New York State Department of Health
Office of Health Insurance Programs
Request for Information (RFI) #105180: Innovative Medicaid Enterprise Systems (MES) Solutions

Questions and Answers Posted 6/7/2021

Question #	Corresponding RFI Section	Question	Answer
1.	General	We assume this RFI and follow on RFP is US based delivery only but can you verify that offshore work (implementation, services, and run maintenance) is out of scope.	This will be specified in future procurements.
2.	General	Since the CMS program for EHR Incentive is due to end in December 2021, does DOH have plans to continue providing similar support or reporting of these criteria outside of this program past 2021?	The Department has no specific plans to share at this time and is considering its options.
3.	General	Fiscal intermediary or fiscal agent? Our understanding is that the vendor for eMedNY makes payments to providers and MCOs on behalf of New York State. In other states, the MMIS vendors acts as a fiscal intermediary, calculating what payments the State should make to providers and MCOs. Does DOH have a vision of which model it wishes to pursue for the new MES system?	https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/SOS/367-B Section 8a describes the role of the Fiscal Agent in New York State. The current vendor is a fiscal agent. There is no direction currently to change to a fiscal intermediary.
4.	General	Could DOH point to any reports, presentations, or materials stating the latest progress on their VBP (DSRIP) program? NYSOH's earlier stated goal was to have 80% to 90% of managed care payments use VBP methodologies. What are the most current reports on the progress of this program (the NYSOH DSRIP page links to the "Final Interim Report" from August 2019)?	Available information can be found at: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/dsrip/
5.	General	Does DOH have a vision for procuring the Medicaid Data Warehouse Project? Does the state envision a separate RFP or in combination with other MES RFPs?	The Department is considering all options with regards to the technical scope of future procurements.
6.	General	Does NYS prefer one SI vs a modular approach with a few SI's to address this modernization effort in full?	See response to question 5.
7.	General	Are there plans to have IV&V and OCM as separate procurements from the Systems Integration RFP?	See response to question 5.

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8.	General	Is NYS seeking to replicate a MES that has been successfully implemented in another state? If so, which state or states is NYS hoping to leverage lessons learned from?	The State is always looking to reuse proven solutions from other states with similar sized Medicaid programs.
9.	General	Will there be NYS MWBE goals of 30% and SDVOB goals?	The question refers to procurement requirements which are not relevant to this RFI.
10.	Section 1. Calendar of Events (Page 3 of RFI) and Section 6. Review Process (Page 10 of RFI)	The calendar of events (Section 1, page 3) indicates that the Anticipated Responder Interview Period begins on July 14, 2021. However, the Review Process Section (Section 6, page 10) indicates that vendor meetings will be scheduled likely in December 2021 or January 2022. Can you please confirm the schedule for when vendor presentations are likely to occur?	The Calendar of Events reflects the Department's most current plans. The Department will not finalize plans for vendor meetings until a preliminary review of RFI responses is complete.
11.	Section 1. Calendar of Events (Page 3 of RFI) and Section 6. Review Process (Page 10 of RFI)	Does the State anticipate holding responder interviews on 7/14/2021 or in December 2021/January 2022?	See response to question 10.
12.	Section 2. Introduction and Purpose (Page 4 of RFI)	When does DOH anticipate releasing its MES Strategic Roadmap?	Current plans are for release potentially by the end of 2021 or early 2022.
13.	Section 4. Who Should Respond (Page 5 of RFI)	Would the state be willing to accept responses from vendors that are specialized in Project Management, planning, procurement, business analysis, and quality assurance, and that have experience providing these services to support Medicaid Enterprise Systems modernization?	Yes.
14.	Section 5.1 General Medicaid Enterprise Solutions (Page 5 of RFI)	In regards to the implemented solution experience and credentials, can you please specify the reference metrics you are requiring as part of the solution?	None have been established at this time.
15.	Section 5.1 General Medicaid Enterprise Solutions (Page 5 of RFI)	In Section 5.1, there is reference to identifying other areas for investment in the Medicaid program, could a contract management and contract procurement platform offering be an area of investment that the responder can speak into as part of this RFI.	Yes.

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16.	Section 5.1 General Medicaid Enterprise Solutions (Page 5 of RFI)	Would you please provide the expectations for the portal(s)? Do you envision this as a portal in which a consumer would enter information to initially determine eligibility for benefits, or is this a "post" enrollment portal in which consumers and providers can access their information?	The purpose of this RFI is to solicit information about available functionality. No expectations have been determined at this time.
17.	Section 5.1 General Medicaid Enterprise Solutions (Page 5 of RFI)	Can you clarify the meaning of the "Plan Portal"? Who is the intended target audience for this portal (MCOs, MCO members, all beneficiaries, FFS beneficiaries)?	The Plan portal would be a portal for Medicaid Insurance Plans.
18.	Section 5.1 General Medicaid Enterprise Solutions (Page 5 of RFI)	How does the New York State Department of Health (DOH) envision the NYSOH and new MES portals working together to provide seamless point of entry and ease of use for citizens?	See answer to question 16.
19.	Section 5.1.10 Other (Page 6 of RFI)	For the short demo requested "in electronic format," is a link to the demo acceptable?	Yes.
20.	Section 5.2 Multi-vendor Relationships and Implementation Questions (Page 7 of RFI)	When asking about multi-vendor environment, please clarify if this is referring to different vendors for the SI, FA, and MES.	See answer to question 5.
21.	Section 5.2 Vendor Roles and Relationships (Page 7 of RFI)	Please elaborate on "optimal configuration." Is DOH inquiring about the optimal architecture of the MES?	The State seeks to learn and benefit from responder experience with multi-vendor MES architectures and projects.
22.	Section 5.3.10 Medicaid Data Hub & Data Integration Layer (Page 8 of RFI)	Could the Department list the various technologies that support the Department's existing Medicaid Data Warehouse, including but not limited to data stores, ETL platforms, BI tools, and data science platforms?	The State is seeking guidance on its future MES evolution. The existing data architecture should not be seen as a constraint.
23.	Section 5.3.10 Medicaid Data Hub & Data Integration Layer (Page 8 of RFI)	Is DOH able to outline the various data silos that need to be integrated into the future enterprise data hub?	See answer to question 22.
24.	Section 5.3.17 Data Management, Security & Governance (Page 9 of RFI)	Does DOH's existing data warehouse adhere to a pre-existing data security and compliance framework (e.g. NIST800-53)? If yes, how does the Department currently ensure continued compliance?	The Department adheres to CMS and NYS ITS standards.
25.	Section 5.3.18 Data Analytics (Page 9 of RFI)	What analytics standards are currently supported by the existing data warehouse/BI platform?	See response to question 22.

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26.	Section 5.3.19 Data Analytics (Page 9 of RFI)	Is DOH able to list the factors that currently hamper the ability to leverage diagnostic, prescriptive, and predictive analyses?	Not at this time.
27.	Section 6 Review Process (Page 10 of RFI)	Is the State contemplating procuring Project Management Office (PMO) services to manage the system modernization efforts as part of the Medicaid Enterprise System Roadmap planning?	See response to question 21.
28.	Section 7.3 Vendor Response Template (Page 11 of RFI)	Can graphics or tables necessary to respond to a question be included below the table for that Section to avoid complicated embedding?	Yes.
29.	Addendum A Existing System Description (Page 13 of RFI)	What technologies are the current 3 core systems (eMedNY, NYSOH, MDW) comprised of?	The State is seeking guidance on its future MES evolution. The existing technologies should not be considered a constraint and are therefore not relevant.
30.	Addendum A Existing System Description (Page 13 of RFI)	Can you describe the Platform, Language and Data source(s) associated with them?	See response to question 29.
31.	Addendum A Existing System Description (Page 13 of RFI)	What are the current point-to-point integration technologies?	See response to question 29.
32.	Addendum A Existing System Description (Page 13 of RFI)	Are those point-to-point integration technologies in Real time and/or Batch?	See response to question 29.
33.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	Is DOH open to competitively procuring several different modules to support the new eMedNY system? Or, does the agency plan to keep all modular functions within that one system?	See response to question 5
34.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	Please clarify the covered lives in New York? The RFP states, 6 million, 5.8 million and 3.3 million. Per the RFP: By February 28, 2021, more than 5.8 million New Yorkers were enrolled in coverage. As one of the largest insurance programs in the nation, the NYS Medicaid program currently provides health care coverage to approximately six million beneficiaries. Approximately 4.8 million beneficiaries are enrolled in Managed Care plans and the remaining 1.2 million are	This is an RFI, not an RFP. All Medicaid covered lives are in the total. Please see this link for current information: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/enrollment/docs/by_resident_co/2021/apr-2021.pdf

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		enrolled as Fee-for-Service (FFS) beneficiaries (Medicaid eligible counts as of June 2019). As of January 31, 2019, there were approximately 3.3 million individuals enrolled in Medicaid through the NY State of Health system.	
35.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	Will the State of New York share its most recent MITA Self-Assessment Report?	Not at this time.
36.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	The State has indicated that the current eMedNY application architecture utilizes a modular approach that separates the current application into 12 subsystems. What changes, if any, is the State contemplating in the structure of the current modules including but not limited to consolidation, alignments with MMIS System Modules, or any other material changes?	See response to question 5.
37.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	Could you please provide any insight into the level of Descriptive Analytics, Diagnostic Analytics, Predictive Analytics, and Prescriptive Analytics that are provided today via the current Medicaid Data Warehouse (MDW) contract vehicle?	See response to question 23.
38.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	Can the State provide any of its desires/goals for Consumer Portal to functions within the current eMedNY application?	See response to question 5.
39.	Addendum A (Page 13 of RFI)	Has the State considered unified central credentialing as part of the provider credentialing process?	See response to question 29.