

## Questions and Answers for

### RFP 2014-DSHA-01 - Independent DSH Audit

1. Does Alabama Medicaid Agency currently anticipate that the State's contracted agent responsible for accumulating the necessary documentation (Myers & Stauffer) will continue in their same role for the foreseeable future, including the full 5 year term of this RFP?

We anticipate no changes in the future.

2. Should there be any future change in the State's contracted agent responsible for accumulating the necessary documentation, would it be more likely that a new, third-party firm would be engaged to meet these responsibilities, or would the firm chosen under this RFP assume those responsibilities? If the latter, this would clearly be a substantial increase in the scope of the engagement. Would the terms and pricing of this contract then be renegotiated or a new RFP issued?

This RFP will cover the same scope of work for the entire length of the contract. If there is a change in scope a new RFP will be issued with the expanded scope explained.

3. Does Alabama Medicaid Agency or its contracted agent anticipate any changes will be necessary to the overall scope of the "Independent DSH Audit" now that the "transitional provisions" (see 73 FR 77951) limiting the impact of findings in MSP years 2005-2010 have expired?

The scope of the independent DSH audit is the responsibility of the independent auditor. CMS has stated that the following: [I]n order to certify to the verifications, the auditors should follow generally accepted auditing practices and requirements to assure a thorough and complete audit has been conducted. The auditor must develop sufficient confidence in the data to certify the results for the State plan rate year subject to the audit. The final rule does not eliminate any flexibility that independent auditors might have in using accepted professional methodologies to conduct the audit and to certify to the verifications. However, the independent certified audits required to be submitted must be performed in compliance with section 1923(j) and implementing regulations as a condition for receiving Federal payments under section 1903(a)(1) and 1923 of the Act. [Additional Information on the DSH Reporting and Audit Requirements published by CMS]

The State does not anticipate major changes in data gathering for the DSH audit versus previous audits.

4. Page 2 of the RFP indicates that the audit for FY 2011, and each succeeding year, must be completed by September 30. Please indicate the expected timeline for gathering the information from the participating DSH hospitals and anticipated deadlines to be imposed on the hospitals. These timelines / deadlines (and the resulting DSH hospital response rate) are pivotal in the audit firm's ability to complete the engagement by September 30.

The due date for the DSH Hospitals to submit data for the 2011 Audit is at the end of April.

5. Other than the report that will serve for the certified independent audit, does Alabama Medicaid Agency anticipate any additional reporting requirements and/or presentations, educational events, etc. that a responding firm should consider in the scope of the proposal?

No reporting requirements in addition to what is required are anticipated. No presentations or educational events are expected to be performed by a responding firm.

**Wed 3/19/2014 11:20 AM**