

**CHIP: Questions Posed by Prospective Bidders
regarding the Request for Proposals to Act as Plan Administrator
for the CHIP and PCIP Programs (“RFP”)**

The information provided in the following question and answer format is for assistance in meeting the needs of prospective bidders and is provided pursuant to section 2.5.3 of the RFP to all companies who either have asked a question or otherwise expressed an interest in the RFP. This document also is posted to the CHIP website at <http://www.chiparkansas.org/insurers-only/>

Q1. The RFP requests geo-access reports but does not contain specific mileage parameters. Are there specific mileage parameters that bidders must use?

Answer: See Section 3.4.2. of the RFP (relating to Key Managed Care Functions, p. 27) relating to this requirement. CHIP does not have any specific mileage parameters, so bidders are not required to meet a specific requirement. The bidder is required to demonstrate accessible and available care throughout the state of Arkansas and provide proof of its current network capabilities in Arkansas, including the number of current contracts that have access to the network(s) and the service area covered by these agreements. A bidder will receive a score of up to 300 points relating to responses relating to Key Managed Care Functions. (See Section 5.2.2. and 5.5.2. of the RFP, pp. 30-31). The network accessibility and availability demonstrated by a bidder’s network will be evaluated against other bidders.

Q2. The RFP notes that the bidder must be an insurer. Is a TPA who is not a licensed insurer eligible to respond to the RFP?

Answer: See Section 1.2. of the RFP (relating to Qualified Bidders for this RFP, p. 3) relating to this requirement. Eligibility criteria for the CHIP Administrator are set by statute. Under ACA 23-79-508(a), “[t]he Board of Directors of the Arkansas Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool shall select an insurer through a competitive bidding process to administer the plan.” “Insurer” is defined as “any entity that provides health insurance, including excess or stop-loss health insurance, in the State of Arkansas.” Accordingly, to be qualified, the bidder must be an insurer licensed in Arkansas. An insurer may subcontract with third party administrators to perform some or all of the services for CHIP, but the bidder must be an insurer.

Q3. If a current CHIP Board member is employed by a potential bidder, how would CHIP handle that situation?

Answer: The respective Board member and any other staff employed by the current administering insurer who regularly attends the Board meetings recuse themselves from any Board discussion and/or action involving the RFP and selection of the successful bidder.