

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

ATTACHMENT L: TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS RESPONSE

ATTACHMENT L: TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS RESPONSE is posted on the Ariba landing page and can be accessed at the following link: <http://discovery.ariba.com/rfx/13956411>

Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT L by only marking either "Confirm," or "Does Not Confirm" as a response for each Technical Requirement. Under no circumstances will narrative or text from Vendor be accepted as a response.

5.2.1 Account Management

5.2.1.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks to partner with a Vendor that has the experience, knowledge, and resources to support all the services outlined in this RFP. Vendor must be transparent when partnering with the Plan on initiatives or providing internal processes, data, or other information, as requested by the Plan. Vendor must also show a willingness to develop custom networks and Product solutions to support the Plan. Finally, Vendor must be responsive and have the resources to support Plan operations, implementations, and ongoing data needs.

5.2.1.2 Resources

- a. Vendor addressed the following in the Minimum Requirements Table or ATTACHMENT K:
 - i. Vendor has provided services to at least one (1) public or private self-funded client with more than 100,000 covered lives. Vendor shall provide the Plan with contact information for one (1) such client to complete a reference call related to the services in this RFP.
 - ii. Vendor has one (1) or more current or former ASO clients with more than 25,000 Medicare primary members.
 - iii. Vendor will exercise loyalty and a duty of care to the Plan and its Members in performing its responsibilities under this Contract. Vendor must assume and exercise the same fiduciary responsibility established in N.C.G.S. § 135-48.2 for the State Treasurer, Executive Administrator, and the Board.
 - iv. Vendor will provide subject matter experts, in addition to account management resources, to work directly with Plan and Plan vendor staff.
 - v. Vendor has a "firewall" between its TPA services operations and any other service operations, such as a PBM, consulting group, or any other services.

- b. Vendor shall confirm it will provide a dedicated resource for each of the following roles:
 - i. **Account Executive** – Responsible for overall account relationship including strategic planning in relation to Plan performance, consultative services, recommendations for benefit design and cost containment opportunities, and contract oversight.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm



Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- ii. **Operations Director** – Provides oversight of Members Services, Claims Services, Enrollment and Group Set-Up.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iii. **Member Services Manager** – Responsible for all customer service functions and reporting.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iv. **Claims Services Manager** – Responsible for claims payments and recoveries.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - v. **Enrollment and Group Set-Up**– Responsible for all enrollment, enrollment files, and reconciliation services.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vi. **Data Manager** – Responsible for providing expertise in data analytics and modeling as well as coordinating data requests, data testing, and data exchanges, including any data files to Plan vendors, Plan partners, and the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vii. **Implementation Manager** – Responsible for development and execution of Implementation Plans and coordinating with the Plan and internal and external resources. The Implementation Manager shall be dedicated to the Plan during the implementation process and must continue to support the Plan for a minimum of 90 days after the implementation date of January 1, 2025, if requested by the Plan. Such support includes, but is not limited to, weekly calls with the Plan and the designated account management team; maintenance of issue tracking logs; and issue resolution.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- c. While not all resources need to be 100% dedicated, the Plan expects to have access to other resources as needed. Vendor shall confirm that the following resources will be available to the Plan on an as needed basis:
- i. **Clinical Director** - Responsible for determining the clinical effectiveness of benefit and program changes, prospectively and retrospectively, as well as for determining outcome-based measures in order to measure clinical effectiveness of alternative care delivery models (tiered networks, centers of excellence, medical home models, etc.). This resource will work proactively and collaboratively with the Plan to identify gaps in care and assist in the development of modified or additional programs to target these gaps and will collaborate with the Plan to fully support strategic initiatives.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - ii. **Director of Network Management** – Responsible for overall management of Vendor’s network including provider contracting, network development, and/or provider relations functions. This resource will work with the Plan to develop, implement, and maintain custom provider reimbursement models or other provider initiatives as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

iii. **Actuary** - Responsible for calculating financial impact of benefit and program changes, prospectively and retrospectively. Also responsible for calculating Return on Investment (ROI) in order to measure financial effectiveness of alternative care delivery models (tiered networks, centers of excellence, medical home models, etc.) as well as alternate payment models (Accountable Care Organizations, Clinically Integrated Networks, etc.). Will be required, upon request, to provide sufficient data and documentation to the Plan to independently verify calculations. The Actuary shall be a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries with a primary focus in Health Benefit Systems.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

iv. **Privacy Officer** - Responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, HIPAA, Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Responsible for maintaining internal controls to protect Protected Health Information (PHI) and ensuring that adequate and timely steps are taken in the event of a breach of confidentiality.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

v. **Attorney** - Responsible for communicating program and policy updates to the Plan and coordinating as necessary with the Plan's internal counsel and staff. Responsible for promptly reviewing materials for Vendor and providing appropriate, legally justifiable, feedback to the Plan. This person must be well-versed in Chapter 135 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes, to the extent that North Carolina Department of Insurance (DOI) regulations apply to the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

5.2.1.3 The Plan requires a Vendor that is both responsive and transparent.

a. Vendor shall confirm each of the following:

i. Vendor will meet with the Plan within two (2) weeks of a new request or initiative and will bring to the table the resources with the appropriate subject matter expertise and authority to discuss the specific topic(s) requested by the Plan. Meeting topics could include, but would not be limited to, data requests, network and/or Product development, pilots, and other initiatives.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

ii. Once a project or initiative is underway, Vendor will meet with the Plan within one (1) week of the request and will bring to the table the resources with the appropriate subject matter expertise and authority to discuss the specific topic(s) requested by the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

iii. Vendor will respond to Plan inquiries regarding legal, financial, or operational matters within 48 hours of the request, unless extended by the Plan. The response shall be received prior to 5:00 p.m. ET.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- iv. Vendor will respond to Plan inquiries regarding customer and provider matters within 24 hours of the request, unless extended by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- v. Vendor will work with the Plan and other Plan vendors as needed to resolve issues. This includes providing the specific Vendor resources and expertise needed to address the specific issue(s), not just the account management team; and multiple meetings per week prior to and after Go-Live before all services are normalized.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will keep the Plan informed of changing state and federal rules, mandates, or other requirements to ensure compliance.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Upon request, Vendor will provide written documents outlining internal processes and procedures and, when requested by the Plan, agree to alter internal processes to meet the needs of the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- viii. Upon request, Vendor will provide detailed cost information on any program offered under this RFP or proposed in the future to the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

5.2.2 Finance and Banking

5.2.2.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a Vendor that can provide a full range of best in class financial and accounting services in support of TPA services. These services include, but are not limited to, claims processing, provider payments, and recoveries. Vendor must be able to process and deposit receipts each day as well as batch claims and other disbursements on a weekly basis as required by the Plan. Vendor must be able to implement processes for all financial transactions that are compliant with State banking guidelines, including the policies and regulations of the Office of State Controller and the Department of State Treasurer, and provide timely documentation and reporting to support the Plan's financial reporting. As a State Agency, the Plan may have unique limitations or special requirements around funding claims and handling deposits and other financial transactions.

5.2.2.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
 - i. Vendor will comply with N.C.G.S. § 147-77 regarding the deposit of funds belonging to the Plan and confirm agreement that all receipts and other moneys belonging to the Plan that are collected or received by Vendor shall be deposited daily to the Plan's bank account(s) as designated by the State Treasurer and reported daily to the Plan.
 - ii. Vendor will comply with the Plan's requirements regarding the disbursement of funds on the Plan's behalf which are outlined by the Department of State Treasurer's website:
<https://www.nctreasurer.com/media/3791/open>

- iii. If Vendor will be disbursing funds from the Plan's bank accounts, Vendor must (1) print checks with the Plan's logo and digitized signature with guidance on the layout from the Department of State Treasurer based upon a standard format; and (2) prepare checks and EFTs for claims and other disbursements to be drawn directly from the Plan's bank account upon approval and release by the Plan. Vendor must be fully operational at least 30 days prior to January 1, 2025.
- iv. Vendor will email weekly disbursement requests to the Plan by 9:30 a.m. ET on the first State Business Day of the week and hold disbursements until approved by the Plan.
- v. Vendor will support the State of North Carolina's financial processing, banking, and reporting requirements which can be found at the following links or exhibits:
 - 1) State banking: <https://www.nctreasurer.com/media/3791/open>
 - 2) Cash management: https://www.osc.nc.gov/search?search_api_views_fulltext=cash%20management%20policy
 - 3) Escheats: <https://www.nccash.com/holder-information-and-reporting>
 - 4) High level daily deposits and disbursements of state funds workflows: Exhibit 1, "Deposits and Disbursement Process."
- vi. Vendor will provide a SOC1, Type II, and if applicable, a bridge letter, upon request by the Plan.

b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:

- i. Vendor will provide detailed, accurate and timely financial reporting related to all financial processes completed on behalf of the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ii. Vendor will manage multiple bank accounts for deposits, and if applicable, disbursements under the Department of State Treasurer.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
- iii. Vendor will complete bank reconciliation for all disbursing accounts, if applicable.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
- iv. Vendor will track and report receivables as well as earned and unearned revenue on behalf of the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
- v. Vendor will provide access to up to three (3) years of historical receipts and claims funding data.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will provide electronic submission of deposit reports and disbursement funding as well as detailed backup documentation to support the transactions.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Vendor will provide historical check register detail and receipts as well as claims funding data.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

- viii. Vendor has internal quality control programs and audits that will ensure the accuracy of all financial reporting to the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will batch claims and other disbursements for payment via check or automatic clearing house (ACH) from the Plan's bank account on a weekly basis as determined by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor will hold payment of weekly claims and other disbursements until funding is authorized and requisitioned by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will limit the aggregate dollar amount of claims paid each week if requested by the Plan to manage cash flow.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor will deposit checks received into the Plan's bank account within 24 hours of receipt to comply with the State's banking and cash management requirements.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendor will provide a daily reporting package of deposited receipts as required by the Plan (see Reporting Section 5.2.11).
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiv. Vendor will provide a weekly reporting package of claims and other disbursement as required by the Plan (see Reporting Section 5.2.11).
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will customize the reporting of any deposits, disbursements, or other financial transactions as required by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvi. Vendor will notify and report on all warrants/checks to be escheated prior to the submitting state filings, and if required by the Plan, adhere to a prior approval process for escheats.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvii. Vendor will recommend uncollectible accounts for write-off and adhere to a prior approval process.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xviii. Vendor will notify and consult with the Plan at least 60 days in advance, or as soon as practical, of any system or business process change as it relates to handling, processing, or reporting of the Plan's financial transactions.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

xix. Vendor will process ad hoc check requests, such as a settlement check to a Member, as requested by the Plan.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

5.2.3 Network Management

5.2.3.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan requires a Vendor that will provide a strong network in all 100 counties of North Carolina and throughout the United States. This Vendor must also partner with the Plan on network initiatives that provide affordable, quality care and increase transparency, predictability, and value for Plan Members. For example, the Plan’s most recent network initiative was the implementation of a network of independent North Carolina providers, and a few smaller hospitals that were reimbursed on a Medicare reference-based pricing model. The effort is known as the Clear Pricing Project. The network, the North Carolina State Health Plan Network, was managed and supplemented by the TPA. Through this effort, the Plan built some key provider partnerships and demonstrated the viability of the reference-based pricing reimbursement methodology. While reference-based pricing continues to be a strategy the Plan intends to pursue, the specific types of alternative payment models to be implemented at the Go-Live of the Contract will be determined during implementation. Regardless of the payment model, the Plan intends to find a way to continue the tiered network strategy that rewarded Plan Members, via lower cost-shares, for utilizing CPP providers. Therefore, selecting a TPA partner that will support this type of custom provider reimbursement arrangement, or any other custom network, is essential to the Plan’s provider strategy.

5.2.3.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
 - i. Vendor agrees the Plan is a government payor.
 - ii. Vendor will provide a network that will support Plan Members residing in all 100 counties in North Carolina and throughout the United States.
 - iii. Vendor will work with the Plan to develop and implement provider specific alternative payment arrangements.
 - iv. Vendor will develop a “narrow” network, at the regional or state level, of lower cost, high quality providers to be paired with a custom Plan Design, if requested by the Plan. This offering may be a full replacement or offered alongside other Plan Design options.
 - v. Vendor’s current network includes bundled/episodic payment and clinically integrated network arrangements.
 - vi. Vendor will work with the Plan to expand, and if necessary, customize bundled/episodic payment arrangements.
 - vii. Vendor will work with the Plan to develop and administer a custom network for the Plan with a Medicare-based reimbursement methodology model that will include, at a minimum, different reimbursement rates for professional, inpatient, and outpatient services, upon request by the Plan.
 - viii. If the Plan implements a Medicare-based reimbursement model, Vendor will adjust any payment and/or medical policies required to better align with Medicare pricing guidelines.

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- ix. If the Plan implements a Medicare-based reimbursement model, Vendor will administer any other Medicare medical and payment policies adopted by the Plan.
 - x. Vendor will integrate with Optum Insight or a comparable tool to support and maintain the existing repricing/pricing structure if requested by the Plan.
 - xi. Upon request, Vendor will supplement the Plan's custom network with other providers contracted directly by Vendor for services such as reference labs, durable medical equipment, and other commodity services as well as to ensure access to care standards are met in North Carolina.
 - xii. Vendor will administer other reference-based pricing models, if requested by the Plan.
- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:
- i. Vendor will support transparency by allowing the Plan, at its request, to directly view any contracts associated with Vendor's network. This includes, but is not limited to, the terms of any risk sharing arrangements, incentives, pay-for-performance reimbursement, future contractual rate increases, and fee schedules. The Plan will take steps to protect Vendor's confidential data and proprietary information in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - ii. Vendor will provide services to Members who travel outside the United States and have an urgent medical need.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iii. Vendor will apply the same utilization management and payment rules to providers located in North Carolina and throughout the United States.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iv. Vendor will customize "hidden providers" (e.g., an out-of-network anesthesiologist used at an in-network facility whose status is unknown to the Member receiving a procedure by an in-network surgeon) payment policies, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - v. Vendor will work with the Plan to ensure reimbursement rates for virtual visits with network providers are set appropriately.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vi. Vendor will provide transition of care services to assist Members when their provider is no longer in the network.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vii. Vendor offers a "narrow" network in North Carolina that may be utilized by the Plan. This offering may be a full replacement or offered alongside other Plan Design options.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - viii. Vendor has a network management team that will support the Plan on any custom or private label network solutions.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- ix. Vendor has a provider credentialing team that could be utilized to credential potential network providers if the Plan were to develop a network solution that may include providers that are not currently enrolled in Vendor's other networks.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor has the ability to communicate directly with providers and will communicate Plan specific information to providers, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will work with the Plan to develop and implement reimbursement strategies to reduce costs for specific services such as, but not limited to, specialty pharmacy.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor has experience with each of the following alternative models of care or clinically integrated systems and will work with the Plan to deploy Vendor's solution or develop a similar custom solution for the Plan. Vendor shall confirm it has experience with each alternative payment model listed below:
 - 1) Patient-Centered Medical Homes.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 2) Hospital At Home Programs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 3) Accountable Care Organizations.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 4) Community Care Organizations.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 5) Integrated Delivery Networks.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 6) Shared Risk/Savings.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 7) Pay-for-Performance.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 8) Global Payment/Capitation.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 9) Primary Care Incentives.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

xiii. Vendor will support the integration and ongoing operations of any of the aforementioned alternative payment models or clinically integrated systems that may be designed and managed by other Plan vendors.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xiv. Vendor has the system capability to support capitated payments.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xv. Vendor has the capability to manage two-sided risk and upon request will implement a custom risk arrangement for the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xvi. If the Plan deploys a custom network or reimbursement models, Vendor's provider portal will allow Providers to submit claims, access policies, receive announcements, and perform other functions necessary for proper participation in the Plan's custom network.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xvii. If the Plan deploys a custom network, Vendor will administer Plan specific provider contract documents which may include, but is not limited to, network participation agreements (NPA), reimbursement exhibits, pricing policies, fee schedules, and pricing development and maintenance policies.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xviii. Vendor acknowledges any NPA developed to support a custom network for the Plan is not subject to review by DOI since the Plan is self-funded and not subject to DOI regulations except for those specifically noted in Chapters 58 and 135 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xix. Vendor will develop, maintain, and administer medical and payment policies with input as desired by the Plan to support any custom alternative payment models or networks implemented for the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xx. Vendor will provide a dedicated provider call center, with a Plan specific phone number and greeting if the Plan implements a full, custom provider network.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

5.2.4 Product and Plan Design Management

5.2.4.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a Vendor that offers innovation in both Product and Plan Designs. Vendor should have an efficient business rules-based claims system that can not only support state, federal, and other custom benefits but also accommodate unique medical and claims processing policies. Vendor should be nimble in its approach to piloting new programs and demonstrate "speed to market" when rolling out new Products, Plan Designs, and benefit features to meet the challenges facing state government health plans.

5.2.4.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
 - i. Vendor will administer the covered benefits and exclusions as outlined in the Enhanced PPO Plan (80/20), Base PPO Plan (70/30) and HDHP benefit booklets. The Plan understands that utilization and Medical Management programs as well as out-of-network processes may vary from the Plan's current programs.
 - 1) Enhanced PPO Plan (80/20): <https://www.shpnc.org/media/2583/download?attachment>
 - 2) Base PPO Plan (70/30): <https://www.shpnc.org/media/2582/download?attachment>
 - 3) HDHP: <https://www.shpnc.org/media/2584/open>
 - ii. Vendor will administer a tiered copay program that will reduce a copay when the Member visits the PCP listed on his or her ID card or another PCP in the same practice, regardless of practice location. See grid in Exhibit 2, "PCP Copay Incentive Scenarios," for more detailed information about the current program.
 - iii. Vendor will customize its current value-based and incentive Plan Design features and/or implement new, customized ones, if requested by the Plan.
 - iv. Vendor will integrate real-time or near real-time deductible and/or OOP accumulators with the Plan's PBM to support a combined Medical/Rx deductible and OOP maximums.
 - v. Vendor will administer all benefits as required by Article 3B of Chapter 135 and, to the extent applicable, Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes and as may be amended from time to time.
 - vi. Vendor will administer benefits in accordance with all Federal and State requirements and notify the Plan of new mandates, or other requirements, that will require benefit changes to maintain compliance.
 - vii. Vendor will partner with the Plan to design custom benefits and/or Plan Design features, as requested by the Plan and provide associated financial/actuarial impact analysis.
- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:
 - i. Vendor's systems will support each of the following Plan Design features. Vendor shall confirm each Plan design feature below:
 - 1) Applying a copay and a deductible to the same service.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 2) Applying a copay based on the providers network tier.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 3) Waiving the emergency room copay when the Member is admitted for an inpatient stay and/or an observation stay.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 4) Applying a different cost-sharing arrangement (deductible, copay, coinsurance, etc.) for each of the following:
 - a) PCP.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- b) Specialist.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- c) Urgent Care.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- d) Emergency Room (ER).
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- e) Physical Therapy.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- f) Occupational Therapy.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- g) Speech and Hearing Therapy.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- h) Outpatient Behavioral Health.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- i) Per Inpatient Confinement.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 5) Setting benefit limits by age.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 6) Setting benefit limits by frequency of service.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 7) Setting benefit limits by confinement.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 8) Cross-accumulate out-of-network OOP with in-network OOP, but not the in-network OOP to the out-of-network OOP.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ii. Upon request, Vendor will customize and support medical policies according to Plan needs and requirements.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- iii. Vendor will, upon request, administer a four-level PPO benefit with a Tier 1 network benefit, a Tier 2 network benefit, an out-of-area (OOA) benefit, and a non-network benefit.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- iv. Vendor will, upon request, administer a three-level PPO benefit with a Tier 1 network benefit, a Tier 2 network benefit, and a non-network benefit.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- v. Vendor will, upon request, administer a three-level PPO benefit with a Tier 1 network benefit, an OOA benefit, and a non-network benefit.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will administer member cost-sharing (co-pay, deductible, coinsurance) for a specific service based on place of service.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Vendor will implement incentive programs where Plan Members are given gift cards, or other incentives, for seeing certain providers and/or completing certain tasks.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- viii. Vendor will, upon request, integrate with other Plan vendors or Partners to deliver value-based and/or incentive benefits.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will, upon request, implement a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for Plan Members with each of the following features. Vendor shall confirm each HRA feature below:
 - 1) HRA annual balances based on the number of family Members enrolled.
Example:
Subscriber only = \$600 starting balance.
Subscriber + one (1) Dependent = \$1200 starting balance.
Subscriber + two (2) or more Dependents = \$1800 starting balance.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 2) Virtual funding that meets all the banking and financial reporting requirements that are outlined in Section 5.2.2.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 3) HRA account reconciliation services to support the Plan's banking and financial reporting requirements.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 4) Proration that reduces the starting HRA amount for Members who enroll after the beginning of the Benefit Year.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 5) Ability to add funds to Members' HRA accounts throughout the year based on incentives earned through programs offered by Vendor and by other Plan vendors.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- 6) Automatic claims reimbursement functionality from the HRA.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 7) Ability to integrate with the Plan's PBM so that pharmacy claims can be processed by the Members' HRA.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 8) Annual HRA rollover functionality.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 9) Ability to customize the HRA Member portal, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 10) Ability to customize the HRA Member materials, including system generated letters, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 11) HRA Administrative Portal that can be accessed by the Plan to run ad hoc reports and review Member level data.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 12) HRA Debit Card.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 13) Ability to integrate with Plan's Vendor(s) to receive Member level information via ongoing EDI files to apply virtual HRA incentive funds to Member HRA accounts.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 14) Ability to provide an HRA on a copay-based plan like the Enhanced PPO Plan (80/20).
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 15) Ability to customize HRA reports, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor offers Health Savings Account (HSA) administration and/or will integrate with an HSA administrator preferred by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Upon request, Vendor will administer a self-funded Group Medicare Supplement Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- xii. Vendor will work with the Plan to implement benefits that may not be finalized and/or approved until close to the effective date. While it is the Plan's preference to have all benefits approved by the Board more than six (6) months in advance, there are dependencies, such as final budget approval by the North Carolina General Assembly or simply reaching final Board consensus that may impact the timing of final benefit approval.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

5.2.5 Medical Management Programs

5.2.5.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a Vendor that demonstrates versatility and innovation in managing the complex medical environment. Vendor should provide high quality, evidence-based, member centric, cost-efficient clinical management programs that support Members with the most appropriate, effective, and high-value benefits to improve their health while fostering an optimum Member experience.

5.2.5.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:

- i. Vendor will pass 100% of specialty pharmacy Rebates to the Plan.
- ii. Vendor will carve-out PBM services from this Contract.
- iii. Vendor will customize any of the Medical Management programs, if requested by the Plan.

- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:

- i. Vendor will customize any medical policy, if requested by the Plan.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

- ii. Vendor will provide comprehensive, holistic, evidence-based medical policies and Medical Management of Members' physical and behavioral health, including substance misuses, which focus on quality, positive Member outcomes, and cost efficiencies.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

- iii. Vendor will partner with the Plan on Medical Management initiatives and provide relevant clinical and financial outcome data to support project implementation and evaluation, if requested by the Plan.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

- iv. Vendor will keep the Plan apprised of disease trends within the population and provide reporting that summarizes overall Plan health.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

- v. Vendor will appropriately identify and engage Members in each of the following types of programs:

- 1) Transition of Care (TOC) programs;

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- 2) High utilizer outreach and management programs; and,
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 3) Complex case management programs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will provide "Hospital at Home" and/or other programs to promote transition from inpatient-hospital to home setting when appropriate.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Vendor will offer wellness and prevention programs to support Plan Members.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- viii. Vendor will integrate with other Plan vendors and/or Partners to deliver a care management program for Plan Members, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will work with the Plan to define all new care management, or other programs, in Business Requirement Documents which will be approved by the Plan, Vendor, and any other Plan vendors or Plan Partners involved in the program administration.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor will provide disease management Health Coaching Services.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will transition specific specialty pharmacy medication coverage to the Plan's PBM, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor will provide claims and analytical data to support the transition of specific specialty medications to the Plan's PBM.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendor will provide specific claims data or other clinical data, as requested by the Plan to support benefits that may be administered by the Plan's PBM.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiv. Vendor will integrate data from the Plan's PBM or other Plan vendors to administer benefits on Vendor's platform. Any such plan design will be implemented after Business Requirements and an Implementation Plan are completed and if required, an amendment is executed.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will meet with the Plan and the Plan's PBM to coordinate medical and pharmacy management programs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xvi. Vendor will perform warm transfers to Plan vendors and/or Plan Partners who provide specific services and/or supports for Plan Members.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

5.2.6 Enrollment, EDI, and Data Management

5.2.6.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a Vendor with a platform that can support the Plan's enrollment rules, as defined by North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 135, Article 3B. Vendor must also be able to support the Plan's Group set-up requirements which include setting up and maintaining over 400 Employing Units, the Retirement Group, and the other non-active Groups including the Direct Bill Group, the COBRA Group and the Sponsored Dependents Group. Vendor must also have extensive experience with Medicare eligibility as the Plan has both Medicare primary and Medicare secondary Members.

5.2.6.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
- i. Vendor will support the Plan's Group set-up structure which includes establishing, maintaining, and reporting on more than 400 individual Employing Units, the Retirement Systems Group, the Direct Bill Group, the Sponsored Dependent Group, and the COBRA Group. A list of the Plan's current Group structure, which includes Group and Entity identifiers, can be found in Exhibit 3, "Group Structure."
 - ii. Vendor will support the addition of new Groups throughout the year and assist with any Group name changes or reporting requirements, as needed.
 - iii. Vendor will have the capability to accept and at least 500,000 transactions in a single file transmission.
 - iv. Vendor will have the capability to extract and send up to 500,000 transactions to Plan vendors in a single file.
 - v. Vendor will accept and load a daily industry standard and/or custom data files from the Plan's EES vendor. The data file will be received between 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. ET each night and must be processed and loaded by Vendor by 8:00 a.m. ET the following State Business Day.
 - vi. Vendor will produce recurring outbound data files for Plan vendors, the Plan and/or Plan Partners. For inbound and outbound data flows, see Exhibit 4, "Vendor Data Feeds."
 - vii. Vendor's daily outbound data file to the Plan's EES vendor must be sent by 12:00 p.m. ET on the first day after the daily data file from the Plan's EES vendor is received.
 - viii. Vendor will support the receipt of monthly Audit Files from the Plan's EES vendor and work with the Plan and the EES vendor to review and correct discrepancies. Refer to Exhibit 5 "Monthly Audit & Reconciliation" for Vendor audit process.
 - ix. Vendor will agree to other enrollment audits, as requested by the Plan, to address specific issues.
 - x. Vendor will enroll and accurately process claims for both Medicare primary and Non-Medicare primary Members within the same Group and Plan Design.

Example: Employing Unit – Department of State Treasurer

Enhanced PPO Plan (80/20) includes:

- Non-Medicare primary Members
- Medicare primary Members

Base PPO Plan (70/30) includes:

- Non-Medicare primary Members
- Medicare primary Members

- xi. Vendor will serve as the Plan's RRE under Section 111 of MMSEA Expanded Reporting Option.
- xii. As an Expanded Reporter, Vendor will submit, at a minimum, a quarterly Query-Only File to CMS to obtain Part A, B, and C information on Plan Members and perform a quarterly Medicare Primacy audit with Plan Enrollment data in Vendor's system. Vendor shall utilize the results of the audit in conjunction with the Plan's Medicare rules, to determine which Plan Members' Medicare information requires updating.
- xiii. Vendor will update Vendor's system with the necessary updates from the Medicare audit and send Members' updated Medicare information to the Plan's EES vendor.
- xiv. Vendor will store and utilize the MBI, in addition to other Member identification numbers, such as SSN.
- xv. Vendor will maintain Medicare Eligibility effective and termination dates as well as Medicare Part A and Part B effective and termination dates.
- xvi. Vendor will maintain Medicare primacy effective and termination dates.
- xvii. Vendor will maintain multiple Medicare entitlement reasons.
- xviii. Vendor will collect, store, and utilize other commercial insurance information to coordinate benefits for Plan Members. The EES Vendor will only collect Medicare information. All other commercial insurance information will be managed by the TPA.
- xix. Vendor will enroll split-contracts where the family Members are split between Vendor and another carrier (i.e., Medicare primary Subscriber enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan with another carrier and non-Medicare primary Dependents are enrolled on a Plan provided by Vendor).
- xx. Vendor will support enrollments where one or more family Members are enrolled in one Plan Design as Medicare primary and other family Member(s) are enrolled in another Plan Design as Non-Medicare primary, or vice versa.
- xxi. Vendor will provide a PCP selection tool that can be integrated with the Plan's EES vendor's enrollment portal to facilitate the Members' PCP elections. See Exhibit 6, "PCP Selection Tool and Maintenance," for PCP selection overview.
- xxii. Vendor will routinely perform provider maintenance of PCP data to ensure that the PCP selection tool contains the most current PCP data and that only valid PCPs may be elected. See Exhibit 6, "PCP Selection Tool and Maintenance" for high level overview of PCP maintenance requirements.
- xxiii. Vendor will implement workflows that support the maintenance of the PCPs which may require that Vendor notify Members if their elected PCP is no longer in network and notify the EES vendor, via the daily return file to the EES vendor, if any PCP code information, including provider termination, has occurred. The Member communication should include instructions for electing a

new PCP. The final workflows will be defined during Contract implementation. See Exhibit 6, "PCP Selection Tool and Maintenance" for high level overview of PCP synchronization requirements.

- xxiv. Vendor will customize ID cards with all data elements requested by the Plan, including, but not limited to, each of the following: (See Exhibit 7, "Sample ID Cards," for examples of the Plan's current ID card.)
 - 1) Plan's logo.
 - 2) Plan's messaging.
 - 3) Plan's network (if applicable).
 - 4) Out-of-NC network.
 - 5) Member out-of-pockets.
 - 6) Plan's Rx BIN and PBM information.
 - 7) Group Name (e.g., Wake County Schools, University of North Carolina, Department of Transportation).
 - 8) Member's unique ID number.
 - 9) Member's selected PCP.
 - xxv. Vendor will meet all Plan, Federal, and State mandated Plan enrollment communication and/or reporting requirements such as, but not limited to, the production of CCC and reporting needs under sections 6055 and 6056 of the IRS code.
 - xxvi. Vendor will provide a custom claims data files to the Plan on a monthly basis, or more frequently, if requested by the Plan. The file requirements will be documented in a BRD during implementation and may be updated from time to time throughout the lifetime of the Contract, as requested by the Plan.
 - xxvii. Vendor will provide a custom provider data file(s) to the Plan on a bi-weekly basis. The file(s) requirements will be documented in a BRD during implementation and may be updated from time to time throughout the lifetime of the Contract, as requested by the Plan.
 - xxviii. Vendor will provide other, ad hoc data files, as requested by the Plan. The specifics of the data file requests will be outlined in an ADM and/or BRD.
 - xxix. Vendor will implement a process with the Plan to respond to DQ issues with any files provided to the Plan. The specifics of the DQ checks will be developed during implementation and may be amended throughout the lifetime of the Contract, as requested by the Plan.
 - xxx. Vendor will release data to the Plan as described in state and federal law.
 - xxxi. Vendor will not place limitations on the Plan's use of data that are more restrictive than described in state and federal law.
- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:
- i. Vendor will support Plan eligibility as defined by North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 135, Article 3B, Part 4.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - ii. Vendor will accept industry standard and/or custom data files from Plan vendors and/or Plan Partners, as requested by the Plan, which includes but is not limited to:
 - 1) ASC X12 EDI transaction sets.
 - 2) XML files.

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

- 3) Flat/ Fixed Files.
4) APIs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- iii. Vendor will accept and process multiple data files within the same day.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- iv. Vendor will accept and process multiple concurrent file transmissions.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- v. Vendor will process "change" records as either terminated or added records.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will load and process "terminated" and "add" transactions for the same Members within the same day.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Vendor will exchange the enrollment and eligibility data using secure protocols.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- viii. Vendor will provide a copy of outbound files delivered to other Plan vendors to the Plan via SFTP or SharePoint based on instructions from the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will re-use business rules for processing inbound files from the Plan or Plan vendors for consistent data quality.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor will configure thresholds to reject an entire file based on how many records successfully passed business edits. Thresholds will be determined during implementation.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will have a Load-Rate of at least 98% on accurate transactions received via EDI from the Plan's EES vendor.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. In addition to accepting and processing daily enrollment data file from the Plan's EES vendor, Vendor will manually load any data that cannot be processed automatically within three (3) State Business Days.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendor will process enrollment updates manually for Members requiring immediate enrollment and benefits. The request to load manually may come from the Plan or the Plan's EES vendor.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

- xiv. Vendor will notify the Plan immediately when any event or condition is discovered that adversely affects Members.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will accept and store multiple Member ID numbers from the Plan's EES vendor such as a unique member ID created by the EES vendor and MBI and/or the Member SSN.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvi. Vendor will use the unique Member ID number provided by the EES vendor as the primary Member ID for claims processing, customer services and other operational purposes; therefore, the unique Member ID number provided by the EES vendor will be the sole Member ID on the ID Card.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvii. Vendor will send the unique Member ID number provided by the EES vendor to other Plan vendors.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xviii. Vendor will accept and load Member enrollment with retroactive effective dates that may cross multiple Plan Years. Vendor will not receive enrollment effective dates prior to January 1, 2025.
- Example: June 2026, Vendor receives enrollment with a February 1, 2025 effective date. Vendor updates Member with appropriate 2026 and 2025 coverage.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xix. Vendor will adjust enrollment effective or termination dates retroactively that may cross Plan Years.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xx. Vendor will meet with the Plan and other Plan vendors on a weekly basis, or as requested by the Plan.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxi. Vendor will display the appropriate Group name on Member ID cards, the secure Member portal and reports. Examples of Group Names:
- 1) Department of State Treasurer
 - 2) Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools
 - 3) Retirement Systems
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxii. Vendor will store a Member's PCP election, including the PCP election effective and termination dates to facilitate the PCP copay incentives outlined in Section 5.2.4, Product and Plan Design Management.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xxiii. Vendor will notify providers that they have been selected as a Member's PCP.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxiv. Vendor will support an Open Enrollment (OE) period that generally last two (2) to four (4) weeks and during a time period chosen by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxv. Vendor will support multiple OEs in one Plan year, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxvi. Vendor will vary the OE periods by Group and/or Product, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxvii. Vendor will, upon request, receive Member enrollments from the Plan's EES vendor prior to OE that have been "Mapped" to a specific Plan Design for the next Plan Year. The "Mapping" of Members will occur over several weeks prior to the beginning of OE. These "Mapped" Members may be included in the daily EDI Change Files received from the Plan's EES vendor or in a Full File, if chosen by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxviii. Vendor will receive and process Member elections from the Plan's EES vendor after OE using a Full File or via daily Change Files that come during OE. The type of file will be determined by the Plan during the initial implementation and will be re-evaluated annually as part of OE planning.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxix. Vendor will produce and distribute ID cards for over 500,000 Members after OE so that Members receive their ID cards prior to the new Plan Year.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxx. Vendor will produce and mail CCCs to Members whose coverage terminates, as required by law.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxi. Vendor will produce CCCs for Members who reside in states that require annual CCCs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxii. Vendor will produce and mail or email CCCs on demand, for Members who request new copies of CCCs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxiii. Vendor will produce and mail the 1095-B forms, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxiv. Vendor will provide call center support to respond to both HBRs and Member inquiries about 1095-B forms, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxxv. Vendor will file 1094-B and 1095-B forms electronically, if requested by the Plan.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

xxxvi. Vendor will continue filing 1095-B corrections to the IRS throughout the year, if requested by the Plan.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

xxxvii. Upon notification by the Plan's COBRA Administration and Billing (CABS) vendor, Vendor will hold claims for individual Groups that have not paid their premium bill.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

xxxviii. Vendor will confirm that the monthly, custom claims data file that will be provided to the Plan can be sent as a Full File or Change File. The specific requirements will be developed during the implementation.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

xxxix. Vendor will confirm that it will provide reference tables and data dictionaries, with thorough field descriptions, to support the monthly, custom claims data files and that the reference tables and data dictionaries will be updated as needed and sent to the Plan within three (3) State Business Days of any change.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

xxxx. Vendor will conduct a Medicare repricing exercise to benchmark Vendor's network rates against Medicare reimbursement rates. The details of the repricing exercise shall be formalized in an ADM and memorialized via an Amendment to the Contract, as needed.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

5.2.7 Customer Experience

5.2.7.1 Overview and Expectations

A top priority for the Plan is ensuring a superior Customer Experience with all customer-facing resources and tools. Vendor must show a dedication to constant Customer Experience improvements and be an innovator in Member engagement. Engagement includes web based and mobile technology, transparency tools, and provider search functions that clearly identify low-cost, high-quality providers by specialty. If Plan-specific networks are utilized, these tools must display the Plan-specific information.

5.2.7.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
 - i. Vendor will provide a dedicated customer call center with hours of operation from at least 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, each State Business Day, to respond to Member inquiries.
 - ii. Vendor will have a dedicated toll-free number for Plan Members.
 - iii. Vendor will answer the phones with a greeting that identifies the call center as a representative for the Plan.

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- iv. Vendor will customize its IVR script with a Plan-specific greeting and prompts, and transfers to other Plan vendors.
 - v. Vendor will make and receive warm and cold transfers to/from other Plan vendors who may be required to resolve the Members' issues.
 - vi. Vendor will record and track all Member calls including date of initial call, inquiry closed, representative who handled the call, call status, if and where the call was referred for handling, reason for call (issue), and what was communicated to the Member.
 - vii. Vendor will allow the Plan to include customized inserts or messaging in ID Cards and EOB mailings as well as offer customization of the EOB and ID Cards as directed by the Plan. Refer to Exhibit 7, "Sample ID Cards" and Exhibit 8, "Sample EOB."
 - viii. Vendor will customize the content of any and all letters or other materials Vendor will send and/or display to Members.
 - ix. Vendor will co-brand letters or other materials Vendor sends to Members.
 - x. Vendor will customize the portal with the Plan's branding (logo).
 - xi. Vendor will provide an employer portal to be utilized by Plan staff to view real-time individual Member enrollment and claim information.
- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:
- i. Vendor will receive emails from Plan Members and respond to their inquiries.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - ii. Upon request, Vendor will provide expanded hours of operation during the OE period at no additional cost to the Plan. The Plan's enrollment and eligibility call center is generally open on Saturdays during OE.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iii. Vendor will provide non-English speaking services for callers who may need assistance in other languages.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iv. Vendor will offer Telecommunications Device for Deaf (TTY) services for Plan Members who need them.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - v. Vendor will provide copies of recorded calls to the Plan within two (2) State Business Days of the request.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vi. Vendor will provide detailed copies of all call notes to the Plan within two (2) State Business Days of the request.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vii. Vendor will provide copies of call notes to Members upon request.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- viii. Vendor will provide reports, based on call reason type, to the Plan upon request.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will provide an escalation team to respond and resolve inquiries from the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. When appropriate, Vendor will mail apology letters to Plan Members who have been impacted by a Vendor error.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will provide a secure Member web portal that is available 24/7, excluding periodic scheduled maintenance.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor will support single sign-on to and from the Plan's PBM customer portal, the Plan's EES vendor and other Plan vendor sites, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendor will customize the materials available to Plan Members via the secure Member portal.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiv. In addition to displaying the Plan's branding, Vendor will display the name of the Member's Employing Unit (e.g., Department of State Treasurer, Retirement System, Wake County Schools, etc.) once the Member has logged into the secure member site.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will, upon request, segregate and provide secure Member portal access to a Dependent, or a Dependent's designee, in a court-ordered scenario such as a Medical Support Notice.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvi. Vendor's secure member portal will capture Plan Members' preferences for communication.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvii. Vendor's secure portal will allow a Plan Member to print a temporary ID card that include the Plan's PBM information and custom ID card elements.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xviii. Vendor's mobile application and secure portal will allow Members to order a new ID card.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xix. Vendor will provide a mobile application that includes a virtual ID card for Members who prefer to use mobile technology.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

xx. Vendor's portal will provide health/condition-specific resources to Members, such as educational videos, recipes, digital coaching modules, webinars, links to Plan approved/promoted websites, evidenced-based articles, and tools for self-management.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxi. Vendor's member portal will provide and moderate online forums and live chat groups.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxii. Vendor's member portal will receive and display timely data from various providers such as, but not limited to, lab results from large independent labs, prescriptions from pharmacies, and other data from physicians' offices. This information could be used by Plan Members to gather information necessary to complete annual Health Assessment or validate Member actions to earn incentives.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxiii. Vendor's member portal will allow Members to:

1) View claims and claim payment status.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

2) View and print EOBs.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

3) View deductible and OOP accumulations.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

4) Single-Sign-On (SSO) to the HSA vendor, if applicable.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

5) View HRA claims, if applicable.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

6) View HRA Balances, if applicable, including, but not limited to:

a) Initial HRA Funding.

b) Rollover Funds.

c) Incentive Funds.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

7) Order new HRA or HSA debit cards, if applicable.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

8) Track incentive programs and benefit designs (e.g., cash rewards, health reimbursement account contributions) and administer the reward for participation, as defined by the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 9) Complete a Health Assessment that could be customized by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xxiv. Vendor's member portal will accept and display Member-specific information from the other systems and Vendor's health team, including each of the following. Vendor shall confirm each below:
 - 1) Electronic medical and health records.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 2) Disease Management Nurse notes.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 3) Case Management notes.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 4) Health Coach notes.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 5) Vendor analytical system alerts, such as gaps in care.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 6) Progress towards Incentives earned, if applicable.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xxv. Vendor will provide the following services whether the Member is logged into the secure member portal or accessing Vendor's external site:
 - 1) Search for providers by specialty.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - 2) Search for procedure/service cost.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xxvi. Vendor will participate in routine joint Plan vendor and Partner calls to discuss Plan initiative, upcoming Plan mailers and/or events, and develop and implement process improvements between the Plan vendors and Partners.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xxvii. Vendor, if instructed by the Plan, will conduct an annual Member Satisfaction Survey for all Plan Members, including Members who are not enrolled in plans administered by Vendor. The Plan will be responsible for communicating the survey to Plan Members and may provide a link to the survey on the Plan's website. Vendor will be responsible for developing the custom survey, as directed by the Plan, hosting the survey, and providing a summary of results.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

- xxviii. Vendor will conduct other surveys, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxix. Vendor will attend Plan-hosted OE events to educate members on Plan options. The Plan representatives are generally on the road across the State or hosting online webinars during most of September and October promoting OE. Representatives from the TPA and Medicare Advantage carriers generally attend and may provide presentations to Members, primarily retirees.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxx. Vendor will assist with web-based training or meetings hosted by the Plan to educate Members and/or HBRs on Plan benefits.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxi. Vendor will attend Wellness Fairs and other promotional events around the State, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxii. Upon request, Vendor will provide resources to conduct biometric screenings at wellness events. If requested, Vendor shall have the ability to send the biometric results to the Members' PCPs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxiii. Vendor will provide language interpreters, including sign language, at events as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxiv. Vendor will, upon request, provide Marketing and Communication resources to the Plan to develop materials.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxv. Vendor will assist with the Plan's benefit booklet review and/or provide guidance regarding the Plan's benefit booklets which includes individual books for each plan offered.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxvi. Vendor will develop and implement new letters and/or communication materials for Members and/or Providers to support any programs implemented for the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxvii. Vendor will include non-discrimination notices on all significant publications and communications as required by Section 1557 of PPACA.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xxxviii. Vendor will suppress specific Member communications, upon request from the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

5.2.8 Claims Processing and Appeals Management

5.2.8.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a Vendor with an efficient business rules-based claims system that can support required state, federal, and other custom benefits.

5.2.8.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
 - i. Vendor will comply with all requirements set forth in Article 29B of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes. As required, Vendor will validate provider enrollment in North Carolina's Health Information Exchange (NC HealthConnex) prior to paying Plan Member claims. If prohibited by the Statewide Health Information Exchange Act, Vendor must deny any claims received from providers that are not in compliance on the date of service.
 - ii. Vendor will process all claims, including claims that are Medicare primary and Medicare secondary, from the same claims processing platform.
 - iii. Vendor will administer the appeals process required by Chapters 58 and 135 of the North Carolina General Statutes, including appeals for the Plan's PBM. Refer to Benefits Booklets and N.C.G.S. § 135-48.24.
 - iv. Vendor will customize any appeals letters, as requested by the Plan.
 - v. Vendor will work with the Plan to resolve and respond to any inquiries from the North Carolina Department of Insurance's Smart NC Program.
 - vi. Vendor will support the Plan's methodology for coordinating with Medicare Members who have not elected Medicare Part A and/or B. As required by state law, the Plan coordinates claims for Members who do not elect Medicare Parts A and/or B as if they had elected them. (a.k.a. Phantom Processing) See Exhibit 9, "Claims Processing Phantom Plan – Medicare Part B."
 - vii. Vendor will reimburse the Plan on a weekly basis for any prompt pay penalties included in the weekly claims disbursement for that week as the Plan will pay no prompt-pay penalties for claims that are paid outside of the prompt-pay guidelines as a result of Vendor's action, inaction, or system failure.
 - viii. Vendor will customize EOBs with the Plan's logo and if applicable, custom network and other information as illustrated in Exhibit 8, "Sample EOB."
- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:
 - i. Vendor will maintain and make accessible to the Plan at least 10 years of claims history.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - ii. Vendor will work with the Plan's internal legal counsel and the North Carolina Attorney General's Office, as appropriate, throughout the appeals process; and Vendor will make available its subject matter experts to testify during hearings when requested.

Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iii. Vendor will process all claims in accordance with state and federal laws including the Plan's 18 month timely filing rules set forth in N.C.G.S. § 135-48.52(6).

Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

- iv. Vendor will provide the Plan with any information requested regarding its pre-pay claims edits and will add edits at the Plan's request.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- v. Upon request, Vendor will pay all claims, including non-network claims, based on assignment of benefits.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will provide a weekly summary of any claims totaling \geq \$100,000.00 to the Plan's Contract Administrator for day to day activities. The summary shall include the total charge, total allowed amount, Member cost share, and a short description of circumstance of the claim, including a status of the Member's condition.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Vendor will support Medicare direct claims by interfacing with Medicare crossover vendors and CMS.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- viii. Vendor will coordinate benefits with other commercial payors.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will support all future state and federal requirements at no additional cost to the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor will produce EOBs that meet all Federal requirements.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will prevent Subscribers from having access to the Dependents EOBs when the Subscriber does not have custodial rights.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor will mail EOBs directly to Dependents 18 years of age or older without a copy to the Subscriber.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendors will mail a Dependent's EOB to a different address if a different address exists in the Dependent's demographic record.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiv. Vendor will support Members' election of electronic EOBs in lieu of paper EOBs.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will provide a single, combined Medical and HRA EOB, as requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

xvi. Vendor will implement PCP "gate-keeper" rules, as requested by the Plan.

Confirm

Does Not Confirm

5.2.9 Claims Audit, Recovery, and Investigation

5.2.9.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a Vendor that places great value on the accuracy of its deliverables. Vendor must be open to audits by the Plan's Auditors as well as audits performed by and for the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor. The Plan expects Vendor to be time sensitive to all audit requests and be prepared to support multiple audits simultaneously. The Plan, at its discretion, may use its own vendors to seek recoveries; therefore, Vendor must support the Plan's recovery vendors by providing claims data, adjusting claims, and posting payments. Vendor must also demonstrate a dedication to the detection and reduction of fraud, waste, and abuse. This includes the recovery of fraud dollars and a willingness to assist in the prosecution of those who commit fraud.

Notice: The Plan is not assigning its right to pursue recoveries on its own behalf or through another vendor.

5.2.9.2 Services

a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:

- i. Vendor will support ongoing quarterly claims accuracy audits, or Standard Audits, performed on a statistically valid random claims sample selected by the Plan's audit vendor which will be used to measure claims accuracy for Performance Guarantees on a quarterly basis. Vendor will share provider contracts and system pricing with the Plan's auditors for review and audit. The audit will also include a targeted sample selected from a comprehensive analysis of all claims by the Plan's audit vendor.

An audit plan will be provided prior to the initial quarterly audit that will define the ongoing Standard Audit timelines. Both the random claims sample and the targeted sample will be used to identify overpayments owed to the Plan. For purposes of Standard Audits, claims accuracy will be measured based on the following criteria:

- 1) Financial Accuracy: Total dollar amount processed accurately divided by the total dollar amount processed in the audit sample. The total dollar amount processed accurately is calculated by subtracting the absolute values of the dollars processed in error from the total dollars processed. Underpayments and overpayments are not offset by one another.
- 2) Payment Accuracy: The number of claims with the correct benefit dollars paid divided by the total number of claims paid in the audit sample.
- 3) Processing Accuracy: The number of claims processed with no procedural errors divided by the total number of claims processed.

For purposes of the above definitions, if Vendor has identified and recovered an overpayment or processed an underpayment prior to the audit, it is not an error. If Vendor has identified but not recovered the overpayment or processed the underpayment, it is an error.

- ii. Vendor will, in addition to supporting ongoing quarterly claims accuracy audits, support Focus Audits, such as, but not limited to, COB audits, duplicate claims audits, eligibility audits, and comprehensive electronic Audits conducted by the Plan's auditor vendor on an as needed basis. All the rules outlined in Section 5.2.9.2.a.i above will apply to these audits.

- iii. Vendor's recovery processes will follow all deposit and financial reporting requirements outlined in Section 5.2.2, Finance and Banking.
 - iv. Vendor will recover any overpayments to Providers by offsetting future payments or by demand without any limitation as to time since the Plan as a government payor is not subject to the two-year limitation established in N.C.G.S. § 58-3-225(h).
 - v. Vendor will support the Plan's participation in the North Carolina Debt Setoff Program (North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 105A, Article 1), the Retirement/Disability Offset Program (N.C.G.S. §§ 135-9(b), 128-31, 120-4.29), Wage Garnishment (N.C.G.S. § 135-48.37A), and Credit Card Intercepts (N.C.G.S. § 1-359) and implement an accounts receivable collection process as outlined under the North Carolina Office of State Controller, Statewide Accounts Receivable Program. Refer to Exhibit 10, "State Health Plan Recovery Workflows."
 - vi. Vendor will ensure the Plan's compliance with all federal and state regulations not otherwise stated previously (i.e., prompt pay, mental health parity, disclosures, reporting, etc.).
 - vii. Vendor has an investigation or similar unit to investigate possible fraud and abuse and will share details about specific investigations that impact the Plan, including the names of the providers involved.
- b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:
- i. Vendor will support any other audit requested by the NC OSA.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - ii. Vendor will support multiple audits simultaneously. Although the Plan will work with Vendor to manage the scope, duration, number, and timing of audits whenever possible, audits may occur simultaneously and for extended periods of time.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iii. Vendor will provide the Plan's Auditors access to all necessary data, systems, and any other materials needed to successfully perform the audits including remote, view only access to view the claims adjudication system used by Vendor to process the Plan's claims.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - iv. Vendor will provide on-site office space at Vendor's facilities that are actually processing Plan claims, including system access for the Plan's Auditors, the Plan, or the NC OSA.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - v. Vendor will customize any standard audit reports to meet the Plan's specific audit needs.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vi. Vendor will provide claims files to the Plan's Auditors on a monthly basis.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm
 - vii. Vendor will provide feedback on all site visit claims within two (2) weeks of the end of the on-site visit. Vendor will also respond to any findings in the draft audit report within two (2) weeks of receipt.
 Confirm Does Not Confirm

- viii. Vendor will provide a corrective action plan for the Plan's review, approval, and monitoring within 30 days of the final report, or another timeframe as specified by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- ix. Vendor will provide full impact reports, and review and recover out-of-sample claims for any audit findings that reveal systemic or easily repeatable issues. These out-of-sample claim recoveries will not impact performance guarantee measures.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor will not enter into a settlement on the Plan's behalf with a Provider, a Member, or anyone else, without first obtaining the Plan's approval.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xi. Vendor will support the Plan's third-party liability vendor, or any other recovery vendor the Plan may work with, by providing data, adjusting claims, and posting payments.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor will provide Plan specific recovery reports on a monthly basis that include both summary and detail information outlining the programs' results.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendor will customize any recovery or investigation reports, if requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiv. Vendor will implement debt collections processes with a collection agency approved by the NC AGO. The list of approved collections agencies may change during the life of the Contract, as required by the NC AGO.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will adjust Member claims based on recoveries received on behalf of the Plan, including, but not limited to, those from the collection agency, Plan vendors, or Members within 30 days of notification. Plan vendors or State Collections Agencies that seek recoveries on behalf of the Plan, must work with Vendor to ensure the claims are appropriately adjusted and recoveries are deposited in the Plan's depository accounts.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvi. Vendor will, upon request from a Member covered through an Employing Unit, the Direct Bill Group, the Sponsored Dependent Group, or the COBRA Group, establish a payment plan; however, payment plans shall not exceed 12 months without the Plan's prior approval.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvii. Vendor will, upon request by a Member covered through the Retirement System, establish a payment plan. The payment plan shall not exceed six (6) months without the Plan's prior approval.
Confirm Does Not Confirm

xviii. Vendor will consider any Member or former Member to be in default who misses one (1) payment. If any Member or former Member sends in a partial payment, Member or former Member must be caught up in one (1) month or Member or former Member will be considered to be in default.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xix. Vendor will allow the Plan to perform onsite reviews and validations of Vendor's internal processes.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xx. Vendor will provide workflows, data, and other materials to review Vendor's processes within 30 days of request.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxi. Vendor will work with the Plan to develop process improvement plans.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxii. Vendor will provide monthly recovery reports and will customize those reports, if requested by the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxiii. Vendor will track and report actual cost savings dollars against targets, and if available, benchmarks.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxiv. Vendor will not charge the Plan any fee for the identification, recovery, or adjustment of overpayments, duplicate payments, or other processing errors.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xxv. Vendor will provide Plan specific investigation reports on a monthly basis and customize these reports, as requested by the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

5.2.10 Initial Implementation and Ongoing Testing

5.2.10.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks to partner with a Vendor that has the resources to support on-time implementation of all programs and services included in this Contract. Vendor must provide dedicated resources and expertise to support simultaneous implementation of multiple work streams. In addition, the Plan will implement new benefits, services, and Plan vendors throughout the life of the Contract that will require Vendor to be nimble and efficient in terms of implementing new processes and/or integrating with new Plan vendors, or support changes to existing Plan vendors' requirements. When possible, the Plan will work with all parties to let the implementation schedule dictate the Go-Live date, but in some instances, such as the annual benefit changes or Plan vendor changes, the Go-Live date will be pre-determined. The Plan will notify Vendor as soon as possible about all proposed changes.

5.2.10.2 Services

- a. Vendor confirmed the following in the Minimum Requirements:
- i. Vendor will have a fully assembled implementation team that includes the appropriate subject matter experts, ready to begin work within two (2) weeks of contract award. The team shall include an overall implementation manager and separate implementation resources for, at a minimum, each of the following work streams:
 - 1) Group Set-Up & Enrollment
 - 2) Plan Vendor Integration & EDI, which includes:
 - a) EES vendor Integration. (EDI, PCP Tool, SSOs, Audits)
 - b) PBM vendor Integration. (Data files, SSOs, Accumulators)
 - c) Billing vendor Integration. (Claims hold, Audits)
 - d) Plan Data Warehouse Integration. (Data files)
 - 3) Network EvaluationOther workstreams will kick-off throughout 2023.
 - ii. Vendor will have the depository bank account(s) setup and tested at least 45 days prior to January 1, 2025.
 - iii. If applicable, Vendor will have the disbursement account(s) setup and tested at least 30 days prior to January 1, 2025.
 - iv. Vendor will have all services, including custom programs, operational by January 1, 2025.
 - v. Vendor will work with the Plan to document in an ADM all custom processes developed to meet the Plan's unique requirements. The Plan's Contract Administrator for day-to-day activities is authorized to sign ADMs for the Plan.
 - vi. Vendor will work with the Plan to finalize Vendor Audit Schedule for 2025 and subsequent years. The Audit Schedule will be updated via ADM. The Plan's Contract Administrator for day-to-day activities is authorized to sign ADMs for the Plan.
 - vii. For all technical components of the initial implementation as well as any implementations throughout the lifetime of the Contract, Vendor will develop functional requirements documents, Implementation Plans, Test Plans, Deployment Plans, and Close-Out Documentation derived from the Plan's Business Requirements. These documents must be mutually agreed upon by Vendor, the Plan, and any impacted Plan vendor. The Plan's Contract Administrator for day-to-day activities is authorized to sign these documents for the Plan.
 - viii. Vendor will support both Unit Testing and End-to-End Testing prior to Go-Live of any initiative. To support testing, Vendor must not only have the resources, but also the test environments, necessary to support multiple work streams at one time. As mentioned above, the Test Plan will be mutually agreed upon by Vendor, the Plan, and impacted Plan vendors. The Plan's Contract Administrator for day-to-day activities is authorized to sign these documents for the Plan.
 - ix. Vendor will support the 2025 Open Enrollment, which is currently scheduled for October 2024, but may be rescheduled to a different time at the Plan's sole discretion. Vendor must have the group set-up complete, the call center open, any required SSOs in place, the PCP selection tool integrated with the Plan's EES vendor and be able to accept EDI from Plan vendors during the month Open Enrollment occurs.

b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following:

i. Vendor will ensure there are no data latency issues that would delay initiating any audits with the Plan's Auditors after the first quarter, or any subsequent quarter, of operation.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

ii. If during the implementation, a decision is made that Members will need welcome kits, Vendor will ensure that those kits are mailed prior to January 1, 2025.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

iii. If requested by the Plan, Vendor will support a readiness review and/or implementation audit at least 60 days prior to January 1, 2025. Vendor shall participate in all readiness review and/or implementation audit activities conducted by the Plan or by Plan vendors to ensure Vendor's operational readiness.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

5.2.11 Reporting

5.2.11.1 Overview and Expectations

The Plan seeks a partner that can support its custom reporting requirements which include reports that are sent to the Plan on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual basis. These reports must be accurate and received on the schedule defined by the Plan. The Plan will also have ongoing ad hoc report requirements; therefore, Vendor must have the resources and expertise to assist the Plan as needed.

5.2.11.2 Services

a. Vendor confirmed the following Minimum Requirement:

i. Vendor will agree to delivering the Standard Reports as described in Section 5.2.11.2.b.viii.2) – xvii.3), and based on the delivery schedule in Exhibit 11, "Standard Reports."

b. Vendor shall additionally confirm each of the following. Note: Final individual report or reporting package format and content will be finalized during implementation and may be updated throughout the lifetime of the Contract via ADM:

i. Vendor will provide standard and ad hoc reports in any of the following formats, as requested by the Plan:

- 1) Excel.
- 2) PDF.
- 3) Text.
- 4) XML.
- 5) HTML.
- 6) CSV (raw format).

Confirm Does Not Confirm

ii. Vendor will customize any report, as requested by the Plan.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- iii. Vendor will combine claims and financial data in reporting.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- iv. Vendor will email all standard reports, to the email addresses provided by the Plan. If PHI is included, the reports shall be sent via secure email.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- v. Vendor will produce ad hoc reports within 10-15 days of a request to support the Plan's responsibilities to the Board of Trustees and/or North Carolina General Assembly.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vi. Vendor will include Book of Business and other internal and/or external benchmarks in reports, when requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- vii. Vendor will provide other enterprise-level, executive reports as well as departmental and ad-hoc reporting, as requested by the Plan. Stratifications may include:
 - 1) Demographics.
 - a) Gender.
 - b) Age.
 - c) Race.
 - 2) Employing unit, work location.
 - 3) Geography.
 - a) Zip Code.
 - b) County.
 - c) Hospital Service Area.
 - d) Healthcare Referral Region (HRR).
 - e) Out-Of-State.
 - 4) Subscriber versus Member.
 - 5) Active and Retiree (Pre and Post-65).
 - 6) Plan Type.
 - 7) Time period.
 - a) Calendar Year (CY).
 - b) Year-to-Date (YTD).
 - c) Month-to-Month.
 - d) Fiscal Year.
 - e) Quarterly.
 - f) Ad-hoc.
 - 8) Paid, incurred, capitated claims.
 - 9) Provider Level.

- a) By NPI, DEA #, In/Out-of-Network, Vendor's unique provider number.
- b) PCP, Specialist, Hospital.

10) Network.

- a) In/Out-of-Network.
- b) Quality Outcomes.

11) Utilization Trends.

- a) High Cost Claimants.
- b) High Volume Claims Utilizers.

12) Disease Categories via ICD-10, DRG, MDC, or ad hoc criteria.

- a) Chronic conditions.
- b) Acute conditions.
- c) Catastrophic (cost-driving outliers).

Confirm Does Not Confirm

viii. Vendor will provide each of the following enrollment reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.

1) Weekly membership reports that include, but are not limited to, the following information:

- a) Group Number.
- b) All internal and external member Identification numbers (i.e., EES assigned ID, SSN, MBI, Employer ID, etc.).
- c) Subscriber number.
- d) Hire date.
- e) Coverage effective date.
- f) Coverage expiration date.
- g) Current benefit effective date.
- h) Current benefit expiration date.
- i) Member First Name.
- j) Member Last Name.
- k) Member SSN.
- l) Member date of birth.
- m) Member tier.
- n) Member benefit identifier code(s).
- o) Medicare primary flag.
- p) Medicare Coverage.
 - Medicare A effective date
 - Medicare B effective date.
- q) Medicare effective date.

r) Medicare expiration date.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

2) Monthly Member reporting package based on enrollment the last day of the previous month that includes each of the following:

- a) Enrollment by Plan Design, Entity, Group, Tier, and Medicare Status.
- b) In-state Member counts by county broken down by Plan Design, then totaled.
- c) Out-of-state Member counts by state or country broken down by Plan Design, then totaled.
- d) Enrollment by Group number broken down by Subscriber and Dependent, then totaled.
- e) Graphs (pie charts) that include:
 - All Members by Plan Design.
 - In-state Members by Plan Design.
 - Out-of-state Members by Plan Design.
 - All Members by Coverage Tier.
 - Top 10 Counties.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

3) Monthly PCP Election report that includes, but is not limited to:

- a) Total number of Members that have elected a PCP broken down by Plan Design.
- b) Statistics about the Members who see the PCP on their card and those that see other PCPs.
- c) Types of PCP elected (i.e., general practice, pediatrician, family medicine, etc.).
- d) List of elected providers and number of Members who have elected them as their PCP.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

ix. Vendor will provide each of the following Banking and Finance reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.

1) Monthly accounts receivable aging report that includes, but is not limited to:

- a) The amount of recoveries due, but not received.
- b) The amount of any unapplied receipts.
- c) Intervals of aging 1-30 days; 31-60 days; 61-90 days; 91-120 days; and over 120 days.
- d) Supporting documentation from which these amounts are derived.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

2) Quarterly report of any uncollectible accounts:

- a) Recommended for debt write-off which includes, but is not limited to:
 - Account name.
 - Subscriber number, if applicable.

- Description/justification of the reason for write-off.
- The provider code, if applicable.
- Dollar amount and date originally paid, if applicable.
- Payee status.
- Identifying number (e.g., invoice, claim, case).
- Total amount proposed for write-off.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

b) Recommended for exhausted debt (debt Vendor should stop tracking and pursuing when agreed upon recovery process has been completed) which includes, but is not limited to:

- Account name.
- Subscriber number, if applicable.
- Description/justification of the reason for exhausted debt.
- Provider code, if applicable.
- Dollar amount and date originally paid, if applicable.
- Payee status.
- Identifying number (e.g., invoice, claim, case).
- Total amount proposed for exhausted debt.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

3) Daily deposited receipts reporting package, reported separately by Product type, e.g., PPO, HSA, HRA, etc., including:

a) Summary report, which includes, but is not limited to:

- Date of deposit.
- Total amount received by check.
- Total amount received by ACH.
- Distinct identification of which amounts relate to claims and which amounts relate to other types of deposits.
- Descriptive labeling of other deposits.
- Grand total of the daily deposits.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

b) Any documentation from the banking institution of the deposited amounts posted daily, e.g., bank deposit slips, electronic deposit report, lockbox report, etc.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

c) Daily deposit supporting documentation report, which includes, but is not limited to:

- Type of deposit, i.e., checks, ACH, and/or wire.

- Amount of each individual deposit and a grand total per deposit type.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- d) Ability to produce Member level detail when requested by the Plan.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 4) Daily NSF report listing all NSF for the previous months which includes:
 - a) Subscriber number, if applicable.
 - b) Provider information, if applicable.
 - c) Date returned.
 - d) Dollar amount.Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 5) Monthly misapplied deposits and/or collections report (e.g., applied deposit to wrong Member or wrong client) which includes date originally deposited and how they were corrected.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 6) Weekly reporting package of claims and other disbursements by Product type, which includes, but is not limited to:
 - a) Number of checks processed weekly.
 - b) Number of EFTs processed weekly.
 - c) Payment amount(s) by type e.g., claims refunds, adjustments, miscellaneous payments, voided checks, escheats, reissued checks, etc.
 - d) Weekly total by type.
 - e) Month to date total by type.
 - f) Supporting documentation of all disbursements and an explanation of any adjustments and/or miscellaneous payments, e.g., check register, any system generated reports of check writes, etc.Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 7) Monthly deposit reconciliation which includes, but is not limited to:
 - a) Date of each daily deposit.
 - b) Total amount of deposit for each day.
 - c) Breakdown of amount by type of deposit, i.e., checks, wires, ACH (drafts).
 - d) Monthly total of each type.Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

- 8) Monthly reconciliation of claims and other disbursements which includes, but is not limited to:
- a) Daily transactions listed individually with a daily total as well as a summary total.
 - b) A breakout of ACH/EFT, voids, cancelled checks, manual checks, any adjustments, total net disbursement, refunds, and other disbursements.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 9) As applicable, escheats report of all warrants/checks to be escheated by state and Product type, which includes, but is not limited to:
- a) Final due date to escheat the warrants/checks.
 - b) Name of state and dormancy period for each state.
 - c) Number of warrants for each state and dollar amount.
 - d) Grand total of number of warrants, dollar amount by Product type and grand total dollar amount for all Product types.
 - e) Explanation of any special circumstances or issues.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 10) Monthly Summary of Billed Charges by State Fiscal Year which includes a summary of claims paid for the period which includes both medical and pharmacy claims.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 11) Monthly Statement of Account (SOA) which includes all charges including claims and administrative fees s paid. It is a full picture of all income/expenses for the month.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- x. Vendor will provide each of the following Financial Performance reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.
- 1) Performance Guarantees (PG), as outlined in Section 6.3, reports as follows:
 - a) Monthly PG status report.
 - b) Quarterly PG report cards.
 - c) Annual PG report cards that include summary data and year end PG results.
- Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 2) Monthly Performance Matrix reports as outlined in Exhibit 12, "Matrix Reports," and listed below:
 - a) Reports 1 and 2: Charge Summary Paid and Incurred Reports.
 - b) Reports 3 and 4: Charge Summary Trend Paid and Incurred.
 - c) Reports 5 and 6: Coinsurance and Deductible, Full Population-Paid and Incurred.
 - d) Reports 7 and 8: Coinsurance and Deductible, Closed Population-Paid and Incurred.
 - e) Reports 9 and 10: Copay-Incurred and Paid.
 - f) Report 11: Copay-Incurred (Claims Run out).

- g) Reports 12 and 13: Claims Experience Summary by Demographics, Paid/Incurred, Time, etc.
- h) Reports 14 and 15: Financial Summary-Paid and Incurred.
- i) Reports 16 and 17: Financial Reconciliation-Paid and Incurred.
- j) Report 19: Utilization and Cost-Share by Service Type-Paid Claims.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 3) Monthly Triangulations reports with the following stratifications:
 - a) Service type to include Ancillary, Inpatient Facility, Inpatient Professional, Outpatient Facility, etc. and the individual plan options, including a summary based on total membership.
 - b) Plan Design and/or Product, including a summary based on total membership.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 4) Monthly prompt payment interest claims report that includes, but are not limited to:
 - a) Prompt pay for adjusted claims.
 - b) Prompt pay for new claims.
 - c) Claim count.
 - d) Total interest paid.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xi. Vendor will provide each of the following Claims and Appeals reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.

- 1) Monthly processed claims reports that include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Claims type.
 - b) Total claims billed.
 - c) Total claims paid.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 2) Monthly Deductible and Out-of-Pocket reports, by Plan Design, by month.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 3) Monthly COB reports that identify savings associated with both Medicare and Commercial COB.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 4) Quarterly high claimant reports (dollar threshold will be determined during implementation) that include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Denial reason.
 - b) Number of claims for each denial reason.

c) Total charges for each denial reason.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

5) Quarterly high claimant reports that include, but are not limited to (the dollar threshold for including Members on the report will be determined during implementation):

- a) Member ID.
- b) Plan ID.
- c) Member age.
- d) Diagnosis.
- e) Service start date.
- f) Encounter service type.
- g) Place of service.
- h) Provider specialty description.
- i) Paid amount.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

6) Monthly medical and pharmacy appeals reports that include, but are not limited to:

- a) Number of first level appeals received.
- b) Number of first level appeals approved.
- c) Number of first level appeals denied.
- d) Number of second level appeals received.
- e) Number of second level appeals approved.
- f) Number of second level appeals denied.
- g) Statistics on types of appeals received, approved, and denied at both first and second level.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

7) A Monthly pharmacy appeals received detail report that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) Member ID.
- b) Member First Name.
- c) Member Last Name.
- d) Type of Appeal Review Decision.
- e) Type of Appeal Category.
- f) Date Appeal Initiated.
- g) Final Written Date.
- h) Appeal Decision Description.
- i) Medication Name, Strength, and Dosage.
- j) Method Appeal Received.
- k) Appeal Origin.

- l) Drug Class.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xii. Vendor will provide the following Network report or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.
- 1) Quarterly GeoAccess report. If multiple networks are utilized, a separate report will be required for each one.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiii. Vendor will provide each of the following Medical Management reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.
- 1) Quarterly Medical Cost and Clinical Outcomes reports across diagnosis categories, highly prevalent, costly, and/or determined by the Plan to be clinically significant, to include HEDIS measures, and state, national, and book-of-business data segregated by Plan Designs (70/30, 80/20, HDHP,) Medicare and Non-Medicare primary status, and by Group.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 2) Quarterly Case Management Clinical Outcomes.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 3) Quarterly Preventive Care Service Utilization.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xiv. Vendor will provide each of the following Utilization Management reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.
- 1) Quarterly Utilization Management Cause, Cost and Clinical Outcomes, including, but not limited to, inpatient admissions, readmissions, emergency department visits, urgent care visits, outpatient services, behavioral health services, ambulance services, private duty nursing, pharmacy services and polypharmacy, primary care physician visits, specialist visits, prior authorizations and approvals, and high cost claims and claimants across Plan Products (70/30, 80/20, HDHP, non-Medicare) and Employing Units.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- 2) Annual Utilization Management Interventions: Interventions and outcomes of efforts to address ineffective utilization of services.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xv. Vendor will provide the following specialty pharmacy management report or reporting package. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.
- 1) A quarterly utilization report detailing specialty pharmacy Rebates.
Confirm Does Not Confirm
- xvi. Vendor will provide each of the following Customer Experience reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.
- 1) The Weekly Operations Dashboard of Key Performance Indicators (KPI), including, but not limited to, the following:

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
Vendor: _____

- a) Total Member calls received.
- b) Weekly ASA rate for Member calls.
- c) Weekly first contact resolution rate.
- d) Weekly second contact resolution rate.
- e) Turnaround Time (TAT) for processing all enrollment data files received from Plan's EES Vendor.
- f) TAT for completing manual enrollment updates.
- g) Enrollment accuracy rate for the current month.
- h) Number and percentage of clean claims processed \leq 30 days.
- i) Number and percentage of claims processed $>$ 30 days.
- j) Number and percentage of claims processed $>$ 60 days.
- k) Number and percentage of claims processed $>$ 90 days.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 2) A Quarterly Web Trends Report that provides statistics on Plan Members transaction history compared to Vendors' Book of Business data.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

xvii. Vendor will provide each of the following Recovery and Special Investigation reports or reporting packages. The method for providing the report will be determined during implementation.

- 1) Monthly recovery reporting package that includes, but it not limited to the following:
 - a) Recovery or pre-prepayment claim types (Examples: COB, Duplicate Claims, Pricing, etc.).
 - b) Total requested or saved, by recovery type and recovery subcontractor.
 - c) Total received, by recovery type and recovery subcontractor included Plan recovery Vendors. (Example: The Plan's Subrogation Vendor's results included in reporting package alongside Vendor's other recovery results.)
 - d) Total by subcontractor, including Plan recovery Vendors.
 - e) Quarter and year to date results.
 - f) Trends.
 - g) If available, benchmark data.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

- 2) Monthly Plan specific investigation reports that include, but are not limited to, the following data:
 - a) Name of provider.
 - b) Number of Members impacted.

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

- c) Date case opened.
- d) Basis for review.
- e) Summary of case.
- f) Status of the case.
- g) Total projected Plan claims dollars associated with the case.
- h) Upon final resolution, dollars to be recovered and any projected savings from future avoidance of similar claims.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

3) A quarterly medical audit repayment report that includes, but is not limited to, the following data:

- a) Date of Service.
- b) Member Name.
- c) Subscriber Number.
- d) Claim Number.
- e) Original Paid Amount.
- f) Appropriate Paid Amount.
- g) Overpayment Amount.
- h) Amount Repaid to the Plan.
- i) Total Amount Repaid to Plan from all Claims Across All Members for Quarter.
- j) Cumulative Amount Repaid to Plan from all Claims Across All Members for YTD.

Confirm Does Not Confirm

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

Date: September 16, 2022
RFP Number: 270-20220830TPAS
RFP Description: Third Party Administrative Services
Addendum Number: 1
Using Agency: The North Carolina State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees
Purchaser: Vanessa Davison
Opening Date / Time: November 7, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m. ET

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This Addendum is issued in response to questions submitted.
2. Section 3.4 b) Technical Requirements & Specifications is amended to correct the name of Section 5.2.5 from "Medical Management" to "Medical Management Programs;" and Maximum Points in Section 5.2.4 Product and Plan Design Management from 4 to 41; and is restated in its entirety below:

b) Technical Requirements & Specifications:

Scoring points for the Technical Proposal will be allocated as follows:

TECHNICAL AREAS	MAXIMUM POINTS
Section 5.2.1 Account Management	20
Section 5.2.2 Finance and Banking	19
Section 5.2.3 Network Management	28
Section 5.2.4 Product and Plan Design Management	41
Section 5.2.5 Medical Management Programs	18
Section 5.2.6 Enrollment, EDI, and Data Management	40
Section 5.2.7 Customer Experience	52
Section 5.2.8 Claims Processing and Appeals Management	16
Section 5.2.9 Claims Audit, Recovery, and Investigation	25
Section 5.2.10 Initial Implementation and Ongoing Testing	3
Section 5.2.11 Reporting	48
Total	310



The Vendors will be ranked in descending order based on the total points earned. The Vendor earning the least points out of the total 310 will receive the rank of one (1). The bids will fall in line according to total scored points, with the Vendor earning the most points out of the total 310 receiving the highest rank. Should two (2) Vendors earn the same score in the technical points, they will be given equal rank.

3. Section 5.1 Minimum Requirements, TPA Minimum Requirements Table is amended to remove Minimum Requirement #13 "Vendor shall submit two (2) completed and signed originals of Execution Page" in response to Vendor Questions #2 and #10. Minimum Requirement #14 "Vendor shall confirm it agreed to all performance guarantees as described in Section 6.3 and Schedules I and II." is renumbered as Minimum Requirement #13. The amended TPA Minimum Requirements Table is restated in its entirety below as the First Amended and Restated TPA Minimum Requirements Table.

Vendors shall duplicate the First Amended and Restated TPA Minimum Requirements Table below and provide the page number reference to the location within Vendor's proposal where the Minimum Requirement has been satisfied.

First Amended and Restated TPA MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TABLE		
	Requirement	RFP Section Number and Page Number of Response
1	Vendor shall provide a description of the company, its operations and ownership.	
2	Vendor shall provide the city and state for each office where the operational and account management resources dedicated to the Plan will be primarily located.	
3	a) Vendor shall have provided services to at least one (1) public or private self-funded client with more than 100,000 covered lives. b) If confirmed, provide contact information for one (1) such client so the Plan can complete a reference call related to the services in this RFP.	
4	a) Vendor shall certify without exception the sufficiency of its security standards, tools, technologies, and procedures in providing Services under this Contract. b) All Vendor and/or third-party Data Centers and Information Technology Systems used under this proposed Contract for the purpose of collecting, storing, transmitting, or exchanging Plan Data shall have and maintain, valid, favorable third-party security certification(s) on all related security controls that are consistent with, and can be cross-walked to, the data classification level and security controls appropriate for moderate information system(s) per the National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST") SP 800-53 Rev. 5 or the most recent revision. To satisfy this requirement, reports must have been issued within twelve (12) months prior to the anticipated Contract award date or be supplemented by bridge letters covering no more than two (2) years subsequent to the initial report issuance date. Vendor shall provide a crosswalk document along with full copies of the third-party security certification or assessment report(s), and any necessary bridge letters. Vendor shall also identify which specific system(s) covered by the third-party security certifications or attestations will be used to provide the Services under this Contract. Opinion letters or security certification attestation letters will not be submitted in lieu of full report(s).	

	<p>c) Vendor shall agree that the Plan has the right to independently evaluate, audit, and verify such requirements as part of its evaluation and during the life of the Contract, including requesting the performance of a penetration test with satisfactory results. The State will verify any such third-party security certification or assessment report yearly during the life of the Contract, and Vendor will be required to provide an updated report or bridge letter verifying that there have been no material changes in the controls reported since the issuance of the last report. Bridge letters will only be accepted for two (2) years after the date of the initial report to satisfy this requirement.</p> <p>d) Vendor shall agree that the Plan has the right to, based upon its evaluation, require that Vendor maintain cyber breach liability insurance coverage in an amount specified by the Plan, and/or commit to obtaining a favorable third-party security certification or assessment report no later than six months prior to the date that Services under this Contract begin as a condition of Contract award. Vendor shall provide documentation of the amount of cyber breach liability insurance that it currently carries for all Vendor and/or third-party Data Centers and Information Technology Systems used to provide the Services under this Contract that will contain Plan Data. If Vendor is currently undergoing a third-party NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 (or most recent revision) compliant security assessment of such Data Centers or Information Technology Systems, Vendor shall provide proof of purchase or a copy of its contract with the third-party retained to perform the audit, and the expected date for completion.</p> <p>e) Vendor shall accept, and the Plan understands, that security certification and assessment reports and security information provided to the State for the purpose of this Contract may contain confidential information and/or trade secrets. Refer to Section 14 "Confidential Information" of ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS for information regarding the treatment of Confidential Information.</p>	
5	<p>Vendor must demonstrate financial stability. Vendor shall provide audited or reviewed financial statements prepared by an independent Certified Public Accountant (CPA) for the two (2) most recent fiscal years that shall include, at a minimum, a balance sheet, income statement (i.e., profit/loss statement), and cash flow statement and, if the most recent audited or reviewed financial statement was prepared more than six (6) months prior to the issuance of this RFP, the Vendor shall also submit its most recent internal financial statements (balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement or budget), with entries reflecting revenues and expenditures from the date of the audited or reviewed financial statement, to the end of the most recent financial reporting period (i.e., the quarter or month preceding the issuance date of this RFP). Vendor is encouraged to explain any negative financial information in its financial statement and is encouraged to provide documentation supporting those explanations.</p> <p>Consolidated financial statement of the Vendor's parent or related corporation/business entity shall not be considered, unless: 1) the Vendor's actual financial performance for the designated period is separately identified in and/or attached to the consolidated statements; 2) the parent or related corporation/business entity provides the State with a document wherein the parent or related corporation/business entity will be financially responsible for the Vendor's performance of the contract and the consolidated statement demonstrates the parent or related corporation's/business entity's financial ability to perform the contract, financial stability, and/or such other financial</p>	

	considerations identified in the evaluation criteria; and/or 3) Vendor provides its own internally prepared financial statements and such other evidence of its own financial stability identified above.	
6	Vendor shall confirm it agrees to ATTACHMENT C: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS without exception.	
7	Vendor shall complete and submit ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR.	
8	Vendor shall be financially stable; and complete, sign and submit without exception, ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION.	
9	Vendor shall complete, sign, and submit ATTACHMENT G: BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT.	
10	Vendor shall provide sufficient documentation and demonstrate HIPAA compliance through completing, signing, and submitting ATTACHMENT H: HIPAA QUESTIONNAIRE. If Vendor maintains that any information in documents submitted to demonstrate HIPAA compliance is proprietary or otherwise confidential, Vendor may Redact those portions in black.	
11	Vendor shall complete, sign, and submit ATTACHMENT I: NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT.	
12	Vendor shall complete, sign, and submit ATTACHMENT J: MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS SUBMISSION INFORMATION form.	
13	Vendor shall confirm it agreed to all performance guarantees as described in Section 6.3 and Schedules I and II.	

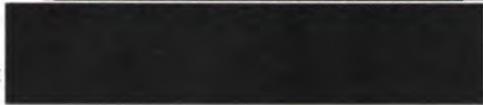
4. Requirement 5.2.11.2.x.2)j on page 72 is amended to change the report number from "Report 19: Utilization and Cost-Share by Service Type-Paid Claims." to "Report 18: Utilization and Cost-Share by Service Type-Paid Claims." The Technical Requirement 5.2.11.2.x.2) is restated in its entirety below:
 - 2) Monthly Performance Matrix reports as outlined in Exhibit 12, "Matrix Reports," and listed below:
 - a) Reports 1 and 2: Charge Summary Paid and Incurred Reports.
 - b) Reports 3 and 4: Charge Summary Trend Paid and Incurred.
 - c) Reports 5 and 6: Coinsurance and Deductible, Full Population-Paid and Incurred.
 - d) Reports 7 and 8: Coinsurance and Deductible, Closed Population-Paid and Incurred.
 - e) Reports 9 and 10: Copay-Incurred and Paid.
 - f) Report 11: Copay-Incurred (Claims Run out).
 - g) Reports 12 and 13: Claims Experience Summary by Demographics, Paid/Incurred, Time, etc.
 - h) Reports 14 and 15: Financial Summary-Paid and Incurred.
 - i) Reports 16 and 17: Financial Reconciliation-Paid and Incurred.
 - j) Report 18: Utilization and Cost-Share by Service Type-Paid Claims
5. Return two (2) properly executed originals of this Addendum Number 1 with your Minimum Requirements Proposal. Failure to sign and return this Addendum Number 1 may result in the rejection of your proposal.

Proposal Number: 270-20220830TPAS **CONFIDENTIAL** Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

.....

Execute Addendum Number 1 RFP Number 270-20220830TPAS:

Vendor: Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

Authorized Signature: 

Name and Title (Print): Roy Watson

Vice President of Group and Sales Segment

Date: 9/21/22

No.	Reference	Vendor Question	Answer
1.	Federal Tax ID Number, Page 2	Does the Federal Tax ID form need to be submitted with the Minimum Requirements Proposal, the Technical and Cost Proposal, or with both?	The Federal Tax ID form on page 2 of the RFP should be submitted with the Technical and Cost Proposal.
2.	Execution Form, pages 3-4	Can you confirm the Execution Pages do not need to be included with the Minimum Requirements response, but only with the Technical and Cost Proposal Response?	Confirmed. Vendor shall submit Execution Pages with its Technical and Cost Proposal. (See the First Amended and Restated TPA Minimum Requirements Table in Instruction #3 above.)
3.	1.1 Vision Overview (page 8)	What is the percentage of claims and percentage of dollars currently accessing the Clear Pricing (CPP) network vs. BCBSNC network?	Currently, 38.1% of the network claims are CPP. 18.6% of the allowed network cost is CPP.
4.	1.1 Vision Overview (page 8)	Please confirm within the Vision Statement (paragraph 2), that outlines the current and projected initiatives are part of the Minimum Requirements.	The Vision Statement is background information. The requirements are outlined in Sections 5.1 and 5.2.
5.	1.2 Overview of the State Health Plan (page 9)	Please confirm the Humana Group Medical Advantage PPO Base Plan - 143,197 enrollees and the Humana Group Medical Advantage PPO Enhanced Plan - 17,977 enrollees are not in scope for this request for proposal (RFP)?	State Health Plan Members enrolled in the Humana Group Medicare Advantage Plans are not in scope for this RFP.
6.	2.7.1, page 15	Can bidders restart page numbering with each separate requested document?	Yes, Vendors can determine if and how they number their submission. However, Vendors shall adhere to instructions in Section 2.7 (a)-(f).
7.	2.7.1, page 15	Can you confirm the copy we provide of Attachment C: North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions does not need to be physically signed?	Confirmed, Attachment C: North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions does not require a signature. Vendor shall insert its company name at the top of each page in the space provided.
8.	5.1 Minimum Requirements, TPA Minimum Requirements Table (page 34)	Please clarify instructions regarding listing the RFP Section Number and Page Number of Response column. Since page numbers within the RFP response/questionnaire will change with the final technical response. Does the page number requested refer to the page number in the RFP section or the response within the technical response?	Vendor shall provide the Section Number and Page Number of where the Plan can find the Vendor's response to the Minimum Requirement in the Vendor's Minimum Requirements proposal.
9.	5.1 Minimum Requirements, TPA Minimum Requirements Table (page 34)	Please clarify instructions regarding listing the RFP Section Number and Page Number of Response column. Can we provide responses within the RFP Section Number and Page Number of the Response column in lieu of referencing a the RFP Section Number and Page Number of Response?	Vendor shall provide a "Minimum Requirements" proposal that includes responses to each Minimum Requirement in the TPA Minimum Requirements Table. Vendor shall list the Section Number and Page Number in the TPA Minimum Requirements Table where the Plan

			can find the Vendor's response to the Minimum Requirements.
10.	5.1 Minimum Requirements, TPA Minimum Requirements Table; 2.7.2; Technical and Cost Proposal Contents, item a) (page 34)	Item 13 indicates "Vendor shall submit two (2) completed and signed originals of Execution Page." However, under Section 2.7.2 a), it indicates "Completed and signed version of Execution Pages along with the body of the RFP..." Should the Execution Page be returned with the Minimum Requirements or with the Technical and Cost Proposal that will follow, or both?	Vendor shall submit Execution Pages with its Technical and Cost Proposal. (See the First Amended and Restated TPA Minimum Requirements Table in Instruction #3 above.)
11.	Section 5.1, 4	Is the State willing to amend/negotiate this requirement?	No. Minimum Requirement #4 in Section 5.1 regarding data security is non-negotiable.
12.	Section 5.1, 5	Is the State willing to amend/negotiate this requirement?	No. Minimum Requirement #5 in Section 5.1 regarding financial stability is non-negotiable.
13.	Section 5.1, 6	Vendor agrees mutually acceptable terms and conditions to define the nature of the administrative services to be provided by Vendor is a necessity. Vendor has a standard Administrative Services Only (ASO) agreement which includes additional operational provisions that will need to be included in a contract with the State. Is the State agreeable to utilizing and/or incorporating the ASO agreement as part of the Contract between the State and Vendor?	Bidders must accept the Terms and Conditions as written. The Plan will not incorporate the Vendor's ASO agreement or any part of the Vendor's ASO agreement into this Contract.
14.	Section 5.1, 8	Is the State willing to amend this requirement? Recognizing, in an industry where lawsuits are a commonplace, we are mostly involved in lawsuits arising in the course of ordinary business. Please refer to Form 10-K and Form 10-Q for an updated description of material legal proceedings. These documents are available online: [Link removed by the Plan to maintain Vendor question anonymity.]	No, the Plan is not willing to amend Minimum Requirement #8 regarding Attachment E: Certification of Financial Condition.
15.	Section 5.1, 9	Vendor includes a standard business associate agreement (BAA) part of our Administrative Services Organization (ASO) agreement. Is the State agreeable to utilizing our standard BAA?	No, the Plan is not willing to utilize the Vendor's standard BAA.
16.	Section 5.1, 10	Is the State willing to amend this requirement? Recognizing some of the questions would require the State sign an NDA and some of the requests are proprietary and confidential and cannot be distributed externally.	No, the Plan is not willing to amend Minimum Requirement #10 regarding Attachment H: HIPAA Questionnaire.
17.	Section 5.1, 11	Is the State willing to accept redlines to this document?	No, the Plan is not willing to accept redlines to Minimum Requirement #11 regarding Attachment I: Nondisclosure Agreement.

18.	5.1 Minimum Requirements Table, 8,9,10,11,12	Are digital signatures acceptable on the execution pages, attachments and other signature-requiring forms?	Yes, digital signatures are acceptable and binding for all forms requiring signatures including the Execution Pages.
19.	5.1 Minimum Requirements Table, 13	Are there specific requirements for the original signatures? i.e. wet signature, blue ink	Vendors shall either provide wet signatures, preferably in blue ink or digital signatures.
20.	Section 5.1.1 Medicare primary members	Are you also reviewing fully insured Medicare Advantage plans as a part of this RFP?	No, the Plan is not reviewing fully insured Medicare Advantage Plans as part of this RFP. The awarded Vendor will, however, be responsible for Medicare primary Members that are not enrolled in the Plan's Group Medicare Advantage Plans.
21.	5.1.1.d	Vendor has a "firewall" between its TPA services operations and any other service operations, such as a PBM, consulting group, or any other services. Can the Plan please provide a definition of what you mean by "firewall"?	Vendors may have multiple lines of business, including but not limited to TPA services, pharmacy benefit management services, Medicare Advantage Plans and/or consulting services. This RFP is for the TPA services outlined in the requirements; therefore, Vendors' other services should not have access to nor impact the services under this Contract. This requirement also applies to Vendors that may already have a Contract with the Plan for other services.
22.	5.1.2.a, page 37	In addition to claim recoveries, would any other types of transactions be made to the Depository Account?	The Plan does not anticipate other types of deposits, but often payments to the Plan are misdirected to the incorrect vendor and automatically deposited. In these instances, the Vendor notifies the Plan of the deposit so that it can be applied to the appropriate account.
23.	5.1.2.b, page 37	Is inline check processing an acceptable form of preprinted check stock?	The Plan is not familiar with inline check processing.
24.	5.1.3.c	Vendor will work with the Plan to develop and implement provider specific alternative payment arrangements. Please provide examples of alternative payment arrangements other than those currently in effect.	See Requirements 5.1.3.e., 5.1.3.g and 5.2.3.2.b.xii. for more examples of the types of alternative payment arrangements the Plan may be interested in pursuing.
25.	5.1.3.h., and 5.1.3.i	If the Plan implements a Medicare-based reimbursement model, Vendor will adjust any payment and/or medical policies required to better align with Medicare pricing guidelines If the Plan implements a Medicare-based reimbursement model, Vendor will administer any other Medicare medical and payment policies adopted by the Plan.	When administering a Medicare-based reimbursement model, it is sometimes necessary to align both medical and payment policies with Medicare in order to pay the claims. For example, for a provider to be reimbursed for durable medical equipment (DME) under Medicare

		<p>Please provide the Plan's definition of the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Policy • Payment Policies 	<p>they must be licensed and credentialed as a DME vendor. Licensing and credentialing may not be a requirement for DME under the Vendor's commercial business, but to administer the Medicare payment, it would be required. That is an example of a payment policy change. In that same scenario, the TPA may have DME medical policy that includes medical necessity that is not needed because of the payment policy. There will also be instances where a Medicare payment policy, for example, would require certain procedures to be performed only in an inpatient setting, while the Plan may not follow that requirement.</p>
26.	5.1.3.i	<p>Vendor will administer other reference-based pricing models, if requested by the Plan. Can the Plan please provide a definition of what you consider to be a reference-based pricing model?</p>	<p>A reference-based pricing model determines reimbursement based on the fee schedule reference. For example, reimbursing professional services at 160% of Medicare. Medicare doesn't have to be the reference, although is the most common.</p>
27.	5.1.3.j Page 38	<p>With regards to 5.1.3.j., how is the NC State Health Plan looking for carrier partners to work with Optum Insight? What data elements are needed to be provided between the two parties? What is the frequency of data to be transferred?</p>	<p>If the Plan decides to implement a Medicare based reference-based pricing reimbursement model, the Vendor will need a repricing partner to ensure all claims are paid at the appropriate percentage of Medicare. It is not required to be Optum Insight, but would need to be a reasonable replacement.</p>
28.	Section 5.1.4.a Benefit Administration	<p>Are there any other plan types that the vendor will administer? Eg. A fully insured Medicare Advantage plan?</p>	<p>Requirements for a self-funded Group Medicare Supplement Plan are outlined in Requirement 5.2.4.2.b.xi. While there are currently no plans to implement a Medicare Supplement Plan on January 1, 2025, this requirement may be exercised at sometime during the life of the Contract.</p>
29.	5.1.5.c	<p>Vendor will customize any of the Medical Management programs, if requested by the Plan. Can the Plan please provide a definition of what you consider to be "Medical Management programs"?</p>	<p>Medical Management includes programs the Vendor may have to address and manage Members' medical and behavioral health needs and when appropriate limit utilization. See Requirement 5.2.5.2.b.ii.</p>
30.	5.1.8.a	<p>Vendor will comply with all requirements set forth in Article 29B of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes. As required, Vendor will validate provider enrollment in North Carolina's Health Information Exchange (NC HealthConnex) prior to paying Plan Member claims. If prohibited by the</p>	<p>The Plan is aware of challenges in operationalizing and supporting the requirements set forth in Article 29B of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes. The Plan continues to promote legislation to ensure, to the extent</p>

		<p>Statewide Health Information Exchange Act. Vendor must deny any claims received from providers that are not in compliance on the date of service.</p> <p>Will the Health Information Exchange provide a list of non-compliant providers?</p>	<p>possible, that an efficient and effective operational solution is created. However, the Plan does not have authority over the information to be provided by the Health Information Exchange.</p>
31.	5.2.3.2. vii and viii	<p>Will NC State Health plan be providing the contracts, rates, policies and procedures of their current Clear Pricing / Reference based pricing as a baseline for possible future arrangements with other carriers?</p>	<p>Questions pertaining to Section 5.2 "Technical Proposal Requirements and Specifications" and Attachment L "Technical Requirements Response" should be submitted by Vendors that pass the Minimum Requirements as set forth in Section 2.4 RFP Schedule.</p>
32.	5.2.3.2 vii and viii	<p>Will the NC State Health Plan provide a listing of the current providers in their network and the Clear Pricing contracts with the participating providers</p>	<p>Questions pertaining to Section 5.2 "Technical Proposal Requirements and Specifications" and Attachment L "Technical Requirements Response" should be submitted by Vendors that pass the Minimum Requirements as set forth in Section 2.4 RFP Schedule.</p>
33.	5.2.3.2 vii and viii	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the NC State Health Plan (NCSHP) provider contracts and rates transfer to Vendor for both designated Clear Pricing Project (CPP) and NCSHP? Can NCSHP provide Vendor a list of all CPP provider participants by service type (hospital, ancillary, physicians)? What percentage of the NCSHP network currently is designated as CPP? • Is it NCSHP expectation that Vendor will negotiate direct NCSHP agreements and renewals on behalf of NCSHP? • Is it assumed that all terms in CPP and NCSHP contracts, including policies, will also transfer? Will NCSHP provide Vendor all contract terms to review, including contract exceptions? If Vendor cannot administer and/or adjudicate specific terms in the contracts, will NCSHP agree to amend to allow Vendor policy and terms to be applied? • Is it NCSHP expectation that Vendor will "customize" any policy, program, contract arrangement, etc. (e.g. value-based ACOs, earned incentive programs) upon request from NCSHP? What is NCSHP expectation if Vendor cannot administer the request? • Are there any specific contract and network policies, provisions, network solutions, reimbursement terms, payment 	<p>Questions pertaining to Section 5.2 "Technical Proposal Requirements and Specifications" and Attachment L "Technical Requirements Response" should be submitted by Vendors that pass the Minimum Requirements as set forth in Section 2.4 RFP Schedule.</p>

		methodologies, etc. that are consider absolute to NCSHP without flexibility?	
34.	5.2.5.2 Services	xi. Vendor will transition specific specialty pharmacy medication coverage to the Plan's PBM, if requested by the plan.	Questions pertaining to Section 5.2 "Technical Proposal Requirements and Specifications" and Attachment L "Technical Requirements Response" should be submitted by Vendors that pass the Minimum Requirements as set forth in Section 2.4 RFP Schedule.
35.	5.2.5.2 Services	xii. Vendor will provide claims and analytical data to support the transition of specific specialty medications to the Plan's PBM.	Questions pertaining to Section 5.2 "Technical Proposal Requirements and Specifications" and Attachment L "Technical Requirements Response" should be submitted by Vendors that pass the Minimum Requirements as set forth in Section 2.4 RFP Schedule.
36.	Attachment C, Page 96	#28. Performance Bond – please confirm if a bond will be required for this bid and if so, will it be required at the proposal submission or upon award notification?	Vendors are required to provide a performance bond. See Section 6.3.5 Third Party Administration Performance Guarantees Schedule I, that requires Vendor to provide proof of purchase of bond within 30 State Business Days of execution of Contract.
37.	Attachment D	Does the vendor currently have any work done outside the United States (US)? If applicable, please provide details of the type of work outside the US.	The subcontractors for the Plan's current TPA are not relevant to this Contract. However, the Plan would not support any Member-facing work being performed outside of the USA.
38.	Attachment I: Nondisclosure Agreement, item 7	Vendor shall destroy and dispose of Plan Data using the guidelines outlined in the National Institute of Standards of Technology (NIST) Special Publication 800-88 Revision 1 located at: https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-88r1.pdf . (page 115) Can you please define "Plan Data"?	All Plan enrollment and claims data is considered Plan data. If the Plan develops any custom networks or provider reimbursement models, this data may also be deemed Plan data.
39.	Attachment K Minimum Requirements Response - 5.1.3 Network Management Minimum Requirements (page 2)	Please confirm the intent of this section. Is it to confirm the vendors capabilities to perform and/or meet these requirements?	Vendor must agree and be able to support all the requirements in this section.
40.	Attachment K, page 117	Can you confirm that the Attachment K- Minimum Requirements Response Document that was posted to the Ariba site only needs to be returned in the Hard Copy/UBS submission once complete, and does not need to be reposted to the Ariba site?	Confirmed. Vendors shall submit Attachment K: Minimum Requirements Response in hard copy and on flash drives in accordance with Section 2.6.2 "Minimum Requirements Proposal Submission."

41.	Attachment K, Page 5	Please clarify if the Plan is looking to carve out specialty pharmacy.	The Plan is not looking to carve out specialty pharmacy. As noted in Requirement 5.2.5.2.a.i. the Plan expects the Vendor to handle specialty pharmacy and pass 100% of the rebates to the Plan. In Requirement 5.2.5.2.b.xi., the Plan addresses the possibility of transitioning specific specialty medications to the PBM.
42.	Attachment K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.1.2.d – What is the average weekly claims funding amount for 2022 that the Plan has approved? Are there any requirements on how long it takes for the Plan to approve the disbursements? • 5.1.3.g – Does the Plan currently have Medicare-based reimbursement in place with their Vendor? If applicable, what services and providers are included? Does it apply to certain tiers and/or plans? • 5.1.3.l – Please describe the other possible reference-based pricing models the Vendor will need to consider? • 5.1.5.a – Does the Plan currently received 100% of the medical specialty pharmacy rebates? • 5.1.5.c – Does the Plan currently have a customized medical management program? If applicable, please describe in detail. • 5.1.6 – Does the Plan or the Vendor currently cover the cost of the data feeds? 	<p>1) Because of the transition to a new benefits administration system in 2022, the first quarter disbursements were not typical. The Plan generally disburses between \$50,000,000.00 - \$60,000,000.00 per week. Disbursement approval will be received by 4:00 p.m. ET on the day prior to disbursement.</p> <p>2) The Plan currently has Medicare base reimbursements in place for CPP providers. This applies to all services provided by these providers. The North Carolina State Health Plan Network is utilized for all three (3) plan designs.</p> <p>3) The Plan has not determined what other types of reference-based models may be utilized.</p> <p>4) The Plan currently receives 100% of the specialty pharmacy rebates.</p> <p>5) The Plan currently has a customized population health management program. Whether or not the program will be customized in the new Contract will depend on the Vendor's programs and the Plan's needs.</p> <p>6) The ongoing cost of vendor data feeds is included in the administrative fees of each Vendor's contract.</p>
43.	Attachment L	5.2.1.2.b – Does the Plan currently have dedicated resources from the Vendor? If applicable, please list their roles and responsibilities.	Questions pertaining to Section 5.2 "Technical Proposal Requirements and Specifications" and Attachment L "Technical Requirements Response" should be submitted by Vendors that pass the Minimum Requirements as set forth in Section 2.4 RFP Schedule.



Message

From: Charles Sceiford [/O=NCDST/OU=EXTERNAL (FYDIBOHF2SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=EF94F72A92594E47A44911A597AE3FFB]
Sent: 10/28/2022 4:52:07 PM
To: Matthew Rish [/o=NCDST/ou=External (FYDIBOHF2SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2f111af430824e47b34b47843cca3]
CC: Sharon Smith [/o=NCDST/ou=External (FYDIBOHF2SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a8ca24c82f514f5097de54181d14b9db]
Subject: RE: Medical TPA RFP - Cost Proposal Templates - Draft

Matt,

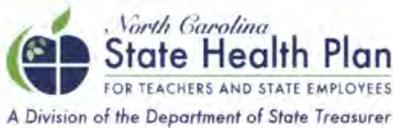
Most of this makes sense. I would want the confusing issues with the numbers regarding trend rates and allowed vs. paid costs addressed especially if this is to be shared with the Vendors so as to not raise points of contention when the final spreadsheet has all new numbers in it.

I'm not sure when it needs to happen, but there should be a discussion regarding the discount performance guarantee evaluation being "subjective" which could expose the contract greater challenges from vendors if they felt they were judged incorrectly. Maybe it's best to have that conversation when we have actual responses to know if this will be an issue.

Charles Sceiford, ASA

Health & Benefits Actuary
State Health Plan
Office: (919) 814-4412

3200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27604
www.SHPNC.org



E-mail correspondence to and from this address is subject to North Carolina's Public Records Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. Sec. 132, and may be disclosed to third parties. However Federal and State law protects personal health and other information that may be contained in this e-mail from unauthorized disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this e-mail and any accompanying documents and contact the sender immediately. Unauthorized disclosure, copying or distribution of any confidential or privileged content of this e-mail is prohibited.

From: Matthew Rish
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:58 AM
To: Charles Sceiford
Cc: Sharon Smith
Subject: FW: Medical TPA RFP - Cost Proposal Templates - Draft

Charles,

Please see responses below. Let me know your thoughts and if you think we should schedule a call.

Thanks!
Matt

SHP 0070486

Matthew T. Rish

Sr. Director of Finance,
Planning & Analytics
State Health Plan
Office: (919) 814-4413
Mobile: (919) 621-0275

3200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27604
www.SHPNC.org



E-mail correspondence to and from this address is subject to North Carolina's Public Records Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. Sec. 132, and may be disclosed to third parties. However Federal and State law protects personal health and other information that may be contained in this e-mail from unauthorized disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this e-mail and any accompanying documents and contact the sender immediately. Unauthorized disclosure, copying or distribution of any confidential or privileged content of this e-mail is prohibited.

From: Kuhn, Stephen <SKuhn@segalco.com>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:40 AM
To: Matthew Rish <Matthew.Rish@nctreasurer.com>; Sharon Smith <Sharon.Smith@nctreasurer.com>
Cc: Wohl, Stuart <SWohl@Segalco.com>; Vieira, Kenneth C. <kvieira@segalco.com>; Kersting, Matthew <MKersting@segalco.com>; Wang, Peter <pwang@segalco.com>
Subject: RE: Medical TPA RFP - Cost Proposal Templates - Draft

Matt,

Please see responses in red text and caps (in case font color gets lost in the email transfer) below.

Please let us know if you would like to discuss further.

In the meantime, we will work on populating the baseline fields with SHP data.

Thanks,
Steve

Stephen L. Kuhn
Segal
T 617.424.7341 | M 617.875.7018

From: Matthew Rish <Matthew.Rish@nctreasurer.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:40 AM
To: Kuhn, Stephen <SKuhn@segalco.com>; Sharon Smith <Sharon.Smith@nctreasurer.com>
Cc: Wohl, Stuart <SWohl@Segalco.com>; Vieira, Kenneth C. <kvieira@segalco.com>; Kersting, Matthew <MKersting@segalco.com>; Wang, Peter <pwang@segalco.com>
Subject: RE: Medical TPA RFP - Cost Proposal Templates - Draft

CAUTION: External Sender

Steve,

Thank you. Please see our comments below.

Throughout the RFP, we refer to the responders to the RFP as "Vendors" and would like that be consistent with changing "Bidder" to "Vendor" throughout the samples **WE WILL UPDATE TO "VENDOR"**

SHP 0070487

P. 3

- 1) Regarding the "Overall increase from CY 2021" lines. For Non-Medicare It looks like Segal is using 5.4% going back 5 years ($1.054^5 = 1.30$). The same with the Medicare amount increasing at 2.5% per year ($1.025^5 = 1.13$). Can Segal confirm the source for those percentages (if correct) and why it is using 5 years of trend over a 4 year period (2021 – 2025)? **ALL THE NUMBERS IN THESE EXHIBITS ARE JUST PLACE HOLDERS, THE "OVERALL INCREASE..." LINES REFLECT GENERAL TREND ASSUMPTIONS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN ADJUSTED FOR YOUR PLAN. THEY ALSO INCLUDE AN ADJUSTMENT FOR ENROLLMENT CHANGE FROM THE EXPERIENCE PERIOD TO THE PROJECTION PERIOD. SORRY, WE DID NOT THINK YOU WERE GOING TO TRY TO BACK INTO THESE NUMBERS. WE PLANNED ON POPULATING ALL BASELINE FIELDS WITH YOUR DATA AND ANY SHP SPECIFIC VARIANCES IN ASSUMPTIONS ONCE THE EXHIBITS WERE APPROVED. THE PLACEHOLDERS FOR THE NON-MEDICARE PLAN CURRENTLY ASSUME 4 YEARS OF STEPPING DOWN TREND OF 7.0%, 6.5%, 6.5%, AND 6.0% (AND A SMALL ENROLLMENT ADJUSTMENT). THE PLACEHOLDERS FOR THE MEDICARE PLAN CURRENTLY ASSUME 4 YEARS OF 3% TREND.**
- 2) Can you describe the process for the "Medicare Projected Claims" and why there aren't different values for the different Vendors? **IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL THE VENDORS WILL BE APPLYING THE MEDICARE FEE SCHEDULE (SAME FOR ALL) IN DETERMINING CMS'S AND SHP'S SHARES OF THE CLAIMS. THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY VARIATION BETWEEN VENDORS SINCE THIS IS A SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN.**

P.4

- 1) The Vendor in 3rd place should receive 0 points. The lowest amount receives 2 points as stated in RFP. The difference between the 2nd lowest (in this case middle) and the most expensive is fairly similar to the difference between the least expensive and 2nd least expensive, where we would think the difference in points (dropping from 2 to 1) should be consistence and last place gets 0 points. **AGREED.**

P. 5

- 1) How is the value of the performance guarantees be determined? Is it solely based on the dollar amounts available? Will we take into account the probability of not meeting the discount guarantee? For example if Vendor A has a higher discount guarantee but lower amount at risk compared to Vendor B, how do we compare between the Vendors. **THIS SECTION'S SCORING IS BOTH SUBJECTIVE AND COMPARATIVE. THE SCORING WILL NEED TO CONSIDER EACH VENDOR'S GUARANTEE ON (1) HOW DOES IT RELATE TO THEIR OWN PRICING...ITS VALUE TO THE SHP AND (2) HOW IT COMPARES TO THE OTHER VENDOR PROPOSALS. YES, WE NEED TO CONSIDER BOTH THE GUARANTEED TARGETED LEVEL AND THE AMOUNT AT RISK IN DETERMINING THE OVERALL "VALUE" OF THE PROPOSED GUARANTEES.**
- 2) Can Segal Provide sample discount guarantees to show how ranking and scoring would be determined? **WE DON'T HAVE A SAMPLE ALREADY DRAFTED. AS INDICATED ABOVE, THIS ANALYSIS IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON WHAT WE RECEIVE FROM THE VENDORS. IT COULD BE AS SIMPLE AS A MULTIPLICATION OF THE GUARANTEE AND THE AMOUNT AT RISK, BUT IT WILL DEPEND ON WHAT THE VENDORS PROPOSE.**

P. 6

- 1) While we understand this to be "informational only," the claims seems to be referring to Allowed Costs on P.3 and not the SHP portion of costs. The Total Cost to the SHP would be lower than what is listed here. **THESE ARE PULLING FROM THE PROJECTED CLAIM COSTS WHICH WILL BE THE SHP SHARE OF COST ONCE THE EXHIBITS ARE POPULATED. SORRY, WE DID NOT INTEND FOR YOU TO TRY TO BACK INTO THESE AND PURPOSELY USED DOLLAR AMOUNTS THAT WERE NOT REMOTELY CLOSE TO THE SHP SPEND.**

SHP 0070488

Thanks,
Matt

Matthew T. Rish

*Sr. Director of Finance,
Planning & Analytics*
State Health Plan
Office: (919) 814-4413
Mobile: (919) 621-0275

3200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27604
www.SHPNC.org



E-mail correspondence to and from this address is subject to North Carolina's Public Records Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. Sec. 132, and may be disclosed to third parties. However Federal and State law protects personal health and other information that may be contained in this e-mail from unauthorized disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this e-mail and any accompanying documents and contact the sender immediately. Unauthorized disclosure, copying or distribution of any confidential or privileged content of this e-mail is prohibited.

From: Kuhn, Stephen <SKuhn@segalco.com>
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2022 9:13 PM
To: Matthew Rish <Matthew.Rish@nctreasurer.com>; Sharon Smith <Sharon.Smith@nctreasurer.com>
Cc: Wohl, Stuart <SWohl@Segalco.com>; Vieira, Kenneth C. <kvieira@segalco.com>; Kersting, Matthew <MKersting@segalco.com>; Wang, Peter <pwang@segalco.com>
Subject: Medical TPA RFP - Cost Proposal Templates - Draft

Matt / Sharon,

For your review, please find draft templates for the cost proposal analysis.

We note the following:

- We based the models on the cost proposal scoring in the RFP document.
- The model assumes three bidders.
- As indicated in the RFP document, the most competitive proposal in each section is ranked 3 and the least competitive is ranked 1.
- The network pricing guarantees scoring model could change based on the proposals received as this section's scoring is a comparative analysis of the proposals.
- The numbers in the exhibits are not representative of SHP's data, but are shown to help illustrate the information in the templates.

Please let us know if you would like to discuss or if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Steve

Stephen L. Kuhn
Vice President, Health Consultant
Segal
116 Huntington Ave 9th Floor | Boston, MA 02116
T 617.424.7341 | M 617.875.7018
skuhn@segalco.com
Segal, Segal Marco Advisors and Segal Benz
are all members of the Segal family

SHP 0070489

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE
ADDRESSEE. IT MAY CONTAIN PRIVILEGED OR CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION THAT IS EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE. Dissemination,
distribution or copying of this message by anyone other than the addressee is
strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify us
immediately by replying: "Received in error" and delete the message.
Thank you.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE
ADDRESSEE. IT MAY CONTAIN PRIVILEGED OR CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION THAT IS EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE. Dissemination,
distribution or copying of this message by anyone other than the addressee is
strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify us
immediately by replying: "Received in error" and delete the message.
Thank you.

SHP 0070490