerors and their agents (including subcontractors, employees, consultants, or anyone else acting on their behalf) must direct all of their questions or comments regarding the RFP, the evaluation, etc. to the buyer of record indicated on the first page of this RFP. Offerors and their agents may not contact any state employee other than the buyer of record regarding any of these matters during the solicitation and evaluation process. Inappropriate contacts are grounds for suspension and/or exclusion from specific procurements. Offerors and their agents who have questions regarding this matter should contact the buyer of record.

4.7 The offeror may be required to submit a copy of their most recent independently audited financial statements.

4.8 If an offeror's proposal is not accepted by the State, the proposal will not be reviewed/evaluated.

5.0 PROPOSAL RESPONSE FORMAT

5.1 Only a PDF copy shall be submitted.

5.1.1 As outlined in section 1.5 "SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL" proposals shall only be submitted via electronically via SFTP folder.

5.1.2 The proposal should be page numbered and should have an index and/or a table of contents referencing the appropriate page number.

5.2 All proposals must be organized and tabbed with labels for the following headings:

5.2.1 **RFP Form.** The State's Request for Proposal form completed and signed.

5.2.2 **Executive Summary.** The one or two page executive summary is to briefly describe the offeror's proposal. This summary should highlight the major features of the proposal. It must indicate any requirements that cannot be met by the offeror. The reader should be able to determine the essence of the proposal by reading the executive summary. Proprietary information requests should be identified in this section.

5.2.3 **Detailed Response.** This section should constitute the major portion of the proposal and must contain at least the following information:

5.2.3.1 A complete narrative of the offeror's assessment of the work to be performed, the offeror's ability and approach, and the resources necessary to fulfill the requirements. This should demonstrate the offeror's understanding of the desired overall performance expectations.

5.2.3.2 A specific point-by-point response, in the order listed, to each requirement in the RFP as detailed in Sections 3 and 4. The response should identify each requirement being addressed as enumerated in the RFP.

5.2.3.3 A clear description of any options or alternatives proposed.

5.2.4 **Cost Proposal.** Cost will be evaluated independently from the technical proposal. Offerors may submit multiple cost proposals. All costs related to the provision of the required services must be included in each cost proposal offered.

See section 7.0 for more information related to the cost proposal.

6.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS

- 6.1 After determining that a proposal satisfies the mandatory requirements stated in the Request for Proposal, the evaluator(s) shall use subjective judgment in conducting a comparative assessment of the proposal by considering each of the following criteria listed in order of importance:
 - 6.1.1 Specialized expertise, capabilities, and technical competence as demonstrated by the proposed approach and methodology to meet the project requirements;
 - 6.1.2 Resources available to perform the work, including any specialized services, within the specified time limits for the project;
 - 6.1.3 Record of past performance, including price and cost data from previous projects, quality of work, ability to meet schedules, cost control, and contract administration;
 - 6.1.4 Availability to the project locale;
 - 6.1.5 Familiarity with the project locale;
 - 6.1.6 Proposed project management techniques;
 - 6.1.7 Ability and proven history in handling special project constraints, and
 - 6.1.8 Cost proposal.
- 6.2 Experience and reliability of the offeror's organization are considered subjectively in the evaluation process. Therefore, the offeror is advised to submit any information which documents successful and reliable experience in past performances, especially those performances related to the requirements of this RFP.
- 6.3 The qualifications of the personnel proposed by the offeror to perform the requirements of this RFP, whether from the offeror's organization or from a proposed subcontractor, will be subjectively evaluated. Therefore, the offeror should submit detailed information related to the experience and qualifications, including education and training, of proposed personnel.
- 6.4 The State reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive technicalities, and make award(s) as deemed to be in the best interest of the State of South Dakota.
- 6.5 **Award:** The requesting agency and the highest ranked offeror shall mutually discuss and refine the scope of services for the project and shall negotiate terms, including compensation and performance schedule.
 - 6.5.1 If the agency and the highest ranked offeror are unable for any reason to negotiate a contract at a compensation level that is reasonable and fair to the agency, the agency shall, either orally or in writing, terminate negotiations with the contractor. The agency may then negotiate with the next highest ranked contractor.
 - 6.5.2 The negotiation process may continue through successive offerors, according to agency ranking, until an agreement is reached or the agency terminates the contracting process.
 - 6.5.3 Only the response of the vendor awarded work becomes public. Responses to work orders for vendors not selected and the evaluation criteria and scoring for all proposals are not public. Vendors may submit a redacted copy with the full proposal as stated in Section 1.12 Proprietary Information. SDCL 1-27-1.5 and See SDCL 1-27-1.5 and 1-27-1.6.

7.0 **COST PROPOSAL**

- 7.1 The Offeror shall complete and submit Attachment B Cost Proposal.xlsx as part of their final proposal.
- 7.2 Submit a cost proposal of a breakdown of proposed contract amount to include personal services, office expenses, and travel costs. If costs are to be shared, please provide a breakdown.
- 7.3 The cost proposal will be evaluated independently from the technical proposal. Offerors may submit multiple cost proposals. All costs related to the provision of the required services must be included in each cost proposal offered.
- 7.4 The cost proposal must describe the following items for which the offeror will expect reimbursement.
 - 7.4.1 Personnel salary;
 - 7.4.2 Fringe benefits;
 - 7.4.3 Travel/training of personnel;
 - 7.4.4 Supplies (office supplies, postage, printing);
 - 7.4.5 Contractual/operating (phone, rent for office space, etc.);
 - 7.4.6 Administration (administrative fees/indirect costs at flat rate of percentage).
- 7.5 As described above in Length of Contract, the length of the contract will be for a one-year period of time with the opportunity to renew the contract annually with the option of four (4) one (1) year extensions. If the offeror expects cost increases in subsequent years, increases must be clearly identified for each year.

ATTACHMENT A

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Consultant Contract For Consultant Services Between

State of South Dakota
Department of Social Services
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2291

Referred to as Consultant

Referred to as State

The State hereby enters into a contract (the "Agreement" hereinafter) for consultant services with the Consultant. While performing services hereunder, Consultant is an independent contractor and not an officer, agent, or employee of the State of South Dakota.

1. CONSULTANT'S South Dakota Vendor Number is _____. Upon execution of agreement, Consultant will provide the State with Consultant's Employer Identification Number or Federal Tax Identification Number.
2. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:
 - A. This Agreement shall be effective as of June 1, 2024 and shall end on May 31, 2025, unless sooner terminated pursuant to the terms hereof.
 - B. Agreement is the result of request for proposal process, RFP10112.
3. PROVISIONS:
 - A. The Purpose of this Consultant contract is:
 1. The purpose of this RFP is to solicit an entity to serve as the Executive Secretary for the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. The entity will provide administrative services for the board. Administrative services encompass all aspects of running the office including representing the Board, communicating with consumers, licenses, those seeking to become licensed, and the general public.
 2. Does this Agreement involve Protected Health Information (PHI)? YES (X) NO ()
If PHI is involved, a Business Associate Agreement must be attached and is fully incorporated herein as part of the Agreement.
 3. The Consultant WILL () WILL NOT (X) use state equipment, supplies or facilities.
 - B. The Consultant agrees to perform the following services (add an attachment if needed):
 - 1.
 - C. The State agrees to:
 - 1.
 2. Make payment for services upon satisfactory completion of services and receipt of bill. Payment will be in accordance with SDCL 5-26-2.

3. Will the State pay Consultant expenses as a separate item?

YES () NO (X)

If YES, expenses submitted will be reimbursed as identified in this Agreement.

D. The TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT will not exceed \$ ____ .

4. BILLING:

Consultant agrees to submit a bill for services within (30) days following the month in which services were provided. Consultant will prepare and submit a monthly bill for services. Consultant agrees to submit a final bill within 30 days of the Agreement end date to receive payment for completed services. If a final bill cannot be submitted in 30 days, then a written request for extension of time and explanation must be provided to the State.

5. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

The State agrees to provide technical assistance regarding Department of Social Services rules, regulations and policies to the Consultant and to assist in the correction of problem areas identified by the State's monitoring activities.

6. LICENSING AND STANDARD COMPLIANCE:

The Consultant agrees to comply in full with all licensing and other standards required by Federal, State, County, City or Tribal statute, regulation or ordinance in which the service and/or care is provided for the duration of this Agreement. The Consultant will maintain effective internal controls in managing the federal award. Liability resulting from noncompliance with licensing and other standards required by Federal, State, County, City or Tribal statute, regulation or ordinance or through the Consultant's failure to ensure the safety of all individuals served is assumed entirely by the Consultant.

7. ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:

(For Federally funded contracts only). The Consultant agrees to abide by all applicable provisions of the following: Byrd Anti Lobbying Amendment (31 USC 1352), Executive orders 12549 and 12689 (Debarment and Suspension), Drug-Free Workplace, Executive Order 11246 Equal Employment Opportunity, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972, Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970, Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pro-Children Act of 1994, Hatch Act, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 as amended, Clean Air Act, Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Charitable Choice Provisions and Regulations, Equal Treatment for Faith-Based Religions at Title 28 Code of Federal Regulations Part 38, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as applicable; and any other nondiscrimination provision in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the award.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-01:

By entering into this Agreement, Consultant certifies and agrees that it has not refused to transact business activities, it has not terminated business activities, and it has not taken other similar actions intended to limit its commercial relations, related to the subject matter of this Agreement, with a person or entity that is either the State of Israel, or a company doing business in or with Israel or authorized by, licensed by, or organized under the laws of the State of Israel to do business, or doing business in the State of Israel, with the specific intent to accomplish a boycott of divestment of Israel in a discriminatory manner. It is understood and agreed that, if this certification is false, such false certification will constitute grounds for the State to terminate this Agreement. Consultant further agrees to provide immediate written notice to the State if during the term of this Agreement it no longer complies with this certification and agrees such noncompliance may be grounds for termination of this Agreement.

9. COMPLIANCE WITH SDCL ch 5-18A:

Contractor certifies and agrees that the following information is correct:

The bidder or offeror is not an organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, or other entity or business association, including all wholly-owned subsidiaries, majority-owned subsidiaries, parent companies, or affiliates, of those entities or business associations, regardless of their principal place of business, which is ultimately owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by a foreign parent entity from, or the government of, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

It is understood and agreed that, if this certification is false, such false certification will constitute grounds for the purchasing agency to reject the bid or response submitted by the bidder or offeror on this project and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid or response, and further would be cause to suspend and debar a business under SDCL § 5-18D-12.

The successful bidder or offeror further agrees to provide immediate written notice to the purchasing agency if during the term of the contract it no longer complies with this certification and agrees such noncompliance may be grounds for contract termination and would be cause to suspend and debar a business under SDCL § 5-18D-12.

10. CERTIFICATION OF NO STATE LEGISLATOR INTEREST:

Contractor (i) understands neither a state legislator nor a business in which a state legislator has an ownership interest may be directly or indirectly interested in any contract with the State that was authorized by any law passed during the term for which that legislator was elected, or within one year thereafter, and (ii) has read South Dakota Constitution Article 3, Section 12 and has had the opportunity to seek independent legal advice on the applicability of that provision to this Agreement. By signing this Agreement, Contractor hereby certifies that this Agreement is not made in violation of the South Dakota Constitution Article 3, Section 12.

11. RETENTION AND INSPECTION OF RECORDS:

The Consultant agrees to maintain or supervise the maintenance of records necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the program, including records and documents regarding applications, determination of eligibility (when applicable), the provision of services, administrative costs, statistical, fiscal, other records, and information necessary for reporting and accountability required by the State. The Consultant shall retain such records for a period of six years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report. If such records are under pending audit, the Consultant agrees to hold such records for a longer period upon notification from the State. The State, through any authorized representative, will have access to and the right to examine and copy all records, books, papers or documents related to services rendered under this Agreement. State Proprietary Information retained in Consultant's secondary and backup systems will remain fully subject to the obligations of confidentiality stated herein until such information is erased or destroyed in accordance with Consultant's established record retention policies.

All payments to the Consultant by the State are subject to site review and audit as prescribed and carried out by the State. Any over payment of this Agreement shall be returned to the State within thirty days after written notification to the Consultant.

12. WORK PRODUCT:

Consultant hereby acknowledges and agrees that all reports, plans, specifications, technical data, drawings, software system programs and documentation, procedures, files, operating instructions and procedures, source code(s) and documentation, including those necessary to upgrade and maintain the software program, State Proprietary Information, as defined in the Confidentiality of Information paragraph herein, state data, end user data, Protected Health Information as defined in 45 CFR 160.103, and all information contained therein provided to the State by the Consultant in connection with its performance of service under this Agreement shall belong to and is the property of the State and will not be used in any way by the Consultant without the written consent of the State.

Paper, reports, forms, software programs, source code(s) and other materials which are a part of the work under this Agreement will not be copyrighted without written approval of the State. In the unlikely event that any copyright does not fully belong to the State, the State nonetheless reserves a royalty-free, non-exclusive, and

irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, and otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, any such work for government purposes.

Consultant agrees to return all information received from the State to State's custody upon the end of the term of this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed in a writing signed by both parties.

13. TERMINATION:

This Agreement may be terminated by either party hereto upon thirty (30) days written notice. In the event the Consultant breaches any of the terms or conditions hereof, this Agreement may be terminated by the State at any time, with or without notice. Upon termination of this Agreement, all accounts and payments shall be processed according to financial arrangements set forth herein for services rendered to date of termination. If termination for breach is effected by the State, any payments due to Consultant at the time of termination may be adjusted to cover any additional costs to the State as a result of Consultant's breach. Upon termination the State may take over the work and may award another party a contract to complete the work contemplated by this Agreement. If the State terminates for a breach by Consultant and it is determined that the Consultant was not at fault, then Consultant shall be paid for eligible services rendered and expenses incurred up to the date of termination.

Any terms of this Agreement that would, by their nature or through the express terms of this Agreement, survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement shall so survive, including by not limited to the terms of sections 10, 11, 15, 23, 24 and 27.

14. FUNDING:

This Agreement depends upon the continued availability of appropriated funds and expenditure authority from the Legislature for this purpose. If for any reason the Legislature fails to appropriate funds or grant expenditure authority, or funds become unavailable by operation of the law or federal funds reduction, this Agreement will be terminated by the State upon five day written notice. Consultant agrees that termination for any of these reasons is not a default by the State nor does it give rise to a claim against the State or any officer, agent or employee of the State and Consultant waives any claim against the same.

15. ASSIGNMENT AND AMENDMENTS:

This Agreement may not be assigned without the express prior written consent of the State. This Agreement may not be amended except in writing, which writing shall be expressly identified as a part hereof, and be signed by an authorized representative of each of the parties hereto.

16. CONTROLLING LAW:

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Dakota, without regard to any conflicts of law principles, decisional law, or statutory provision which would require or permit the application of another jurisdiction's substantive law. Venue for any lawsuit pertaining to or affecting this Agreement shall be resolved in the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit, Hughes County, South Dakota.

17. THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES:

This agreement is intended to govern only the rights and interests of the parties named herein. It is not intended to create, does not and may not be relied upon to create, any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law in any matters, civil or criminal.

18. SUPERSESION:

All prior discussions, communications and representations concerning the subject matter of this Agreement are superseded by the terms of this Agreement, and except as specifically provided herein, this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement with respect to the subject matter hereof.

19. IT STANDARDS:

Any service, software or hardware provided under this Agreement will comply with state standards which can be found at https://bit.sd.gov/bit?id=bit_standards_overview.

20. SEVERABILITY:

In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be held unenforceable or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision of this Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.

21. NOTICE:

Any notice or other communication required under this Agreement shall be in writing and sent to the address set forth above. Notices shall be given by and to the Division being contracted with on behalf of the State, and by the Consultant, or such authorized designees as either party may from time to time designate in writing. Notices or communications to or between the parties shall be deemed to have been delivered when mailed by first class mail, provided that notice of default or termination shall be sent by registered or certified mail, or, if personally delivered, when received by such party.

22. SUBCONTRACTORS:

The Consultant may not use subcontractors to perform the services described herein without express prior written consent from the State. The State reserves the right to reject any person from the Agreement presenting insufficient skills or inappropriate behavior.

The Consultant will include provisions in its subcontracts requiring its subcontractors to comply with the applicable provisions of this Agreement, to indemnify the State, and to provide insurance coverage for the benefit of the State in a manner consistent with this Agreement. The Consultant will cause its subcontractors, agents, and employees to comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, ordinances, guidelines, permits and requirements and will adopt such review and inspection procedures as are necessary to assure such compliance. The State, at its option, may require the vetting of any subcontractors. The Consultant is required to assist in this process as needed.

23. STATE'S RIGHT TO REJECT:

The State reserves the right to reject any person or entity from performing the work or services contemplated by this Agreement, who present insufficient skills or inappropriate behavior, or is considered by the state to be a security risk.

24. INDEMNIFICATION:

Consultant agrees to indemnify the State of South Dakota, its officers, agents, and employees, from and against all claims or proceedings for actions, suits, damages, liabilities, other lossess or equitable releif that may arise at least in part as a result of an act or omission in performing services under this Agreement. Consultant shall defend the State of South Dakota, its officers, agents, and employees against any claim, including any claim, action, suit, or other proceeding related to the claim. Consultant's obligation to idemnify includes the payment of attorney fees and other costs of defense. In defending the State of South Dakota, its officers, agents, and employees, Consultant shall engage other professionals, subject to the written approval of the State which shall not be unreasonably withheld. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State may, in its sole discretion and at the expense of Consultant, engage attorneys and other professionals to defend the State of South Dakota, its officers, agents, and employees, or to assist Consultant in the defense. This section does not require Consultant to be responsible for or defend against claims or proceedings for damages, liabilities, lossess or equitable relief arising solely from errors or omissions of the State, its officers, agents, or employees.

25. INSURANCE:

At all times during the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall obtain and maintain in force insurance coverage of the types and with the limits as follows:

A. Commercial General Liability Insurance:

Consultant shall maintain occurrence-based commercial general liability insurance or an equivalent form with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 for each occurrence. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to this Agreement or be no less than two times the occurrence limit. The insurance policy shall name the State of South Dakota, its officers and employees, as additional insureds, but liability coverage is limited to claims not barred by sovereign immunity. The State of South Dakota, its officers and employees do not hereby waive sovereign immunity for discretionary conduct as provided by law.

B. Professional Liability Insurance or Miscellaneous Professional Liability Insurance:

Consultant agrees to procure and maintain professional liability insurance with a limit not less than \$1,000,000.

C. Business Automobile Liability Insurance:

Consultant shall maintain business automobile liability insurance or an equivalent form with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 for each accident. This insurance shall include coverage for owned, hired and non-owned vehicles.

D. Worker's Compensation Insurance:

Consultant shall procure and maintain Workers' Compensation and employers' liability insurance as required by South Dakota or federal law.

Before beginning work under this Agreement, Contractor shall furnish the State with properly executed Certificates of Insurance which shall clearly evidence all insurance required in this Agreement including naming the State, its officers and employees, as additional insureds, as set forth above. In the event of a substantial change in insurance, issuance of a new policy, cancellation or nonrenewal of the policy, Contractor agrees to provide immediate notice to the State and provide a new certificate of insurance showing continuous coverage in the amounts required. Contractor shall furnish copies of insurance policies if requested by the State.

26. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY, AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION:

Consultant certifies, by signing this Agreement, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by the federal government or any state or local government department or agency. Consultant further agrees that it will immediately notify the State if during the term of this Agreement either it or its principals become subject to debarment, suspension or ineligibility from participating in transactions by the federal government, or by any state or local government department or agency.

27. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Consultant agrees to establish safeguards to prohibit employees or other persons from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain as contemplated by SDCL 5-18A-17 through 5-18A-17.6. Any potential conflict of interest must be disclosed in writing. In the event of a conflict of interest, the Consultant expressly agrees to be bound by the conflict resolution process set forth in SDCL 5-18A-17 through 5-18A-17.6.

28. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION:

For the purpose of the sub-paragraph, "State Proprietary Information" shall include all information disclosed to the Consultant by the State. Consultant acknowledges that it shall have a duty to not disclose any State Proprietary Information to any third person for any reason without the express written permission of a State officer or employee with authority to authorize the disclosure. Consultant shall not: (i) disclose any State Proprietary Information to any third person unless otherwise specifically allowed under this Agreement; (ii) make any use of State Proprietary Information except to exercise rights and perform obligations under this Agreement; (iii) make State Proprietary Information available to any of its employees, officers, agents or consultants except those who have agreed to obligations of confidentiality at least as strict as those set out in

this Agreement and who have a need to know such information. Consultant is held to the same standard of care in guarding State Proprietary Information as it applies to its own confidential or proprietary information and materials of a similar nature, and no less than holding State Proprietary Information in the strictest confidence. Consultant shall protect confidentiality of the State's information from the time of receipt to the time that such information is either returned to the State or destroyed to the extent that it cannot be recalled or reproduced. State Proprietary Information shall not include information that (i) was in the public domain at the time it was disclosed to Consultant; (ii) was known to Consultant without restriction at the time of disclosure from the State; (iii) that is disclosed with the prior written approval of State's officers or employees having authority to disclose such information; (iv) was independently developed by Consultant without the benefit or influence of the State's information; (v) becomes known to Consultant without restriction from a source not connected to the State of South Dakota. State's Proprietary Information shall include names, social security numbers, employer numbers, addresses and all other data about applicants, employers or other clients to whom the State provides services of any kind. Consultant understands that this information is confidential and protected under applicable State law at SDCL 1-27-1.5, modified by SDCL 1-27-1.6, SDCL 28-1-29, SDCL 28-1-32, and SDCL 28-1-68 as applicable federal regulation and agrees to immediately notify the State if the information is disclosed, either intentionally or inadvertently. The parties mutually agree that neither of them shall disclose the contents of the Agreement except as required by applicable law or as necessary to carry out the terms of the Agreement or to enforce that party's rights under this Agreement. Consultant acknowledges that the State and its agencies are public entities and thus are bound by South Dakota open meetings and open records laws. It is therefore not a breach of this Agreement for the State to take any action that the State reasonably believes is necessary to comply with the South Dakota open records or open meetings laws. If work assignments performed in the course of this Agreement require additional security requirements or clearance, the Consultant will be required to undergo investigation or may be required to sign separate confidentiality agreements, and it will limit access to the confidential information and related work activities to employees that have executed such agreements.

29. REPORTING PROVISION:

Consultant agrees to report to the State any event encountered in the course of performance of this Agreement which results in injury to any person or property, or which may otherwise subject Consultant, or the State of South Dakota or its officers, agents or employees to liability. Consultant shall report any such event to the State immediately upon discovery.

Consultant's obligation under this section shall only be to report the occurrence of any event to the State and to make any other report provided for by their duties or applicable law. Consultant's obligation to report shall not require disclosure of any information subject to privilege or confidentiality under law (e.g., attorney-client communications). Reporting to the State under this section shall not excuse or satisfy any obligation of Consultant to report any event to law enforcement or other entities under the requirements of any applicable law.

30. DAVIS-BACON ACT:

When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction").

31. COMPLIANCE WITH 40 U.S.C. 3702 AND 3704:

Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5).

32. FUNDING AGREEMENT AND "RIGHTS TO INVENTION":

If the Federal award meets the definition of "funding agreement" under 37 CFR §401.2 (a) and the Consultant wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that "funding agreement," the Consultant must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

33. FORCE MAJEURE:

Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, neither party shall be liable for any delay or failure to perform under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, if the delay or failure is caused by war, terrorist attacks, riots, civil commotion, fire, flood, earthquake or any act of God, or any causes beyond the party's reasonable control provided, however that in order to be excused from delay or failure to perform, the party must act diligently to remedy the cause of such delay or failure and must give notice to the other party as provided in this Agreement as soon as reasonably possible of the length and cause of the delay in performance.

33. SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY:

Nothing in this Agreement is intended to constitute a waiver of sovereign immunity by or on behalf of the State of South Dakota, its agencies, officers, or employees.

34. WAIVER OF BREACH:

The waiver by either party of a breach or violation of any provision of this Agreement shall not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or other provisions in this Agreement.

35. HEADINGS:

The headings in this Agreement are for convenience and reference only and shall not govern, limit, modify or in any manner affect the scope, meaning, or intent of the provisions of this Agreement.

36. AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE:

Consultant represents and warrants that the execution, delivery, and performance of this Agreement has been duly authorized by Consultant and that no approval, authorization, or consent of any governmental or regulatory agency is required to be obtained in order for Consultant to enter into this Agreement and perform its obligations under this Agreement. If the Consultant is a corporation, said corporation is duly incorporated, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of its state of incorporation and has all requisite corporate power and authority to execute, deliver, and perform its obligations under this Agreement. If Consultant is an individual person, partnership, or other non-corporate entity, Consultant is authorized to conduct business in and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which Consultant will conduct business in connection with this Agreement. Consultant has obtained all licenses, certifications, permits, and authorizations necessary to perform the services under this Agreement and currently is in good standing with all regulatory agencies that regulate any or all aspects of Consultant's performance of the services. Consultant will maintain all required certifications, licenses, permits and authorizations during the term of this Agreement at its own expense.

37. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES:

In witness hereto, the parties signify their agreement by affixing their signatures hereto.

Consultant Signature

Date

Consultant Printed Name

State - DSS Division Director

Date

State - DSS Chief Financial Officer Jason Simmons

Date

State – DSS Cabinet Secretary Matthew K. Althoff

Date

State Agency Coding:

CFDA #	_____	_____	_____	_____
Company	_____	_____	_____	_____
Account	_____	_____	_____	_____
Center Req	_____	_____	_____	_____
Center User	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dollar Total	_____	_____	_____	_____

DSS Program Contact Person	_____
Phone	_____

DSS Fiscal Contact Person	<u>Contract Accountant</u>
Phone	<u>605 773-3586</u>

Consultant Program Contact Person	_____
Phone	_____
Consultant Program Email Address	_____

Consultant Fiscal Contact Person	_____
Phone	_____
Consultant Fiscal Email Address	_____

SDCL 1-24A-1 states that a copy of all consulting contracts shall be filed by the State agency with the State Auditor within five days after such contract is entered into and finally approved by the contracting parties. For further information about consulting contracts, see the State Auditor's policy handbook.

CERTIFICATION REQUIRED BY SDCL ch 5-18A

Section 1 Definitions. The words used in this Certification shall mean:

1.1. "Prohibited Entity," an organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, or other entity or business association, including all wholly-owned subsidiaries, majority-owned subsidiaries, parent companies, or affiliates, of those entities or business associations, regardless of their principal place of business, which is ultimately owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by a foreign parent entity from, or the government of, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, or the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;

1.2. "Purchasing agency," any governmental body or officer authorized by law, administrative rule, or delegated authority, to enter into contracts;

1.3. "Contract," any type of agreement, regardless of what the agreement may be called, for the procurement of supplies, services, or construction;

Section 2. Certification. The undersigned hereby certifies to the State of South Dakota that:

2.1. The undersigned is not a Prohibited Entity.

2.2 If at any time after making this certification the undersigned becomes a Prohibited Entity, the undersigned will provide immediate written notice to all purchasing agencies with whom the undersigned has a Contract. The undersigned understands and agrees that if the undersigned becomes a Prohibited Entity, agencies may terminate any Contract with the undersigned.

2.3 The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that agencies have the right to terminate a Contract with any entity that submits a false certification, and that a false certification or failure to provide written notification to purchasing agencies that an entity has become a prohibited entity is cause to suspend or debar a business under SDCL § 5-18D-12.

Company

DOES NOT NEED TO BE SIGNED AT THIS TIME

Title

Signature

Date

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Attachment A

Business Associate Agreement

1. Definitions

General definition:

The following terms used in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as those terms in the HIPAA Rules: Breach, Data Aggregation, Disclosure, Health Care Operations, Individual, Minimum Necessary, Notice of Privacy Practices, Protected Health Information, Required by Law, Secretary, Security Incident, Subcontractor, Unsecured Protected Health Information, and Use.

Specific definitions:

- (a) Business Associate. “Business Associate” shall generally have the same meaning as the term “business associate” at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean the Provider, Consultant or entity contracting with the State of South Dakota as set forth more fully in the Agreement this Business Associate Agreement is attached.
- (b) CFR. “CFR” shall mean the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (c) Covered Entity. “Covered Entity” shall generally have the same meaning as the term “covered entity” at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean South Dakota Department of Social Services.
- (d) Designated Record Set. “Designated Record Set” shall have the meaning given to such term in 45 CFR 164.501.
- (e) HIPAA Rules. “HIPAA Rules” shall mean the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification, and Enforcement Rules at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164 (Subparts A, C, D and E). More specifically, the “Privacy Rule” shall mean the regulations codified at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164 (Subparts A and E), and the “Security Rule” shall mean the regulations codified at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164 (Subparts A and C).
- (f) Protected Health Information. “Protected Health Information” or “PHI” shall mean the term as defined in 45 C.F.R. §160.103, and is limited to the Protected Health Information received from, or received or created on behalf of Covered Entity by Business Associate pursuant to performance of the Services under the Agreement.

2. Obligations and Activities of Business Associate

Business Associate agrees to:

- (a) Not Use or Disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the Agreement or as Required by Law;
- (b) Use appropriate safeguards, and comply with Subpart C of 45 CFR Part 164 with respect to electronic Protected Health Information, to prevent Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information other than as provided for by the Agreement;
- (c) Report to covered entity any Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information not provided for by the Agreement of which it becomes aware, including Breaches of Unsecured Protected Health Information as required at 45 CFR 164.410, and any Security Incident of which it becomes aware within five (5) business days of receiving knowledge of such Use, Disclosure, Breach, or Security Incident;
- (d) In accordance with 45 CFR 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2), if applicable, ensure that any Subcontractors that create, receive, maintain, or transmit Protected Health Information on behalf of the business associate agree to the same restrictions, conditions, and requirements that apply to the business associate with respect to such information;
- (e) Make available Protected Health Information in a designated record set to the covered entity as necessary to satisfy covered entity’s obligations under 45 CFR 164.524. Business associate shall cooperate with covered entity to fulfill all requests by Individuals for access to the Individual’s Protected Health Information that are approved by covered entity. If business associate receives a request from an Individual for access to Protected Health Information, business associate

shall forward such request to covered entity within ten (10) business days. Covered entity shall be solely responsible for determining the scope of Protected Health Information and Designated Record Set with respect to each request by an Individual for access to Protected Health Information;

- (f) Make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a designated record set as directed or agreed to by the covered entity pursuant to 45 CFR 164.526, or take other measures as necessary to satisfy covered entity's obligations under 45 CFR 164.526. Within ten (10) business days following any such amendment or other measure, business associate shall provide written notice to covered entity confirming that business associate has made such amendments or other measures and containing any such information as may be necessary for covered entity to provide adequate notice to the Individual in accordance with 45 CFR 164.526. Should business associate receive requests to amend Protected Health Information from an Individual, Business associate shall cooperate with covered entity to fulfill all requests by Individuals for such amendments to the Individual's Protected Health Information that are approved by covered entity. If business associate receives a request from an Individual to amend Protected Health Information, business associate shall forward such request to covered entity within ten (10) business days. Covered entity shall be solely responsible for determining whether to amend any Protected Health Information with respect to each request by an Individual for access to Protected Health Information;
- (g) Maintain and make available the information required to provide an accounting of Disclosures to the covered entities necessary to satisfy covered entity's obligations under 45 CFR 164.528. Business associate shall cooperate with covered entity to fulfill all requests by Individuals for access to an accounting of Disclosures that are approved by covered entity. If business associate receives a request from an Individual for an accounting of Disclosures, business associate shall immediately forward such request to covered entity. Covered entity shall be solely responsible for determining whether to release any account of Disclosures;
- (h) To the extent the business associate is to carry out one or more of covered entity's obligation(s) under Subpart E of 45 CFR Part 164, comply with the requirements of Subpart E that apply to the covered entity in the performance of such obligation(s); and
- (i) Make its internal practices, books, and records available to the covered entity and / or the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of determining compliance with the HIPAA Rules.

3. Permitted Uses and Disclosures by Business Associate

- (a) Except as otherwise limited by this Agreement, Business Associate may make any uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information necessary to perform its services to Covered Entity and otherwise meet its obligations under this Agreement, if such Use or Disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule if done by the covered entity. All other Uses or Disclosure by Business Associate not authorized by this Agreement or by specific instruction of Covered Entity are prohibited.
- (b) The business associate is authorized to use Protected Health Information if the business associate de-identifies the information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.514(a)-(c). In order to de-identify any information, Business Associate must remove all information identifying the Individual including, but not limited to, the following: names, geographic subdivisions smaller than a state, all dates related to an Individual, all ages over the age of 89 (except such ages may be aggregated into a single category of age 90 or older), telephone numbers, fax numbers, electronic mail (email) addresses, medical record numbers, account numbers, certificate/ license numbers, vehicle identifiers and serial numbers (including license plate numbers, device identifiers and serial numbers), web universal resource locators (URLs), internet protocol (IP) address number, biometric identifiers (including finger and voice prints), full face photographic images (and any comparable images), any other unique identifying number, and any other characteristic or code.
- (c) Business associate may Use or Disclose Protected Health Information as Required by Law.
- (d) Business associate agrees to make Uses and Disclosures and requests for Protected Health Information consistent with covered entity's Minimum Necessary policies and procedures.
- (e) Business associate may not Use or Disclose Protected Health Information in a manner that would violate Subpart E of 45 CFR Part 164 if done by covered entity except for the specific Uses and Disclosures set forth in (f) and (g).
- (f) Business associate may Disclose Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of business associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the business associate, provided the Disclosures are Required by Law.
- (g) Business associate may provide Data Aggregation services relating to the Health Care Operations of the covered entity.

4. Provisions for Covered Entity to Inform Business Associate of Privacy Practices and Restrictions

- (a) Covered entity shall notify business associate of any limitation(s) in the Notice of Privacy Practices of covered entity under 45 CFR 164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect business associate's Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information.
- (b) Covered entity shall notify business associate of any changes in, or revocation of, the permission by an Individual to Use or Disclose his or her Protected Health Information, to the extent that such changes may affect business associate's Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information.
- (c) Covered entity shall notify business associate of any restriction on the Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information that covered entity has agreed to or is required to abide by under 45 CFR 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect business associate's Use or Disclosure of Protected Health Information.

5. Term and Termination

- (a) Term. The Term of this Agreement shall be effective as of and shall terminate on the dates set forth in the primary Agreement this Business Associate Agreement is attached to or on the date the primary Agreement terminates, whichever is sooner.
- (b) Termination for Cause. Business associate authorizes termination of this Agreement by covered entity, if covered entity determines business associate has violated a material term of the Agreement.
- (c) Obligations of Business Associate Upon Termination.
 - 1. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this section, upon termination of this agreement for any reason, business associate shall return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by business associate on behalf of covered entity. This provision shall apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of Subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information.
 - 2. If business associate determines that returning or destroying the Protected Health Information is infeasible, business associate shall provide to covered entity, within ten (10) business days, notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon such determination, business associate shall extend the protections of this agreement to such Protected Health Information and limit further Uses and Disclosures of such Protected Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as business associate maintains such Protected Health Information.
- (d) Survival. The obligations of business associate under this Section shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

6. Miscellaneous

- (a) Regulatory References. A reference in this Agreement to a section in the HIPAA Rules means the section as in effect or as amended.
- (b) Amendment. The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for compliance with the requirements of the HIPAA Rules and any other applicable law.
- (c) Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be interpreted to permit compliance with the HIPAA Rules.
- (d) Conflicts. In the event of a conflict in between the terms of this Business Associate Agreement and the Agreement to which it is attached, the terms of this Business Associate Agreement shall prevail to the extent such an interpretation ensures compliance with the HIPAA Rules.