

HHSC Uniform Terms and Conditions Version 2.14
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TEXAS

Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services Commission
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ARTICLE I. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETIVE PROVISIONS

1.01 Definitions

As used in this Contract, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms and conditions have the meanings assigned below:

“Amendment” means a written agreement, signed by the parties hereto, which documents changes to the Contract other than those permitted by Work Orders or Technical Guidance Letters, as herein defined.

“Attachment” means documents, terms, conditions, or additional information physically added to this Contract following the Signature Document or included by reference, as if physically, within the body of this Contract.

“Contract” means the Signature Document, these Uniform Terms and Conditions, along with any Attachments, and any Amendments, or Technical Guidance Letters that may be issued by the System Agency, to be incorporated by reference herein for all purposes if issued.

“Deliverable” means the work product(s) required to be submitted to the System Agency including all reports and project documentation.

“Effective Date” means the date agreed to by the Parties as the date on which the Contract takes effect.

“System Agency” means HHSC or any of the agencies of the State of Texas that are overseen by HHSC under authority granted under State law and the officers, employees, and designees of those agencies. These agencies include: the Department of Aging and Disability Services, the Department of Family and Protective Services, and the Department of State Health Services.

“Federal Fiscal Year” means the period beginning October 1 and ending September 30 each year, which is the annual accounting period for the United States government.

“GAAP” means Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

“GASB” means the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

“Grantee” means the Party receiving funds under this Contract, if any. May also be referred to as "Contractor" in certain attachments.

“Health and Human Services Commission” or “HHSC” means the administrative agency established under Chapter 531, Texas Government Code or its designee.

“HUB” means Historically Underutilized Business, as defined by Chapter 2161 of the Texas Government Code.

“Intellectual Property” means inventions and business processes, whether or not patentable; works of authorship; trade secrets; trademarks; service marks; industrial designs; and creations

that are subject to potential legal protection incorporated in any Deliverable and first created or developed by Grantee, Grantee's contractor or a subcontractor in performing the Project.

“Mentor Protégé” means the Comptroller of Public Accounts’ leadership program found at: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/mentorprotege/>.

“Parties” means the System Agency and Grantee, collectively.

“Party” means either the System Agency or Grantee, individually.

“Program” means the statutorily authorized activities of the System Agency under which this Contract has been awarded.

“Project” means specific activities of the Grantee that are supported by funds provided under this Contract.

“Public Information Act” or “PIA” means Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.

“Statement of Work” means the description of activities performed in completing the Project, as specified in the Contract and as may be amended.

“Signature Document” means the document executed by both Parties that specifically sets forth all of the documents that constitute the Contract.

“Solicitation or "RFA"” means the document issued by the System Agency under which applications for Program funds were requested, which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes in its entirety, including all Amendments and Attachments.

“Solicitation Response” or “Application” means Grantee’s full and complete response to the Solicitation, which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes in its entirety, including any Attachments and addenda.

“State Fiscal Year” means the period beginning September 1 and ending August 31 each year, which is the annual accounting period for the State of Texas.

“State of Texas Textravel” means Texas Administrative Code, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Section 5.22, relative to travel reimbursements under this Contract, if any.

“Technical Guidance Letter” or “TGL” means an instruction, clarification, or interpretation of the requirements of the Contract, issued by the System Agency to the Grantee.

1.02 Interpretive Provisions

- a. The meanings of defined terms are equally applicable to the singular and plural forms of the defined terms.
- b. The words “hereof,” “herein,” “hereunder,” and similar words refer to this Contract as a whole and not to any particular provision, section, Attachment, or schedule of this Contract unless otherwise specified.
- c. The term “including” is not limiting and means “including without limitation” and, unless otherwise expressly provided in this Contract, (i) references to contracts (including this Contract) and other contractual instruments shall be deemed to include all subsequent

Amendments and other modifications thereto, but only to the extent that such Amendments and other modifications are not prohibited by the terms of this Contract, and (ii) references to any statute or regulation are to be construed as including all statutory and regulatory provisions consolidating, amending, replacing, supplementing, or interpreting the statute or regulation.

- d. Any references to “sections,” “appendices,” or “attachments” are references to sections, appendices, or attachments of the Contract.
- e. Any references to agreements, contracts, statutes, or administrative rules or regulations in the Contract are references to these documents as amended, modified, or supplemented from time to time during the term of the Contract.
- f. The captions and headings of this Contract are for convenience of reference only and do not affect the interpretation of this Contract.
- g. All Attachments within this Contract, including those incorporated by reference, and any Amendments are considered part of the terms of this Contract.
- h. This Contract may use several different limitations, regulations, or policies to regulate the same or similar matters. All such limitations, regulations, and policies are cumulative and each will be performed in accordance with its terms.
- i. Unless otherwise expressly provided, reference to any action of the System Agency or by the System Agency by way of consent, approval, or waiver will be deemed modified by the phrase “in its sole discretion.”
- j. Time is of the essence in this Contract.

ARTICLE II PAYMENT METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

2.01 Payment Methods

Except as otherwise provided by the provisions of the Contract, the payment method will be one or more of the following:

- a. cost reimbursement. This payment method is based on an approved budget and submission of a request for reimbursement of expenses Grantee has incurred at the time of the request;
- b. unit rate/fee-for-service. This payment method is based on a fixed price or a specified rate(s) or fee(s) for delivery of a specified unit(s) of service and acceptable submission of all required documentation, forms and/or reports; or
- c. advance payment. This payment method is based on disbursement of the minimum necessary funds to carry out the Program or Project where the Grantee has implemented appropriate safeguards. This payment method will only be utilized in accordance with governing law and at the sole discretion of the System Agency.

Grantees shall bill the System Agency in accordance with the Contract. Unless otherwise specified in the Contract, Grantee shall submit requests for reimbursement or payment monthly by the last business day of the month following the month in which expenses were incurred or services provided. Grantee shall maintain all documentation that substantiates invoices and make the documentation available to the System Agency upon request.

2.02 Final Billing Submission

Unless otherwise provided by the System Agency, Grantee shall submit a reimbursement or payment request as a final close-out invoice not later than forty-five (45) calendar days following

the end of the term of the Contract. Reimbursement or payment requests received in the System Agency's offices more than forty-five (45) calendar days following the termination of the Contract may not be paid.

2.03 Financial Status Reports (FSRs)

Except as otherwise provided in these General Provisions or in the terms of any Program Attachment(s) that is incorporated into the Contract, for contracts with categorical budgets, Grantee shall submit quarterly FSRs to Accounts Payable by the last business day of the month following the end of each quarter of the Program Attachment term for System Agency review and financial assessment. Grantee shall submit the final FSR no later than forty-five (45) calendar days following the end of the applicable term.

2.04 Debt to State and Corporate Status

Pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code § 403.055, the Department will not approve and the State Comptroller will not issue payment to Grantee if Grantee is indebted to the State for any reason, including a tax delinquency. Grantee, if a corporation, certifies by execution of this Contract that it is current and will remain current in its payment of franchise taxes to the State of Texas or that it is exempt from payment of franchise taxes under Texas law (Tex. Tax Code §§ 171.001 et seq.). If tax payments become delinquent during the Contract term, all or part of the payments under this Contract may be withheld until Grantee's delinquent tax is paid in full.

2.05 Application of Payment Due

Grantee agrees that any payments due under this Contract will be applied towards any debt of Grantee, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas.

2.06 Use of Funds

Grantee shall expend funds provided under this Contract only for the provision of approved services and for reasonable and allowable expenses directly related to those services.

2.07 Use for Match Prohibited

Grantee shall not use funds provided under this Contract for matching purposes in securing other funding without the written approval of the System Agency.

2.08 Program Income

Income directly generated from funds provided under this Contract or earned only as a result of such funds is Program Income. Unless otherwise required under the Program, Grantee shall use the addition alternative, as provided in UGMS § __.25(g)(2), for the use of Project income to further the Program, and Grantee shall spend the Program Income on the Project. Grantee shall identify and report this income in accordance with the Contract, applicable law, and any programmatic guidance. Grantee shall expend Program Income during the Contract term and may not carry Program Income forward to any succeeding term. Grantee shall refund program income to the System Agency if the Program Income is not expended in the term in which it is earned. The System Agency may base future funding levels, in part, upon Grantee's proficiency in identifying, billing, collecting, and reporting Program Income, and in using it for the purposes and under the conditions specified in this Contract.

2.09 Nonsupplanting

Grantee shall not use funds from this Contract to replace or substitute for existing funding from other but shall use funds from this Contract to supplement existing state or local funds currently available. Grantee shall make a good faith effort to maintain its current level of support. Grantee may be required to submit documentation substantiating that a reduction in state or local funding, if any, resulted for reasons other than receipt or expected receipt of funding under this Contract.

ARTICLE III. STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING

3.01 Funding

This Contract is contingent upon the availability of sufficient and adequate funds. If funds become unavailable through lack of appropriations, budget cuts, transfer of funds between programs or agencies, amendment of the Texas General Appropriations Act, agency consolidation, or any other disruptions of current funding for this Contract, the System Agency may restrict, reduce, or terminate funding under this Contract. This Contract is also subject to immediate cancellation or termination, without penalty to the System Agency, if sufficient and adequate funds are not available. Grantee will have no right of action against the System Agency if the System Agency cannot perform its obligations under this Contract as a result of lack of funding for any activities or functions contained within the scope of this Contract. In the event of cancellation or termination under this Section, the System Agency will not be required to give notice and will not be liable for any damages or losses caused or associated with such termination or cancellation.

3.02 No debt Against the State

The Contract will not be construed as creating any debt by or on behalf of the State of Texas.

3.03 Debt to State

If a payment law prohibits the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts from making a payment, the Grantee acknowledges the System Agency's payments under the Contract will be applied toward eliminating the debt or delinquency. This requirement specifically applies to any debt or delinquency, regardless of when it arises.

3.04 Recapture of Funds

The System Agency may withhold all or part of any payments to Grantee to offset overpayments made to the Grantee. Overpayments as used in this Section include payments (i) made by the System Agency that exceed the maximum allowable rates; (ii) that are not allowed under applicable laws, rules, or regulations; or (iii) that are otherwise inconsistent with this Contract, including any unapproved expenditures. Grantee understands and agrees that it will be liable to the System Agency for any costs disallowed pursuant to financial and compliance audit(s) of funds received under this Contract. Grantee further understands and agrees that reimbursement of such disallowed costs will be paid by Grantee from funds which were not provided or otherwise made available to Grantee under this Contract.