REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

by

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

for

Selection of a Vendor to Provide

Medical Revenue Cycle Management

Related to the

South Texas Practice Plan

RFP No. 745-14-P01

Submittal Deadline: January 30th, 2014

The University will hold a pre-proposal conference, which is tentatively scheduled for January 13th, 2014. The pre-proposal conference will allow all Proposers an opportunity to ask University’s representatives relevant questions and clarify provisions of this RFP. Details of the conference time will be provided at a later date, and will also include the Conference Call number, and Code.

Issued: December 20, 2013
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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SECTION 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Description of University

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, one of the country’s leading health sciences universities, ranks in the top 3 percent of all institutions worldwide receiving federal funding. The University’s schools of medicine, nursing, dentistry, health professions and graduate school of biomedical sciences have produced approximately 28,000 graduates. The $736 million operating budget supports eight campuses in four cities: San Antonio, Laredo, Harlingen and Edinburg. The University serves a 50,000 square-mile region of South Texas. More than 3000 students a year train in an environment that involves over 100 affiliated hospitals, clinics, and healthcare facilities in South Texas. Included in the large enterprise are the clinical practices of UT Medicine, the Cancer Therapy and Research Center and the Dental Clinics where over 200 physicians, dentists and other health care providers deliver optimal patient care in nearly every branch of medicine, oncology, and oral health. The institution maintains highly-regarded basic, translational, and clinical research divisions. Learn more about our institution at www.uthscsa.edu.

1.2 Background and Special Circumstances

During May 2013 the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 24 authorizing creation of a new university in South Texas that will also include a previously authorized new medical school. The South Texas Medical School will develop the new South Texas Medical Practice Plan which will have the responsibilities associated with appropriate credentialing, insurance enrollment, medical billing, coding, insurance follow-up, collections and accounts receivable management.

1.3 Objective of this Request for Proposal

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (“University”) is soliciting proposals in response to this Request for Proposal for Selection of a Vendor to Provide Medical Revenue Cycle Management (the “Services”), related to The University of Texas South Texas Medical School (hereafter referred to as South Texas Practice Plan), RFP No. 745-14-P01 (this “RFP”). The services which are more specifically described in Section 5.4 (Scope of Work) of this RFP, include a minimum level of summary information and represents information to assist respondents in providing a thorough response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Medical Revenue Cycle Management, Medical Billing, Coding, Insurance Follow-Up Collections and Accounts Receivable Management Services for services performed by the South Texas Practice Plan.

1.4 Group Purchase Authority

Texas law authorizes institutions of higher education (defined by Section 61.003, Education Code) to use the group purchasing procurement method (ref. Sections 51.9335, 73.115, and 74.008, Education Code). Additional Texas institutions of higher education may therefore elect to enter into a contract with the successful Proposer under this RFP. In particular, Proposer should note that University is part of The University of Texas System (“UT System”), which is comprised of nine academic and six health universities described at http://www.utsystem.edu/institutions. UT System institutions...
routinely evaluate whether a contract resulting from a procurement conducted by one of the institutions might be suitable for use by another, and if so, this could give rise to additional purchase volumes. As a result, in submitting its proposal in response to this RFP, Proposer should consider proposing pricing and other commercial terms that take into account such higher volumes and other expanded opportunities that could result from the eventual inclusion of other institutions in the purchase contemplated by this RFP.

1.5 Term of the Agreement

This Contract will be in effect for a period of four (4) years subject to all the terms and conditions set forth herein. This contract may, upon mutual agreement, be extended for up to three (3) additional two (2) year periods. Time is of the essence in the performance of this contract. In the event of any extension of this contract beyond the initial four year period, the UTHSCSA reserves the right to either accept or reject any price adjustments submitted in writing ninety days prior to the end of the current contract period as part of the UTHSCSA consideration for the contract extension.
SECTION 2
NOTICE TO PROPOSER

2.1 Submittal Deadline

University will accept proposals submitted in response to this RFP until 3:00 p.m., Central Prevailing Time on January 30th, 2014 (the “Submittal Deadline”).

2.2 University Contact Person

Proposers will direct all questions or concerns regarding this RFP to the following University contact (“University Contact”):

Christelle Farias
Assistant Director of Purchasing
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Research Administration Building, Room 4.110
North Campus
8403 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229
210-562-6202
fariasc@uthscsa.edu

University specifically instructs all interested parties to restrict all contact and questions regarding this RFP to written communications forwarded to University Contact. University Contact must receive all questions or concerns no later than January 23, 2014. University will have a reasonable amount of time to respond to questions or concerns. It is University's intent to respond to all appropriate questions and concerns; however, University reserves the right to decline to respond to any question or concern.

2.3 Criteria for Selection

The successful Proposer, if any, selected by University in accordance with the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP will be the Proposer that submits a proposal in response to this RFP on or before the Submittal Deadline that is the most advantageous to University. The successful Proposer is referred to as the “Contractor.”

Proposer is encouraged to propose terms and conditions offering the maximum benefit to University in terms of (1) services to University, (2) total overall cost to University, and (3) project management expertise. Proposers should describe all educational, state and local government discounts, as well as any other applicable discounts that may be available to University in a contract for the Services.

An evaluation team from University will evaluate proposals. The evaluation of proposals and the selection of Contractor will be based on the information provided by Proposer in its proposal. University may give consideration to additional information if University deems such information relevant.

The criteria to be considered by University in evaluating proposals and selecting Contractor, will be those factors listed below:

Threshold Criteria Not Scored
2.3.1.1 Ability of University to comply with laws regarding Historically Underutilized Businesses; and
2.3.1.2 Ability of University to comply with laws regarding purchases from persons with disabilities.

2.3.2 Scored Criteria
2.3.2.1 the initial cost of goods and services;
2.3.2.2 the reputation of the Proposer and of the Proposer's goods or services;
2.3.2.3 the quality of the Proposer's goods or services;
2.3.2.4 the extent to which the goods or services meet the University's needs;
2.3.2.5 the Proposer's past relationship with the University;
2.3.2.6 the annual recurring cost to the University of acquiring the Proposer's goods or services;
2.3.2.7 the Proposer's exceptions to the terms and conditions set forth in Section 4 of this RFP; and
2.3.2.8 any other relevant factors that a private business entity would consider in selecting a vendor.

2.4 Key Events Schedule

Issuance of RFP December 20, 2013
Pre-Proposal Conference January 13, 2014
(ref. Section 2.6 of this RFP)
Deadline for Questions/Concerns January 23, 2014
(ref. Section 2.2 of this RFP)
Submittal Deadline 3:00 p.m. Central Prevailing
(ref. Section 2.1 of this RFP) Time on January 30th, 2014

2.5 Historically Underutilized Businesses

2.5.1 All agencies of the State of Texas are required to make a good faith effort to assist historically underutilized businesses (each a “HUB”) in receiving contract awards. The goal of the HUB program is to promote full and equal business opportunity for all businesses in contracting with state agencies. Pursuant to the HUB program, if under the terms of any agreement or contractual arrangement resulting from this RFP, Contractor subcontracts any of the Services, then Contractor must make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs certified by the Procurement and Support Services Division of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. Proposals that fail to comply with the requirements contained in this Section 2.5 will constitute a material failure to comply with advertised specifications and will be rejected by University as non-responsive. Additionally, compliance with good faith effort guidelines is a condition precedent to awarding any agreement or contractual arrangement resulting from this RFP. Proposer acknowledges that, if selected by University, its obligation to make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs when subcontracting any of the Services will continue throughout the term of all agreements and contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP. Furthermore, any subcontracting of the Services by the Proposer is subject to review by University to ensure compliance with the HUB program.
2.5.2 University has reviewed this RFP in accordance with Title 34, Texas Administrative Code, Section 20.13 (a), and has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under this RFP.

2.5.3 A HUB Subcontracting Plan (“HSP”) is required as part of Proposer’s proposal. The HSP will be developed and administered in accordance with University’s Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses attached as APPENDIX THREE and incorporated for all purposes.

Each Proposer must complete and return the HSP in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP, including APPENDIX THREE. Proposers that fail to do so will be considered non-responsive to this RFP in accordance with Section 2161.252, Government Code.

Questions regarding the HSP may be directed to:

Contact: Vikki Ross
Senior Director Supply Chain Management
Phone: 210-562-6200
Email: rossv@uthscsa.edu

Contractor will not be permitted to change its HSP unless: (1) Contractor completes a newly modified version of the HSP in accordance with the terms of APPENDIX THREE that sets forth all changes requested by Contractor, (2) Contractor provides University with such a modified version of the HSP, (3) University approves the modified HSP in writing, and (4) all agreements or contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP are amended in writing by University and Contractor to conform to the modified HSP.

2.5.4 Proposer must submit one (1) original of the HSP to University at the same time it submits its proposal to University (ref. Section 3.2 of this RFP.) The one (1) originals of the HSP must be submitted under separate cover and in a separate envelope (the “HSP Envelope”). Proposer must ensure that the top outside surface of its HSP Envelope clearly shows and makes visible:

2.5.4.1 the RFP No. (ref. Section 1.3 of this RFP) and the Submittal Deadline (ref. Section 2.1 of this RFP), both located in the lower left hand corner of the top surface of the envelope,

2.5.4.2 the name and the return address of the Proposer, and

2.5.4.3 the phrase “HUB Subcontracting Plan”.

Any proposal submitted in response to this RFP that is not accompanied by a separate HSP Envelope meeting the above requirements will be rejected by University and returned to the Proposer unopened as that proposal will be considered non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications. Furthermore, University will open a Proposer’s HSP Envelope prior to opening the proposal submitted by the Proposer, in order to ensure that the Proposer has submitted the number of completed and signed originals of the Proposer’s HUB Subcontracting Plan (“HSP”) that are required by this RFP. A
Proposer’s failure to submit the number of completed and signed originals of the
HSP that are required by this RFP will result in University’s rejection of the
proposal submitted by that Proposer as non-responsive due to material failure to
comply with advertised specifications; such a proposal will be returned to the
Proposer unopened (ref. Section 1.5 of APPENDIX ONE to this RFP). Note: The
requirement that Proposer provide one (1) original of the HSP under this Section
2.5.4 is separate from and does not affect Proposer’s obligation to provide
University with the number of copies of its proposal as specified in Section 3.1 of
this RFP.

2.6 Pre-Proposal Conference

University will hold a pre-proposal conference at January 13, 2014. The pre-proposal
conference will allow all Proposers an opportunity to ask University’s representatives
relevant questions and clarify provisions of this RFP. Details of the conference time will
be provided at a later date, and will also include the Conference Call number, and Code.
SECTION 3

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

3.1 Number of Copies

Proposer must submit a total of ten (10) complete and identical copies of its entire proposal. An original signature by an authorized officer of Proposer must appear on the Execution of Offer (ref. Section 2 of APPENDIX ONE) of at least one (1) copy of the submitted proposal. The copy of the Proposer’s proposal bearing an original signature should contain the mark “original” on the front cover of the proposal.

3.2 Submission

Proposals must be received by University on or before the Submittal Deadline (ref. Section 2.1 of this RFP) and should be delivered to:

Vikki Ross
Senior Director Supply Chain Management
UTHSCSA
Purchasing Department
Research Administration Building, Room 4.110
North Campus
8403 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229

3.3 Proposal Validity Period

Each proposal must state that it will remain valid for University’s acceptance for a minimum of one hundred and eighty (180) days after the Submittal Deadline, to allow time for evaluation, selection, and any unforeseen delays.

3.4 Terms and Conditions

3.4.1 Proposer must comply with the requirements and specifications contained in this RFP, including the Agreement (ref. APPENDIX TWO), the Notice to Proposer (ref. Section 2 of this RFP), Proposal Requirements (ref. APPENDIX ONE) and the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. Section 5 of this RFP). If there is a conflict among the provisions in this RFP, the provision requiring Proposer to supply the better quality or greater quantity of services will prevail, or if such conflict does not involve quality or quantity, then interpretation will be in the following order of precedence:

3.4.1.1. Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. Section 5 of this RFP);

3.4.1.2. Agreement (ref. APPENDIX TWO);

3.4.1.3. Proposal Requirements (ref. APPENDIX ONE);

3.4.1.4. Notice to Proposers (ref. Section 2 of this RFP).
3.5 **Submittal Checklist**

Proposer is instructed to complete, sign, and return the following documents as a part of its proposal. If Proposer fails to return each of the following items with its proposal, then University may reject the proposal:

3.5.1 Signed and Completed *Execution of Offer* (ref. Section 2 of APPENDIX ONE)

3.5.2 Signed and Completed *Pricing and Delivery Schedule* (ref. Section 6 of this RFP)

3.5.3 Responses to *Proposer's General Questionnaire* (ref. Section 3 of APPENDIX ONE)

3.5.4 Signed and Completed Addenda Checklist (ref. Section 4 of APPENDIX ONE)

3.5.5 Responses to questions and requests for information in the *Specifications and Additional Questions* Section (ref. Section 5 of this RFP)

3.5.6 Signed and completed originals of the HUB Subcontracting Plan or other applicable documents (ref. Section 2.5 of this RFP and APPENDIX THREE).

3.5.7 Completed Questionnaire related to Medical Revenue Cycle Management (ref. APPENDIX EIGHT)
SECTION 4

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The terms and conditions contained in the attached Agreement (ref. APPENDIX TWO), and the Business Associate Agreement (ref. APPENDIX FOUR) or, in the sole discretion of University, terms and conditions substantially similar to those contained in the Agreement, will constitute and govern any agreement that results from this RFP. If Proposer takes exception to any terms or conditions set forth in the Agreement, Proposer will submit a list of the exceptions as part of its proposal in accordance with Section 5.3.1 of this RFP. Proposer's exceptions will be reviewed by University and may result in disqualification of Proposer's proposal as non-responsive to this RFP. If Proposer's exceptions do not result in disqualification of Proposer's proposal, then University may consider Proposer's exceptions when University evaluates the Proposer's proposal.
SECTION 5
SPECIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

5.1 General

The minimum requirements and the specifications for the Services, as well as certain requests for information to be provided by Proposer as part of its proposal, are set forth below. As indicated in Section 2.3 of this RFP, the successful Proposer is referred to as the “Contractor.”

5.2 Each Proposal must include information that clearly indicates that Proposer meets each of the following minimum qualification requirements:

5.2.1 Five (5) years' experience in planning, implementing, and effectively managing a third party, full service Revenue Cycle Management program.

5.3 Additional Questions Specific to this RFP

Proposer must submit the following information as part of Proposer’s proposal:

5.3.1 If Proposer takes exception to any terms or conditions set forth in the Agreement (ref. APPENDIX TWO), and Business Associate Agreement (ref. APPENDIX FOUR), Proposer must submit a list of the exceptions.

5.3.2 Proposer will provide a customer reference list of no less than three (3) organizations with which Proposer currently has contracts and/or to which Proposer has previously provided services (within the past five (5) years) of a type and scope similar to those required by University's RFP. Proposer will include in its customer reference list the customer’s company name, contact person, telephone number, email address, project description, length of business relationship, and background of services provided by Proposer.

5.3.3 In its proposal, Proposer must indicate whether it will consent to include in the Agreement the “Access by Individuals with Disabilities” language that is set forth in APPENDIX FIVE, Access by Individuals with Disabilities. If Proposer objects to the inclusion of the “Access by Individuals with Disabilities” language in the Agreement, Proposer must, as part of its proposal, specifically identify and describe in detail all of the reasons for Proposer's objection. NOTE THAT A GENERAL OBJECTION IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE RESPONSE TO THIS QUESTION.
5.3.4 In its proposal, Proposer must respond to each item listed in APPENDIX SIX, Electronic and Information Resources (“EIR”) Environment Specifications. APPENDIX SIX will establish specifications, representations, warranties and agreements related to the EIR that Proposer is offering to provide to University. Responses to APPENDIX SIX will be incorporated into the Agreement and will be binding on Contractor.

5.3.5 In accordance with Section 361.965(d), Health and Safety Code, Proposer must demonstrate whether it has a program to recycle the computer equipment of other manufacturers, including collection events and manufacturer initiatives to accept computer equipment labeled with another manufacturer's brand.

5.3.6 In its proposal, Proposer must respond to each item listed in APPENDIX SEVEN, Security Characteristics and Functionality of Contractor’s Information Resources. APPENDIX SEVEN will establish specifications, representations, warranties and agreements related to the EIR that Proposer is offering to provide to University. Responses to APPENDIX SEVEN will be incorporated into the Agreement and will be binding on Contractor.

5.3.7 In its proposal, Proposer must provide detailed responses to each of the questions provided in APPENDIX EIGHT – QUESTIONNAIRE RELATED TO MEDICAL REVENUE CYCLE MANAGEMENT.

5.4 Scope of Work

The Scope of Work represents information to assist respondents in providing a thorough response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Medical Revenue Cycle Management, Medical Billing, Coding, Insurance Follow-Up Collections and Accounts Receivable Management Services for services performed by the South Texas Faculty Practice Plan (clinical enterprise).

The Contractor will provide the following services to University:

If the Contractor plans to subcontract any part of any work; contractor must provide a detailed description of how that work is to be accomplished and by whom.

5.4.1 Qualifications

Local, regional and national academic health insurance billing and collections experience. The contractor shall demonstrate the ability, through its professional staff expertise, organizational systems, programs, and proven experience to have effectively managed a third party, full service Medical Revenue Cycle Management program of, billing, insurance follow-up, collections and accounts receivable management. Five (5) years' experience providing this level of service is a minimum requirement. Experience with research billing, standard of care determinations and clinical fee-for-service billing for multiple specialties in both inpatient and outpatient academic physician practice settings is helpful.

5.4.2 Project Phases

It is anticipated that implementation of the new Revenue Cycle Management solution will occur in four phases:
Phase I  Assessment of the University of Texas South Texas Practice Plan practice environment and creation of an implementation plan

Phase II  Loading of all Credentialing, Enrollment, Contract and Fee Schedule Data

Phase III  Testing of the systems associated with the Revenue Cycle Management solution on the Inpatient and in the Outpatient Settings to include Practice Plan accessibility of data for purposes of Decision Support

Phase IV  Implementation of the Revenue Cycle Management system solution

5.4.3 Business Services Requirements

The contractor shall process for reimbursement all eligible charges for professional services rendered to patients. These settings include outpatient hospital clinics, physician offices and inpatient hospitals in the areas surrounding McAllen, Edinburg, Harlingen and Brownsville markets. The services to be provided include billing and collecting from insurance carriers, other third party payers including State and Federal assistance programs, individual patients or any other responsible party. The contractor will have current agreements with participating hospitals that interface regularly with the South Texas Practice Plan.

5.4.4 Physician Credentialing and Enrollment

The contractor shall work cooperatively with the South Texas Practice Plan who will be responsible to insure that all providers are credentialed at participating clinical facilities and have updated information in The Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (“CAQH”) Universal Provider Datasource (“UPD”). The practice plan shall be responsible for the completion and submission of all forms required for Credentialing and Enrollment with all contracted insurance carriers and third party payers including State and Federal assistance programs who do not participate or utilize the provider data in the UPD.

Real time access to CAQH’s Data Access System (“DAS”) a managed electronic provider repository of information is a requirement. The repository will include registration and demographics, licensure, training and certification status and associated requirements. Records will include expiration dates and be monitored continuously to insure necessary certifications, licenses and enrollment status are maintained. Notifications of impending expirations are to be sent 120, 90, 60 and 30 days prior to expiration. Provider credentialing and enrollment applications are to be logged and tracked with all contracted insurance carriers and third party payers including State and Federal assistance programs.

5.4.5 Managed Care Contract Management

The contractor shall setup a system and protocol to insure regular communication with the South Texas Medical Plan leadership who has the primary responsibility of payer relationships and all managed care contracting. The contractor is responsible for loading all pertinent terms of the managed care contracts into a central repository of information that will be utilized to determine payer performance and monitored continuously through the revenue cycle management process to ensure optimal performance.
5.4.6 Front End Revenue Cycle Operations and Management

The South Texas Practice Plan will ensure staff is provided and will adhere to policies and procedures with the responsibilities of scheduling, registration and insurance verification, patient financial counseling and clinical business staff operations.

5.4.7 Patient Identification

The South Texas Practice Plan will develop and adhere to policies and procedures of a system to verify patients at the point of service and record necessary data elements to register patients not already present in the practice management/billing and insurance follow-up system.

5.4.8 Scheduling System

The South Texas Practice Plan will develop and adhere to a system of policies and procedures in order to facilitate the timely operations of patient scheduling as both a centralized and decentralized function of regular operations. Physician scheduling templates will be constructed, maintained and modified as necessary in conjunction with physician administrative staff. Patient demographics will be collected and verified at the place of service, referring physician and insurance information will be collected.

5.4.9 Insurance Verification, Preregistration and Precertification / Preauthorization

The South Texas Practice Plan will develop a system/s for the contractor to monitor registered and scheduled inpatient and outpatient services to patients. If verification is not feasible prior to services being rendered, authorization and verification should occur within a specified time frame.

5.4.10 Operations and Patient Services Representatives

The South Texas Practice Plan will develop and adhere to policies and procedures to collect and verify demographics, referral information and insurance information at the place of service. Patient Service Representatives will collect co-payments and deductibles where appropriate, check in and check out patients as required in the practice management system and schedules are reconciled as appropriate and agreed. Regular documentation and reporting are a requirement as part of the patient encounter and front end operations.

5.4.11 Billing

In addition to the mutually agreed upon design, execution and adherence to a plan to manage and/or provide services for the front end revenue cycle operations minimum details regarding medical billing is outlined below. The contractor shall insure and communicate details regarding charge capture and claims management activities with the South Texas Practice plan. Claims management activities include but are not limited to a process to eliminate an/or reduce errors and denials prior to submission of claims to payers, prescreening claims for bundling and medical necessity requirements and other common administrative, coding, credentialing, timely filing, contractual and bad debt adjustments.

5.4.12 Charge Capture

The contractor shall set up and monitor a system of controls whose operations are documented and assure that all patients, scheduled and seen and notified as seen but, not scheduled, have associated charges that are entered into the Billing and Insurance Follow-Up System. The
contractor is responsible for insuring appropriate charge capture. Encounter level charge capture reporting is a minimum functionality and should include but are not limited to practice wide and physician specific lag day metrics, missing charge reports, customizable denial summary and denial detail reports and other ad-hoc reporting as mutually designed and agreed upon timetables to be provided. The contractor shall work jointly with the South Texas Practice Plan to develop a Charge Master, but final approval of all charge rates is the responsibility of the South Texas Practice Plan. The contractor shall review charges on an ongoing basis and recommend changes to the South Texas Practice Plan in order to maximize revenue.

5.4.13 Coding

The contractor shall provide professional level coding experience and oversight consistent with all medical necessity guidelines. Coding operations will be monitored as to ensure accuracy in leveling and inclusion to identify trends and training opportunities consistent with a goal of revenue optimization / maximization. AHIMA or AAPC certification or equivalent certification and service line experience is a minimum requirement prior to coder assignment. Regular revenue cycle coding quality assurance meetings are to take place with the South Texas Practice Plan Leadership not less than once per month at the offices of the South Texas Practice Plan Leadership. A revenue cycle dashboard is to be jointly developed by the contractor and South Texas Practice Plan leadership, constructed by the contractor and provided to the South Texas Practice Plan Leadership prior to the commencement of billing activities. All coders are to be trained and certified as having achieved an agreed upon level of ICD-10 Training at contractor’s expense. ICD-10 Implementation transition should be on target and achieved in line with CMS recommendations and stated timetables. All coders will maintain minimum levels of continuing education credits, and certifications required. All expenses associated with this will be strictly borne by the contractor. All coders will maintain minimum coding accuracy levels of at least 95%; in the event of falling below, closely monitored performance plans will be implemented if reasonable. A back up plan for replacement of coders will have been established to ensure replacement within one week to reduce the risk associated with timely filing deadlines. The contractor shall provide regular onsite quarterly coding education sessions for coders and interested providers in line mission objectives to maximize / optimize revenue and revenue cycle operations at the contractor’s expense.

5.4.14 Coding Compliance

The contractor shall have in place an existing compliance plan. The contractor shall have policies and procedures that insure compliance with HIPAA regulations. The contractor shall have an in-house or third party contracted audit process documented and in place. In addition, The University of Texas System Faculty Practice Plan Compliance Program Information and Coding Tools are to be provided to the contractor. The UT System South Texas Practice Plan will conduct regular quarterly compliance review of and will make recommendations based on random representative samples of data collected and verified. Data and original source documentation is to be provided within 10 working days as requested. The contractor and the South Texas Practice Plan leadership shall work to mitigate all risks identified.

5.4.15 Staff

The contractor shall have an existing hiring process in place for its staff and perform annual performance reviews on its staff. Contractor shall also ensure all staff will have annual training (if required) by Federal and State programs to include: HIPPA Compliance; Fraud, Waste & Abuse training and others.
5.4.16 Liability Insurance

The contractor shall carry general liability and errors and omissions insurance at all times.

5.4.17 Billing Systems

The contractor shall have a fully implemented customizable 5010 certified as compliant billing system. The system is to have a minimum level of built in edits and have the ability to expand it’s repository of edits to insure clean claim submission. A minimum of 90% of claims are to be filed electronically. The contractor shall also have the ability to utilize other systems as needed.

5.4.18 Claims Management

The contractor shall have established workflows outlined and detailed and demonstrated as followed to triage rejected claims and claim denials. The contractor shall have the ability to demonstrate a claim was validated and accepted by clearinghouse and payer. Contractor’s system must demonstrate that it has a detailed system outlining how a claim was rejected and subsequently worked on a daily basis to insure timely accounts receivable follow-up.

5.4.19 Denial Management and Resolution

The contractor shall have 835 Denial and Remark codes setup to facilitate and streamline efficient and effective denial processing and direct the denial case to the appropriate staff member of the insurance follow-up team to work the denial. Actions that lead to denial resolution are to be fully documented and captured in the billing and insurance follow-up systems. Reports are to be generated monthly that detail controllable denials by responsibility area. A plan is to be jointly developed by the South Texas Practice Plan leadership to monitor and reduce controllable denials optimize the revenue cycle, maximize collections and reduce underpayments and denial frequency.

Standard operating procedures for denial management of standard and common denials are to be detailed, available for review to coders, collectors and South Texas Practice Plan leadership.

10% of all coders and those who have responsibilities associated with communicating with healthcare providers / entities in the community will be bilingual (English & Spanish).

5.4.20 Payment Posting

Not fewer than 80% of payments are to be setup to post electronically at the transaction level. The contractor shall have the ability to batch payments received via mail or at the front desk. The contractor shall have the ability to process and apply credit card payments at the transaction level both centrally and at the point of service. This process will include payment verification and copies of the verification will be sent to patients. The contractor shall setup and implement standard operating procedures to assist with identifying and correctly assigning unidentified payments, rejections and other communications details. The contractor shall demonstrate the ability to process credit balances, transfers and refund detail at the transaction level.

The contractor shall ensure payments received are accurate and consistent with the payers contracted rates. Contractor shall appeal or submit corrected claims when payments are not consistent with the contracted rates.
5.4.21 Customer Service / Self-Pay / Patient Financial Services

The contractor shall accomplish work displaying a professional attitude and demonstrating a cooperative spirit when working with patients, providers and the South Texas Practice Plan.

The contractor and South Texas Practice Plan shall jointly develop a customized statement to enhance the patient experience, containing all of the pertinent data that clearly details and defines the service terminology and information relayed.

Patient statements detailing transaction level data to include date of service, description of service, charge, adjustment (to include description) and balance should be included and relayed within two weeks it becomes the guarantor’s responsibility. Statement production will be at 4 week intervals with an appropriate message until deemed uncollectible. A minimum of 2 statements should be sent at the contractor’s expense.

A collection agency will be contracted with by the South Texas Practice Plan. Additionally, an agreement will be in place between the collection agency and the contractor to communicate past due balances with the guarantor. This agency will not report to a major credit bureau.

Customer service shall adhere to well defined and outlined fiscal policies detailed by the South Texas Practice Plan leadership team. The fiscal policies will outline procedures for calculating cash quotes, calculating discounts, deposits and outlining approved payment plan options.

75% of all patient financial services representatives are to be bi-lingual and statements are to be made available in both English and Spanish according to patient preference. Calls are to be monitored and recorded for quality assurance.

Call statistics are to be compiled and benchmarked to manage effective workflow and appropriate staffing mix with a goal of providing an optimum level of customer service to patients and physicians.

5.4.22 Accounts Receivable Management

Contractor shall compile and monitor jointly developed and customizable key dashboard indicators for the South Texas Practice Plan Leadership. Information will be utilized and presented monthly to measure effectiveness and evaluate practices to be modified to optimize performance. Regular reporting and metrics should include a minimum of trended information in aggregate by period and by payer where appropriate on:

- Charges
- Collections (Cash Basis & Code Level Matched Payment Basis by Payer)
- wRVU’s
- Net Collections/ wRVU (Cash Basis & Code Level Matched Payment Basis by Payer)
- # New Patient Visits
- Denials
- Write Offs
  - Controllable (Category and as a % of Gross Charges)
  - Contractual
  - Bad Debt
  - Charity
- Gross A/R (Category, Period and by Payer as appropriate)
- Days in A/R
- IP and OP Lag Days
• All Metrics for Charges, Collections and wRVUs are to be reported contemporaneously with Payer Mix data (by payer) against prior period and year-to-date data.
• Other Reporting Data to be reported and benchmarked are based on specific areas to include
  o Clinical Productivity and Volume (Cases, Visits, wRVUs, etc.)
  o Detail by Category by Site by Period
  o Disposition
  o Gross Balances in A/R
  o Procedure and Transaction Level Reports as Needed
  o Detail Regarding Diagnosis Related Treatment Patterns

All Data and information should also be able to be accessed and downloaded in an excel format to be analyzed and utilized for the South Texas Practice Plan Decision Support and Leadership Teams.

5.4.23 Deposits

The contractor and the South Texas Practice Plan leadership shall jointly develop processes and procedures that insure deposits are regularly routed to a lockbox in San Antonio.

5.4.24 Data

All data contained and transmitted is to be encrypted and stored both on and offsite. Regular system maintenance to include security scans and virus checks are to take place. All software licensing, software and hardware updates and maintenance are obtained and updated and upgraded at contractor’s expense. Contractor shall demonstrate that all data is backed up on not less than a daily basis on a separate secure system.

5.4.25 Data Ownership

In the event that the contract is terminated, all patient data and claim information, accounts receivable and insurance follow-up detail is the property of the South Texas Practice Plan. Contractor shall demonstrate the ability to transfer all data and files to the South Texas Practice Plan in a usable electronic format.

5.4.26 Payment

Payment for Services rendered by the Contractor shall be strictly on a percent of amount of dollars collected. Services will be invoiced on a quarterly basis and there will be no additional charges or payments for any other services.

5.4.27 Audit

In the event of an audit by any external third party. The contractor will be expected to bear the costs related to an external audit.
Proposal of: __________________________________________
(Proposer Company Name)

To: The University of Texas at Health Science Center at San Antonio
Ref.: Medical Revenue Cycle Management related to the South Texas Practice Plan
RFP No.: 745-14-P01

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Having carefully examined all the specifications and requirements of this RFP and any attachments thereto, the undersigned proposes to furnish the **Medical Revenue Cycle Management Services** required pursuant to the above-referenced Request for Proposal upon the terms quoted below.

### 6.1 Pricing for Services Offered

Please provide descriptive details on your pricing fee breakdown, to assist in the evaluation of your company’s pricing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Annual Service Fee (as a percentage of collections)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Implementation Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Training and Documentation (if separate cost)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Upgrades/Customization (If not included in Annual Maintenance)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 On-site Consulting (Hourly Rate)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Other Fees or Charges</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2 Delivery Schedule of Events and Time Periods

Although an exact date has yet to be determined, the current working estimate is that the first set of providers will be credentialed, enrolled and claims will be sent out in late Spring or early Summer 2014.

6.3 University’s Payment Terms

University’s standard payment terms for services are “Net 30 days.” Proposer agrees that University will be entitled to withhold ________ percent (_______%) of the total payment due under the Agreement until after University’s acceptance of the final work product. Indicate below the prompt payment discount that Proposer will provide to University:

Prompt Payment Discount: _____%_____days/net 30 days.

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: ____________________________

By: ____________________________
   (Authorized Signature for Proposer)

Name: ____________________________

Title: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________
APPENDIX ONE

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

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SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Purpose

University is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from Proposers having suitable qualifications and experience providing services in accordance with the terms, conditions and requirements set forth in this RFP. This RFP provides sufficient information for interested parties to prepare and submit proposals for consideration by University.

By submitting a proposal, Proposer certifies that it understands this RFP and has full knowledge of the scope, nature, quality, and quantity of the services to be performed, the detailed requirements of the services to be provided, and the conditions under which such services are to be performed. Proposer also certifies that it understands that all costs relating to preparing a response to this RFP will be the sole responsibility of the Proposer.

PROPOSER IS CAUTIONED TO READ THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS RFP CAREFULLY AND TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE RESPONSE TO ALL REQUIREMENTS AND QUESTIONS AS DIRECTED.

1.2 Inquiries and Interpretations

University may in its sole discretion respond in writing to written inquiries concerning this RFP and mail its response as an Addendum to all parties recorded by University as having received a copy of this RFP. Only University’s responses that are made by formal written Addenda will be binding on University. Any verbal responses, written interpretations or clarifications other than Addenda to this RFP will be without legal effect. All Addenda issued by University prior to the Submittal Deadline will be and are hereby incorporated as a part of this RFP for all purposes.

Proposers are required to acknowledge receipt of each Addendum as specified in this Section. The Proposer must acknowledge all Addenda by completing, signing and returning the Addenda Checklist (ref. Section 4 of APPENDIX ONE). The Addenda Checklist must be received by University prior to the Submittal Deadline and should accompany the Proposer’s proposal.

Any interested party that receives this RFP by means other than directly from University is responsible for notifying University that it has received an RFP package, and should provide its name, address, telephone number and FAX number to University, so that if University issues Addenda to this RFP or provides written answers to questions, that information can be provided to such party.

1.3 Public Information

Proposer is hereby notified that University strictly adheres to all statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General with respect to disclosure of public information.

University may seek to protect from disclosure all information submitted in response to this RFP until such time as a final agreement is executed.

Upon execution of a final agreement, University will consider all information, documentation, and other materials requested to be submitted in response to this RFP, to be of a non-confidential and non-proprietary nature and, therefore, subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act (Government Code, Chapter 552.001, et seq.). Proposer will be advised of a request for public information that implicates their materials and will have the opportunity to raise any objections to disclosure to the Texas Attorney General. Certain information may be protected from release under Sections 552.101, 552.110, 552.113, and 552.131, Government Code.

1.4 Type of Agreement

Contractor, if any, will be required to enter into a contract with University in a form substantially similar to the Agreement between University and Contractor (the “Agreement”) attached to this RFP as APPENDIX TWO and incorporated for all purposes.

1.5 Proposal Evaluation Process

University will select Contractor by using the competitive sealed proposal process described in this Section. University will open the HSP Envelope submitted by a Proposer prior to opening the Proposer’s proposal in order to ensure that the Proposer has submitted the number of completed and signed originals of the Proposer’s HUB Subcontracting Plan (also called the HSP) that are required by this RFP (ref. Section 2.5.4 of the RFP.) All proposals submitted by the Submittal Deadline accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will be opened publicly to identify the name of each Proposer submitting a proposal. Any proposals that are not submitted by the Submittal Date or that are not accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will be rejected by University as non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications. After the opening of the proposals and upon completion of the initial review and evaluation of the proposals, University may invite one or more selected Proposers to participate in oral presentations. University will use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid public disclosure of the contents of a proposal prior to selection of Contractor.

University may make the selection of Contractor on the basis of the proposals initially submitted, without discussion, clarification or modification. In the alternative, University may make the selection of Contractor on the basis of negotiation
with any of the Proposers. In conducting such negotiations, University will use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid disclosing the contents of competing proposals.

At University's sole option and discretion, University may discuss and negotiate all elements of the proposals submitted by selected Proposers within a specified competitive range. For purposes of negotiation, University may establish, after an initial review of the proposals, a competitive range of acceptable or potentially acceptable proposals composed of the highest rated proposal(s). In that event, University will defer further action on proposals not included within the competitive range pending the selection of Contractor; provided, however, University reserves the right to include additional proposals in the competitive range if deemed to be in the best interests of University.

After submission of a proposal but before final selection of Contractor is made, University may permit a Proposer to revise its proposal in order to obtain the Proposer's best and final offer. In that event, representations made by Proposer in its revised proposal, including price and fee quotes, will be binding on Proposer. University will provide each Proposer within the competitive range with an equal opportunity for discussion and revision of its proposal. University is not obligated to select the Proposer offering the most attractive economic terms if that Proposer is not the most advantageous to University overall, as determined by University.

University reserves the right to (a) enter into an agreement for all or any portion of the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP with one or more Proposers, (b) reject any and all proposals and re-solicit proposals, or (c) reject any and all proposals and temporarily or permanently abandon this selection process, if deemed to be in the best interests of University. Proposer is hereby notified that University will maintain in its files concerning this RFP a written record of the basis upon which a selection, if any, is made by University.

1.6 Proposer's Acceptance of Evaluation Methodology

By submitting a proposal, Proposer acknowledges (1) Proposer's acceptance of [a] the Proposal Evaluation Process (ref. Section 1.5 of APPENDIX ONE), [b] the Criteria for Selection (ref. 2.3 of this RFP), [c] the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. Section 5 of this RFP), [d] the terms and conditions of the Agreement (ref. APPENDIX TWO), and [e] all other requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP; and (2) Proposer's recognition that some subjective judgments must be made by University during this RFP process.

1.7 Solicitation for Proposal and Proposal Preparation Costs

Proposer understands and agrees that (1) this RFP is a solicitation for proposals and University has made no representation written or oral that one or more agreements with University will be awarded under this RFP; (2) University issues this RFP predicated on University's anticipated requirements for the Services, and University has made no representation, written or oral, that any particular scope of services will actually be required by University; and (3) Proposer will bear, as its sole risk and responsibility, any cost that arises from Proposer's preparation of a proposal in response to this RFP.

1.8 Proposal Requirements and General Instructions

1.8.1 Proposer should carefully read the information contained herein and submit a complete proposal in response to all requirements and questions as directed.

1.8.2 Proposals and any other information submitted by Proposer in response to this RFP will become the property of University.

1.8.3 University will not provide compensation to Proposer for any expenses incurred by the Proposer for proposal preparation or for demonstrations or oral presentations that may be made by Proposer. Proposer submits its proposal at its own risk and expense.

1.8.4 Proposals that (i) are qualified with conditional clauses; (ii) alter, modify, or revise this RFP in any way; or (iii) contain irregularities of any kind, are subject to disqualification by University, at University's sole discretion.

1.8.5 Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of Proposer's ability to meet the requirements and specifications of this RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness, clarity of content, and responsiveness to the requirements and specifications of this RFP.

1.8.6 University makes no warranty or guarantee that an award will be made as a result of this RFP. University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities, procedural requirements, or minor technical inconsistencies, and delete any requirement or specification from this RFP or the Agreement when deemed to be in University's best interest. University reserves the right to seek clarification from any Proposer concerning any item contained in its proposal prior to final selection. Such clarification may be provided by telephone conference or personal meeting with or writing to University, at University's sole discretion. Representations made by Proposer within its proposal will be binding on Proposer.

1.8.7 Any proposal that fails to comply with the requirements contained in this RFP may be rejected by University, in University's sole discretion.
1.9 Preparation and Submittal Instructions

1.9.1 Specifications and Additional Questions

Proposals must include responses to the questions in Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. Section 5 of this RFP). Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer should explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

1.9.2 Execution of Offer

Proposer must complete, sign and return the attached Execution of Offer (ref. Section 2 of APPENDIX ONE) as part of its proposal. The Execution of Offer must be signed by a representative of Proposer duly authorized to bind the Proposer to its proposal. Any proposal received without a completed and signed Execution of Offer may be rejected by University, in its sole discretion.

1.9.3 Pricing and Delivery Schedule

Proposer must complete and return the Pricing and Delivery Schedule (ref. Section 6 of this RFP), as part of its proposal. In the Pricing and Delivery Schedule, the Proposer should describe in detail (a) the total fees for the entire scope of the Services; and (b) the method by which the fees are calculated. The fees must be inclusive of all associated costs for delivery, labor, insurance, taxes, overhead, and profit.

University will not recognize or accept any charges or fees to perform the Services that are not specifically stated in the Pricing and Delivery Schedule.

In the Pricing and Delivery Schedule, Proposer should describe each significant phase in the process of providing the Services to University, and the time period within which Proposer proposes to be able to complete each such phase.

1.9.4 Proposer's General Questionnaire

Proposals must include responses to the questions in Proposer's General Questionnaire (ref. Section 3 of APPENDIX ONE). Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer should explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

1.9.5 Addenda Checklist

Proposer should acknowledge all Addenda to this RFP (if any) by completing, signing and returning the Addenda Checklist (ref. Section 4 of APPENDIX ONE) as part of its proposal. Any proposal received without a completed and signed Addenda Checklist may be rejected by University, in its sole discretion.

1.9.6 Submission

Proposer should submit all proposal materials enclosed in a sealed envelope, box, or container. The RFP No. (ref. Section 1.3 of this RFP) and the Submittal Deadline (ref. Section 2.1 of this RFP) should be clearly shown in the lower left-hand corner on the top surface of the container. In addition, the name and the return address of the Proposer should be clearly visible.

Proposer must also submit the number of originals of the HUB Subcontracting Plan (also called the HSP) as required by this RFP (ref. Section 2.5 of the RFP.)

Upon Proposer’s request and at Proposer’s expense, University will return to a Proposer its proposal received after the Submittal Deadline if the proposal is properly identified. University will not under any circumstances consider a proposal that is received after the Submittal Deadline or which is not accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP.

University will not accept proposals submitted by telephone, proposals submitted by Facsimile (“FAX”) transmission, or proposals submitted by electronic transmission (i.e., e-mail) in response to this RFP.

Except as otherwise provided in this RFP, no proposal may be changed, amended, or modified after it has been submitted to University. However, a proposal may be withdrawn and resubmitted at any time prior to the Submittal Deadline. No proposal may be withdrawn after the Submittal Deadline without University’s consent, which will be based on Proposer’s submittal of a written explanation and documentation evidencing a reason acceptable to University, in University’s sole discretion.

By signing the Execution of Offer (ref. Section 2 of APPENDIX ONE) and submitting a proposal, Proposer certifies that any terms, conditions, or documents attached to or referenced in its proposal are applicable to this procurement only to the extent that they (a) do not conflict with the laws of the State of Texas or this RFP and (b) do not place any requirements on University that are not set forth in this RFP or in the Appendices to this
RFP. Proposer further certifies that the submission of a proposal is Proposer's good faith intent to enter into the Agreement with University as specified herein and that such intent is not contingent upon University's acceptance or execution of any terms, conditions, or other documents attached to or referenced in Proposer’s proposal.

1.9.7 Page Size, Binders, and Dividers

Proposals must be typed on letter-size (8-1/2” x 11") paper, and must be submitted in a binder. Preprinted material should be referenced in the proposal and included as labeled attachments. Sections within a proposal should be divided by tabs for ease of reference.

1.9.8 Table of Contents

Proposals must include a Table of Contents with page number references. The Table of Contents must contain sufficient detail and be organized according to the same format as presented in this RFP, to allow easy reference to the sections of the proposal as well as to any separate attachments (which should be identified in the main Table of Contents). If a Proposer includes supplemental information or non-required attachments with its proposal, this material should be clearly identified in the Table of Contents and organized as a separate section of the proposal.

1.9.9 Pagination

All pages of the proposal should be numbered sequentially in Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.). Attachments should be numbered or referenced separately.
SECTION 2
EXECUTION OF OFFER

THIS EXECUTION OF OFFER MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH PROPOSER’S PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO COMPLETE, SIGN AND RETURN THIS EXECUTION OF OFFER WITH THE PROPOSER’S PROPOSAL MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF THE PROPOSAL.

2.1 By signature hereon, Proposer represents and warrants the following:

2.1.1 Proposer acknowledges and agrees that (1) this RFP is a solicitation for a proposal and is not a contract or an offer to contract; (2) the submission of a proposal by Proposer in response to this RFP will not create a contract between University and Proposer; (3) University has made no representation or warranty, written or oral, that one or more contracts with University will be awarded under this RFP; and (4) Proposer will bear, as its sole risk and responsibility, any cost arising from Proposer’s preparation of a response to this RFP.

2.1.2 Proposer is a reputable company that is lawfully and regularly engaged in providing the Services.

2.1.3 Proposer has the necessary experience, knowledge, abilities, skills, and resources to perform the Services.

2.1.4 Proposer is aware of, is fully informed about, and is in full compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and ordinances.

2.1.5 Proposer understands (i) the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP and (ii) the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement under which Proposer will be required to operate.

2.1.6 If selected by University, Proposer will not delegate any of its duties or responsibilities under this RFP or the Agreement to any sub-contractor, except as expressly provided in the Agreement.

2.1.7 If selected by University, Proposer will maintain any insurance coverage as required by the Agreement during the term thereof.

2.1.8 All statements, information and representations prepared and submitted in response to this RFP are current, complete, true and accurate. Proposer acknowledges that University will rely on such statements, information and representations in selecting Contractor. If selected by University, Proposer will notify University immediately of any material change in any matters with regard to which Proposer has made a statement or representation or provided information.

2.1.9 Proposer will defend with counsel approved by University, indemnify, and hold harmless University, the University of Texas System, the State of Texas, and all of their regents, officers, agents and employees, from and against all actions, suits, demands, costs, damages, liabilities and other claims of any nature, kind or description, including reasonable attorneys’ fees incurred in investigating, defending or settling any of the foregoing, arising out of, connected with, or resulting from any negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of Proposer or any agent, employee, subcontractor, or supplier of Proposer in the execution or performance of any contract or agreement resulting from this RFP.

2.1.10 Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, Government Code, any payments owing to Proposer under any contract or agreement resulting from this RFP may be applied directly to any debt or delinquency that Proposer owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when it arises, until such debt or delinquency is paid in full.

2.2 By signature hereon, Proposer offers and agrees to furnish the Services to University and comply with all terms, conditions, requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP.

2.3 By signature hereon, Proposer affirms that it has not given or offered to give, nor does Proposer intend to give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor or service to a public servant in connection with its submitted proposal. Failure to sign this Execution of Offer, or signing with a false statement, may void the submitted proposal or any resulting contracts, and the Proposer may be removed from all proposal lists at University.

2.4 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any taxes due under Chapter 171, Tax Code, or that Proposer is exempt from the payment of those taxes, or that Proposer is an out-of-state taxable entity that is not subject to those taxes, whichever is applicable. A false certification will be deemed a material breach of any resulting contract or agreement and, at University’s option, may result in termination of any resulting contract or agreement.

2.5 By signature hereon, Proposer hereby certifies that neither Proposer nor any firm, corporation, partnership or institution represented by Proposer, or anyone acting for such firm, corporation or institution, has violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, codified in Section 15.01, et seq., Business and Commerce Code, or the Federal antitrust laws, nor
communicated directly or indirectly the proposal made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business.

2.6 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that the individual signing this document and the documents made a part of this RFP, is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of Proposer and to bind Proposer under any agreements and other contractual arrangements that may result from the submission of Proposer’s proposal.

2.7 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies as follows:

"Under Section 231.006, Family Code, relating to child support, Proposer certifies that the individual or business entity named in the Proposer’s proposal is not ineligible to receive the specified contract award and acknowledges that any agreements or other contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP may be terminated if this certification is inaccurate."

2.8 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that (i) no relationship, whether by blood, marriage, business association, capital funding agreement or by any other such kinship or connection exists between the owner of any Proposer that is a sole proprietorship, the officers or directors of any Proposer that is a corporation, the partners of any Proposer that is a partnership, the joint venturers of any Proposer that is a joint venture or the members or managers of any Proposer that is a limited liability company, on one hand, and an employee of any component of The University of Texas System, on the other hand, other than the relationships which have been previously disclosed to University in writing; (ii) Proposer has not been an employee of any component institution of The University of Texas System within the immediate twelve (12) months prior to the Submittal Deadline; and (iii) no person who, in the past four (4) years served as an executive of a state agency was involved with or has any interest in Proposer’s proposal or any contract resulting from this RFP (ref. Section 669.003, Government Code). All disclosures by Proposer in connection with this certification will be subject to administrative review and approval before University enters into a contract or agreement with Proposer.

2.9 By signature hereon, Proposer certifies its compliance with all federal laws and regulations pertaining to Equal Employment Opportunities and Affirmative Action.

2.10 By signature hereon, Proposer represents and warrants that all products and services offered to University in response to this RFP meet or exceed the safety standards established and promulgated under the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Law (Public Law 91-596) and the Texas Hazard Communication Act, Chapter 502, Health and Safety Code, and all related regulations in effect or proposed as of the date of this RFP.

2.11 Proposer will and has disclosed, as part of its proposal, any exceptions to the certifications stated in this Execution of Offer. All such disclosures will be subject to administrative review and approval prior to the time University makes an award or enters into any contract or agreement with Proposer.

2.12 If Proposer will sell or lease computer equipment to the University under any agreements or other contractual arrangements that may result from the submission of Proposer’s proposal then, pursuant to Section 361.965(c), Health & Safety Code, Proposer certifies that it is in compliance with the Manufacturer Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Computer Equipment Collection and Recovery Act set forth in Chapter 361, Subchapter Y, Health & Safety Code and the rules adopted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality under that Act as set forth in Title 30, Chapter 328, Subchapter I, Texas Administrative Code. Section 361.952(2), Health & Safety Code, states that, for purposes of the Manufacturer Responsibility and Consumer Convenience Computer Equipment Collection and Recovery Act, the term "computer equipment" means a desktop or notebook computer and includes a computer monitor or other display device that does not contain a tuner.

2.13 Proposer should complete the following information:

If Proposer is a Corporation, then State of Incorporation: __________________________

If Proposer is a Corporation then Proposer’s Corporate Charter Number: ________

RFP No.: ________
NOTICE: WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED ON REQUEST TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS COLLECT ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS. UNDER SECTIONS 552.021 AND 552.023, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW SUCH INFORMATION. UNDER SECTION 559.004, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS THAT IS INCORRECT.

Submitted and Certified By:

(Proposer Institution’s Name)  

(Signature of Duly Authorized Representative)  

(Printed Name/Title)  

(Date Signed)  

(Proposer’s Street Address)  

(City, State, Zip Code)  

(Telephone Number)  

(FAX Number)  

(Email Address)
SECTION 3
PROPOSER'S GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTICE: WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED ON REQUEST TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS COLLECT ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS. UNDER SECTIONS 552.021 AND 552.023, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW SUCH INFORMATION. UNDER SECTION 559.004, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS THAT IS INCORRECT.

Proposals must include responses to the questions contained in this Proposer's General Questionnaire. Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer will explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

3.1 Proposer Profile

3.1.1 Legal name of Proposer company:

Address of principal place of business:

Address of office that would be providing service under the Agreement:

Number of years in Business: _______________________

State of incorporation: _______________________

Number of Employees: _______________________

Annual Revenues Volume: _______________________

Name of Parent Corporation, if any _______________________

NOTE: If Proposer is a subsidiary, University prefers to enter into a contract or agreement with the Parent Corporation or to receive assurances of performance from the Parent Corporation.

3.1.2 State whether Proposer will provide a copy of its financial statements for the past two (2) years, if requested by University.

3.1.3 Proposer will provide a financial rating of the Proposer entity and any related documentation (such as a Dunn and Bradstreet analysis) that indicates the financial stability of Proposer.

3.1.4 Is Proposer currently for sale or involved in any transaction to expand or to become acquired by another business entity? If yes, Proposer will explain the expected impact, both in organizational and directional terms.

3.1.5 Proposer will provide any details of all past or pending litigation or claims filed against Proposer that would affect its performance under the Agreement with University (if any).

3.1.6 Is Proposer currently in default on any loan agreement or financing agreement with any bank, financial institution, or other entity? If yes, Proposer will specify the pertinent date(s), details, circumstances, and describe the current prospects for resolution.

3.1.7 Proposer will provide a customer reference list of no less than three (3) organizations with which Proposer currently has contracts and/or to which Proposer has previously provided services (within the past five (5) years) of a type and scope similar to those required by University's RFP. Proposer will include in its customer reference list the customer's company name, contact person, telephone number, project description, length of business relationship, and background of services provided by Proposer.
3.1.8 Does any relationship exist (whether by family kinship, business association, capital funding agreement, or any other such relationship) between Proposer and any employee of University? If yes, Proposer will explain.

3.1.9 Proposer will provide the name and Social Security Number for each person having at least 25% ownership interest in Proposer. This disclosure is mandatory pursuant to Section 231.006, Family Code, and will be used for the purpose of determining whether an owner of Proposer with an ownership interest of at least 25% is more than 30 days delinquent in paying child support. Further disclosure of this information is governed by the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552, Government Code, and other applicable law.

3.2 Approach to Project Services

3.2.1 Proposer will provide a statement of the Proposer’s service approach and will describe any unique benefits to University from doing business with Proposer. Proposer will briefly describe its approach for each of the required services identified in Section 5.4 Scope of Work of this RFP.

3.2.2 Proposer will provide an estimate of the earliest starting date for services following execution of the Agreement.

3.2.3 Proposer will submit a work plan with key dates and milestones. The work plan should include:

3.2.3.1 Identification of tasks to be performed;

3.2.3.2 Time frames to perform the identified tasks;

3.2.3.3 Project management methodology;

3.2.3.4 Implementation strategy; and

3.2.3.5 The expected time frame in which the services would be implemented.

3.2.4 Proposer will describe the types of reports or other written documents Proposer will provide (if any) and the frequency of reporting, if more frequent than required in the RFP. Proposer will include samples of reports and documents if appropriate.

3.3 General Requirements

3.3.1 Proposer will provide summary resumes for its proposed key personnel who will be providing services under the Agreement with University, including their specific experiences with similar service projects, and number of years of employment with Proposer.

3.3.2 Proposer will describe any difficulties it anticipates in performing its duties under the Agreement with University and how Proposer plans to manage these difficulties. Proposer will describe the assistance it will require from University.

3.4 Service Support

Proposer will describe its service support philosophy, how it is implemented, and how Proposer measures its success in maintaining this philosophy.

3.5 Quality Assurance

Proposer will describe its quality assurance program, its quality requirements, and how they are measured.

3.6 Miscellaneous

3.6.1 Proposer will provide a list of any additional services or benefits not otherwise identified in this RFP that Proposer would propose to provide to University. Additional services or benefits must be directly related to the goods and services solicited under this RFP.

3.6.2 Proposer will provide details describing any unique or special services or benefits offered or advantages to be gained by University from doing business with Proposer. Additional services or benefits must be directly related to the goods and services solicited under this RFP.

3.6.3 Does Proposer have a contingency plan or disaster recovery plan in the event of a disaster? If so, then Proposer will provide a copy of the plan.
SECTION 4
ADDENDA CHECKLIST

Proposal of: ____________________________________________
(Proposer Company Name)

To: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Ref.: Medical Revenue Cycle Management Services related to the South Texas Practice Plan

RFP No.: 745-14-P01

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned Proposer hereby acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda to the captioned RFP (initial if applicable).

No. 1 _____ No. 2 _____ No. 3 _____ No. 4 _____ No. 5 _____

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: ______________________

By: ______________________

(Authorized Signature for Proposer)

Name: ______________________

Title: ______________________

Date: ______________________
This Agreement between University and Contractor ("Agreement") is made and entered into effective as of _________________, 20____ (the "Effective Date"), by and between The University of Texas ________________________________, an agency and institution of higher education established under the laws of the State of Texas ("University"), and ________________
("Contractor"), Federal Tax Identification Number _______________________

University and Contractor hereby agree as follows:

1. **Scope of Work.**

   1.1 Contractor will perform the scope of the work ("Work") set forth in Exhibit A, Scope of Work, attached and incorporated for all purposes, to the satisfaction of University and in accordance with the schedule ("Schedule") for the Work set forth in Exhibit B, Schedule, attached and incorporated for all purposes. Time is of the essence in connection with this Agreement. University will have no obligation to accept late performance or waive timely performance by Contractor.

   1.2 Contractor will obtain, at its own cost, any and all approvals, licenses, filings, registrations and permits required by federal, state or local, laws, statutes, regulations and ordinances ("Applicable Laws"), for the performance of the Work.

2. **The Project.**

   The Work will be provided in connection with _____________________________ and all other related, necessary and appropriate services (the "Project").

3. **Time for Commencement and Completion.**

   The term ("Initial Term") of this Agreement will begin on the Effective Date and expire on _________________, 20____. University will have the option to renew this Agreement for ______ (___) additional ______ (____) year terms (each a "Renewal Term"). The Initial Term and each Renewal Term are collectively referred to as the "Term").

4. **Contractor's Obligations.**

   4.1 Contractor will perform the Work in compliance with all Applicable Laws Contractor represents and warrants that neither Contractor nor any firm, corporation or institution represented by Contractor, or anyone acting for the firm, corporation or institution, (1) has violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Chapter 15, Texas Business and Commerce Code, or federal antitrust laws, or (2) has communicated directly or indirectly the content of Contractor's response to University's procurement solicitation to any competitor or any other person engaged in a similar line of business during the procurement process for this Agreement.
4.2 Contractor represents, warrants and agrees that (a) it will use commercially reasonable efforts to perform the Work in a good and workmanlike manner and in accordance with commercially reasonable standards of Contractor's profession or business, and (b) all of the Work to be performed will be of the quality that prevails among similar businesses engaged in providing similar services in major United States urban areas under the same or similar circumstances.

4.3 Contractor will call to University's attention in writing all information in any materials supplied to Contractor (by University or any other party) that Contractor regards as unsuitable, improper or inaccurate in connection with the purposes for which the material is furnished.

4.4 Contractor warrants and agrees that the Work will be accurate and free from any material defects. Contractor's duties and obligations under this Agreement will at no time be in any way diminished by reason of any approval by University nor will Contractor be released from any liability by reason of any approval by University, it being agreed that University at all times is relying upon Contractor's skill and knowledge in performing the Work.

4.5 Contractor will, at its own cost, correct all material defects in the Work as soon as practical after Contractor becomes aware of the defects. If Contractor fails to correct material defects in the Work within a reasonable time, then University may correct the defective Work at Contractor's expense. This remedy is in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other remedy for defective Work that University may have at law or in equity.

4.6 Contractor will maintain a staff of properly trained and experienced personnel to ensure satisfactory performance under this Agreement. Contractor will cause all persons connected with Contractor directly in charge of the Work to be duly registered and/or licensed under all Applicable Laws. Contractor will assign to the Project a designated representative who will be responsible for the administration and coordination of the Work.

4.7 Contractor represents that if (i) it is a corporation, then it is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Texas, or a foreign corporation or limited liability company duly authorized and in good standing to conduct business in the State of Texas, that it has all necessary corporate power and has received all necessary corporate approvals to execute and deliver this Agreement, and the individual executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor has been duly authorized to act for and bind Contractor; or (ii) if it is a partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company then it has all necessary power and has secured all necessary approvals to execute and deliver this Agreement and perform all its obligations hereunder, and the individual executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor has been duly authorized to act for and bind Contractor.

4.8 Contractor represents and warrants that neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement by Contractor nor the performance of its duties and obligations under this Agreement will (a) result in the violation of any provision [i] if a corporation, of Contractor's articles of incorporation or by-laws, [ii] if a limited liability company, of its articles of organization or regulations, or [iii] if a partnership, of any partnership
agreement by which Contractor is bound; (b) result in the violation of any provision of any agreement by which Contractor is bound; or (c) to the best of Contractor's knowledge and belief, conflict with any order or decree of any court or other body or authority having jurisdiction.

4.9 Contractor represents and warrants that all of Contractor's Personnel contributing to the Work Material (ref. Section 7 under this Agreement will be required to (i) acknowledge in writing the ownership of Contractor (for the benefit of University) of the Work Material and each element thereof produced by the Personnel while performing services pursuant to this Agreement and (ii) make all assignments necessary to effectuate such ownership. “Personnel” means any and all persons associated with Contractor who provide any work or work product pursuant to this Agreement, including officers, managers, supervisors, full-time employees, part-time employees, and independent contractors.

4.10 Contractor represents and warrants that: (i) the Work will be performed solely by Contractor, its full-time or part-time employees during the course of their employment, or independent contractors who have assigned in writing all right, title and interest in their work to Contractor for the benefit of University; (ii) University will receive free, good and clear title to all Work Material developed under this Agreement; (iii) the Work Material and the intellectual property rights protecting the Work Material are free and clear of all encumbrances, including security interests, licenses, liens, charges or other restrictions; (iv) the Work Material will not infringe upon or violate any patent, copyright, trade secret, trademark, service mark or other property right of any former employer, independent contractor, client or other third party; and (v) the use, reproduction, distribution, or modification of the Work Material will not violate the rights of any third parties in the Work Material, including trade secret, publicity, privacy, copyright, trademark, service mark and patent rights.

4.11 Premises Rules.

If this Agreement requires Contractor's presence on University's premises or in University's facilities, Contractor agrees to cause its employees, representatives, agents, or subcontractors to become aware of, fully informed about, and in full compliance with all applicable University rules and policies, including those relative to personal health, security, environmental quality, safety, fire prevention, noise, smoking, and access restrictions.

5. The Contract Amount.

5.1 University will pay Contractor for the performance of the Work as more particularly set forth in Exhibit C, Payment for Services, attached and incorporated for all purposes.

5.2 The Contract Amount includes all applicable federal, state or local sales or use taxes payable as a result of the execution or performance of this Agreement.
5.3 University, an agency of the State of Texas, is exempt from Texas Sales & Use Tax on the Work in accordance with Section 151.309, Texas Tax Code, and Title 34 Texas Administrative Code ("TAC") Section 3.322.

6. **Payment Terms.**

6.1 At least ten (10) days before the end of each calendar month during the Term of this Agreement, Contractor will submit to University an invoice covering the services performed for University to that date, in compliance with Exhibit C, Payment for Services. Each invoice will be accompanied by documentation that University may reasonably request to support the invoice amount. University will, within twenty-one (21) days from the date it receives an invoice and supporting documentation, approve or disapprove the amount reflected in the invoice. If University approves the amount or any portion of the amount, University will promptly pay (each a "Progress Payment") to Contractor the amount approved so long as Contractor is not in default under this Agreement. If University disapproves any invoice amount, University will give Contractor specific reasons for its disapproval in writing.

6.2 Within ten (10) days after final completion of the Work and acceptance of the Work by University or as soon thereafter as possible, Contractor will submit a final invoice ("Final Invoice") setting forth all amounts due and remaining unpaid to Contractor. Upon approval of the Final Invoice by University, University will pay ("Final Payment") to Contractor the amount due under the Final Invoice.

6.3 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, University will not be obligated to make any payment (whether a Progress Payment or Final Payment) to Contractor if Contractor is in default under this Agreement.

6.4 The cumulative amount of all Progress Payments and the Final Payment (defined below) will not exceed the Contract Amount as more particularly set forth in Exhibit C, Payment for Services.

6.5 No payment made by University will (a) be construed to be final acceptance or approval of that part of the Work to which the payment relates, or (b) relieve Contractor of any of its duties or obligations under this Agreement.

6.6 The acceptance of Final Payment by Contractor will constitute a waiver of all claims by Contractor except those previously made in writing and identified by Contractor as unsettled at the time of the Final Invoice for payment.

6.7 University will have the right to verify the details set forth in Contractor's invoices and supporting documentation, either before or after payment, by (a) inspecting the books and records of Contractor at mutually convenient times; (b) examining any reports with respect to the Project; and (c) other reasonable action.

6.8 Section 51.012, Texas Education Code, authorizes University to make any payment through electronic funds transfer methods. Contractor agrees to receive payments from University through electronic funds transfer methods, including the automated clearing house system (also known as ACH). Prior to the first payment under this Agreement, University will confirm Contractor's banking information. Any changes to Contractor's banking information must be
communicated to University in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of the effective date of the change in accordance with Section 12.14.

6.9 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, University is entitled to a “Prompt Payment Discount” of ____% off of each payment that University submits within ____ days after University’s receipt of Contractor’s invoice for that payment.

7. **Ownership and Use of Work Material.**

7.1 All drawings, specifications, plans, computations, sketches, data, photographs, tapes, renderings, models, publications, statements, accounts, reports, studies, and other materials prepared by Contractor or any subcontractors in connection with the Work (collectively, "Work Material"), whether or not accepted or rejected by University, are the sole property of University and for its exclusive use and re-use at any time without further compensation and without any restrictions.

7.2 Contractor grants and assigns to University all rights and claims of whatever nature and whether now or hereafter arising in and to the Work Material and will cooperate fully with University in any steps University may take to obtain or enforce patent, copyright, trademark or like protections with respect to the Work Material.

7.3 Contractor will deliver all Work Material to University upon expiration or termination of this Agreement. University will have the right to use the Work Material for the completion of the Work or otherwise. University may, at all times, retain the originals of the Work Material. The Work Material will not be used by any person other than University on other projects unless expressly authorized by University in writing.

7.4 The Work Material will not be used or published by Contractor or any other party unless expressly authorized by University in writing. Contractor will treat all Work Material as confidential.

7.5 All title and interest in the Work Material will vest in University and will be deemed to be a work made for hire and made in the course of the Work rendered under this Agreement. To the extent that title to any Work Material may not, by operation of law, vest in University or Work Material may not be considered works made for hire, Contractor hereby irrevocably assigns, conveys and transfers to University and its successors, licensees and assigns, all rights, title and interest worldwide in and to the Work Material and all proprietary rights therein, including all copyrights, trademarks, service marks, patents, trade secrets, moral rights, all contract and licensing rights and all claims and causes of action with respect to any of the foregoing, whether now known or hereafter to become known. In the event Contractor has any rights in the Work Material which cannot be assigned, Contractor agrees to waive enforcement worldwide of the rights against University, its successors, licensees, assigns, distributors and customers or, if necessary, to exclusively license the rights, worldwide to University with the right to sublicense. These rights are assignable by University.

8. **Default and Termination.**

8.1 In the event of a material failure by a party to this Agreement to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement ("default"), the other party may
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terminate this Agreement upon fifteen (15) days' written notice of termination setting forth the nature of the material failure; provided, that, the material failure is through no fault of the terminating party. The termination will not be effective if the material failure is fully cured prior to the end of the fifteen-day period.

8.2 University may, without cause, terminate this Agreement at any time upon giving seven (7) days' advance written notice to Contractor. Upon termination pursuant to this Section, Contractor will be entitled to payment of an amount that will compensate Contractor for the Work satisfactorily performed from the time of the last payment date to the termination date in accordance with this Agreement; provided, that, Contractor has delivered all Work Material to University. Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, University will not be required to pay or reimburse Contractor for any services performed or for expenses incurred by Contractor after the date of the termination notice that could have been avoided or mitigated by Contractor.

8.3 Termination under Sections 8.1 or 8.2 will not relieve Contractor from liability for any default or breach under this Agreement or any other act or omission of Contractor.

8.4 If Contractor fails to cure any default within fifteen (15) days after receiving written notice of the default, University will be entitled (but will not be obligated) to cure the default and will have the right to offset against all amounts due to Contractor under this Agreement, any and all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with University's curative actions.

8.5 In the event that this Agreement is terminated, then within thirty (30) days after termination, Contractor will reimburse University for all fees paid by University to Contractor that were (a) not earned by Contractor prior to termination, or (b) for goods or services that University did not receive from Contractor prior to termination.
9. **Indemnification**

9.1 **TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAWS, CONTRACTOR WILL AND DOES HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, AND HOLD HARMLESS UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE AFFILIATED ENTERPRISES, REGENTS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES AND AGENTS (COLLECTIVELY “INDEMNITEES”) FROM AND AGAINST ALL DAMAGES, LOSSES, LIENS, CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS, JUDGMENTS, EXPENSES, AND OTHER CLAIMS OF ANY NATURE, KIND, OR DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS’ FEES INCURRED IN INVESTIGATING, DEFENDING OR SETTLING ANY OF THE FOREGOING (COLLECTIVELY “CLAIMS”) BY ANY PERSON OR ENTITY, ARISING OUT OF, CAUSED BY, OR RESULTING FROM CONTRACTOR’S PERFORMANCE UNDER OR BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT AND THAT ARE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY ANY NEGLIGENT ACT, NEGLIGENT OMISSION OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF CONTRACTOR, ANYONE DIRECTLY EMPLOYED BY CONTRACTOR OR ANYONE FOR WhOSE ACTS CONTRACTOR MAY BE LIABLE. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WILL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO ELIMINATE OR REDUCE ANY OTHER INDEMNIFICATION OR RIGHT WHICH ANY INDEMNITEE HAS BY LAW OR EQUITY. ALL PARTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.

9.2 **IN ADDITION, CONTRACTOR WILL AND DOES HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, AND HOLD HARMLESS INDEMNITEES FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS ARISING FROM INFRINGEMENT OR ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENT, COPYRIGHT, TRADEMARK OR OTHER PROPRIETARY INTEREST ARISING BY OR OUT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES OR THE PROVISION OF GOODS BY CONTRACTOR, OR THE USE BY INDEMNITEES, AT THE DIRECTION OF CONTRACTOR, OF ANY ARTICLE OR MATERIAL; PROVIDED, THAT, UPON BECOMING AWARE OF A SUIT OR THREAT OF SUIT FOR INFRINGEMENT, UNIVERSITY WILL PROMPTLY NOTIFY CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT. IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, UNIVERSITY AGREES TO REASONABLY COOPERATE WITH CONTRACTOR. ALL PARTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.

10. **Relationship of the Parties.**

For all purposes of this Agreement and notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, Contractor is an independent contractor and is not a state employee, partner, joint venturer, or agent of University. Contractor will not bind nor attempt to bind University to any agreement or contract. As an independent contractor, Contractor is solely responsible for all taxes, withholdings, and other statutory or contractual obligations of any sort, including workers’ compensation insurance.
11. **Insurance**

11.1 Contractor, consistent with its status as an independent contractor will carry and will cause its subcontractors to carry, at least the following insurance in the form, with companies admitted to do business in the State of Texas and having an A.M. Best Rating of A-:VII or better, and in amounts (unless otherwise specified), as University may require:

11.1.1 Workers Compensation Insurance with statutory limits, and Employer’s Liability Insurance with limits of not less than $1,000,000:
- Employers Liability - Each Accident $1,000,000
- Employers Liability - Each Employee $1,000,000
- Employers Liability - Policy Limit $1,000,000

Policies must include (a) Other States Endorsement to include TEXAS if business is domiciled outside the State of Texas, and (b) a waiver of all rights of subrogation and other rights in favor of University;

11.1.2 Commercial General Liability Insurance with limits of not less than:
- Each Occurrence Limit $1,000,000
- Damage to Rented Premises $100,000
- Medical Expenses (any one person) $10,000
- Personal & Advertising Injury $1,000,000
- General Aggregate $2,000,000
- Products - Completed Operations Aggregate $2,000,000

Policy will include independent contractor’s liability, covering, but not limited to, the liability assumed under the indemnification provision of this contract, fully insuring Contractor’s (or Subcontractor’s) liability for bodily injury (including death) and property damage.

11.1.3 Business Auto Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned or hired automobiles, with limits of not less than $1,000,000 Combined Single Limit Bodily Injury and Property Damage;

11.2 Contractor will deliver to University:

11.2.1 Evidence satisfactory to University in its sole discretion, evidencing the existence of all insurance after the execution and delivery of this Agreement and prior to the performance or continued performance of any services to be performed by Contractor under this Agreement.

Additional evidence, satisfactory to University in its sole discretion, of the continued existence of all insurance not less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of any insurance. Insurance policies, with the exception of Workers’ Compensation and Employer’s Liability, will be endorsed and name University as an Additional Insured. All policies will be endorsed to provide a waiver of subrogation in favor of University. All policies with the exception of Workers’ Compensation and Employer’s Liability will be endorsed to provide primary and non-contributory coverage. No policy will
be canceled until after thirty (30) days' unconditional written notice to University.

Contractor will be responsible for providing to University immediate notice of its receipt of a notice of cancellation, termination, material change, or non-renewal relating to any insurance policy required herein. This requirement may be satisfied by providing a copy of the notice received by the Contractor to the University within two business days or by endorsement of the policy to require notice to the University to be provided by the insurer.

11.3 The insurance policies required in this Agreement will be kept in force for the periods specified below:

11.3.1 Commercial General Liability Insurance; Business Automobile Liability Insurance; will be kept in force until receipt of Final Payment by University to Contractor; and

11.3.2 Workers' Compensation Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance will be kept in force until the Work has been fully performed and accepted by University in writing.

12. Miscellaneous.

12.1 Assignment and Subcontracting. Except as specifically provided in Exhibit E of this agreement, Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan, attached and incorporated for all purposes, Contractor's interest in this Agreement (including Contractor's duties and obligations under this Agreement, and the fees due to Contractor under this Agreement) may not be subcontracted, assigned, delegated, or otherwise transferred to a third party, in whole or in part, and any attempt to do so will (a) not be binding on University; and (b) be a breach of this Agreement for which Contractor will be subject to all remedial actions provided by Applicable Laws, including Chapter 2161, Texas Government Code, and 34 TAC Chapter 20, §§20.101 – 20.108. The benefits and burdens of this Agreement are assignable by University.

12.2 Texas Family Code Child Support Certification. Pursuant to Section 231.006, Texas Family Code, Contractor certifies that it is not ineligible to receive the award of or payments under this Agreement and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

12.3 Tax Certification. If Contractor is a taxable entity as defined by Chapter 171, Texas Tax Code (“Chapter 171”), then Contractor certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any taxes due under Chapter 171, or that Contractor is exempt from the payment of those taxes, or that Contractor is an out-of-state taxable entity that is not subject to those taxes, whichever is applicable.
12.4 **Payment of Debt or Delinquency to the State.** Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, *Texas Government Code*, Contractor agrees that any payments owing to Contractor under this Agreement may be applied directly toward any debt or delinquency that Contractor owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when it arises, until the debt or delinquency is paid in full.

12.5 **Loss of Funding.** University performance of its duties and obligations under this Agreement may be dependent upon the appropriation and allotment of funds by the Texas State Legislature (the “Legislature”) and/or allocation of funds by the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System (the “Board”). If the Legislature fails to appropriate or allot the necessary funds, or the Board fails to allocate the necessary funds, then University will issue written notice to Contractor and University may terminate this Agreement without further duty or obligation hereunder. Contractor acknowledges that appropriation, allotment, and allocation of funds are beyond the control of University.

12.6 **Entire Agreement; Modifications.** This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, written or oral, between Contractor and University and will constitute the entire agreement and understanding between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement and each of its provisions will be binding upon the parties and may not be waived, modified, amended or altered except by a writing signed by both University and Contractor.

12.7 **Force Majeure.** Neither party hereto will be liable or responsible to the other for any loss or damage or for any delays or failure to perform due to causes beyond its reasonable control including acts of God, strikes, epidemics, war, riots, flood, fire, sabotage, or any other circumstances of like character (“force majeure occurrence”). Provided, however, in the event of a force majeure occurrence, Contractor agrees to use its best efforts to mitigate the impact of the occurrence so that University may continue to provide healthcare services during the occurrence.

12.8 **Captions.** The captions of sections and subsections in this Agreement are for convenience only and will not be considered or referred to in resolving questions of interpretation or construction.

12.9 **Governing Law.** Bexar County, Texas, will be the proper place of venue for suit on or in respect of this Agreement. This Agreement and all of the rights and obligations of the parties to this Agreement and all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement will be construed, interpreted and applied in accordance with and governed by and enforced under the laws of the State of Texas.

12.10 **Waivers.** No delay or omission in exercising any right accruing upon a default in performance of this Agreement will impair any right or be construed to be a waiver of any right. A waiver of any default under this Agreement will not be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent default under this Agreement.

12.11 **Confidentiality and Safeguarding of University Records; Press Releases; Public Information.** Under this Agreement, Contractor may (1) create, (2) receive from or on behalf of University, or (3) have access to, records or record systems (collectively, “University Records”). Among other things, University
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Records may contain social security numbers, credit card numbers, or data protected or made confidential or sensitive by Applicable Laws, including the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (Public Law No: 106-102) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g ("FERPA"). If University Records are subject to FERPA, (1) University designates Contractor as a University official with a legitimate educational interest in University Records, and (2) Contractor acknowledges that its improper disclosure or redisclosure of personally identifiable information from University Records will result in Contractor's exclusion from eligibility to contract with University for at least five (5) years. Contractor represents, warrants, and agrees that it will: (1) hold University Records in strict confidence and will not use or disclose University Records except as (a) permitted or required by this Agreement, (b) required by Applicable Laws, or (c) otherwise authorized by University in writing; (2) safeguard University Records according to reasonable administrative, physical and technical standards (such as standards established by (i) the National Institute of Standards and Technology and (ii) the Center for Internet Security, as well as the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards) that are no less rigorous than the standards by which Contractor protects its own confidential information; (3) continually monitor its operations and take any action necessary to assure that University Records are safeguarded and the confidentiality of University Records is maintained in accordance with all Applicable Laws, including FERPA and the Gramm-Leach Bliley Act, and the terms of this Agreement; and (4) comply with the University’s rules, policies, and procedures regarding access to and use of University’s computer systems. At the request of University, Contractor agrees to provide University with a written summary of the procedures Contractor uses to safeguard and maintain the confidentiality of University Records.

12.11.1 Notice of Impermissible Use. If an impermissible use or disclosure of any University Records occurs, Contractor will provide written notice to University within one (1) business day after Contractor's discovery of that use or disclosure. Contractor will promptly provide University with all information requested by University regarding the impermissible use or disclosure.

12.11.2 Return of University Records. Contractor agrees that within thirty (30) days after the expiration or termination of this Agreement, for any reason, all University Records created or received from or on behalf of University will be (1) returned to University, with no copies retained by Contractor; or (2) if return is not feasible, destroyed. Twenty (20) days before destruction of any University Records, Contractor will provide University with written notice of Contractor's intent to destroy University Records. Within five (5) days after destruction, Contractor will confirm to University in writing the destruction of University Records.

12.11.3 Disclosure. If Contractor discloses any University Records to a subcontractor or agent, Contractor will require the subcontractor or agent to comply with the same restrictions and obligations as are imposed on Contractor by this Section 12.11.

12.11.4 Press Releases. Except when defined as part of the Work, Contractor will not make any press releases, public statements, or advertisement referring to the Project or the engagement of Contractor as an
APPENDIX TWO

independent contractor of University in connection with the Project, or release any information relative to the Project for publication, advertisement or any other purpose without the prior written approval of University.

12.11.5 Public Information. University strictly adheres to all statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General with respect to disclosure of public information under the Texas Public Information Act (“TPIA”), Chapter 552, Texas Government Code. In accordance with Section 552.002 of TPIA and Section 2252.907, Texas Government Code, and at no additional charge to University, Contractor will make any information created or exchanged with University pursuant to this Agreement (and not otherwise exempt from disclosure under TPIA) available in a format reasonably requested by University that is accessible by the public.

12.11.6 Termination. In addition to any other termination rights set forth in this Agreement and any other rights at law or equity, if University reasonably determines that Contractor has breached any of the restrictions or obligations set forth in this Section, University may immediately terminate this Agreement without notice or opportunity to cure.

12.11.7 Duration. The restrictions and obligations under this Section will survive expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason.

12.12 Binding Effect. This Agreement will be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective permitted assigns and successors.

12.13 Records. Records of Contractor's costs, reimbursable expenses pertaining to the Project and payments will be available to University or its authorized representative during business hours and will be retained for four (4) years after final Payment or abandonment of the Project, unless University otherwise instructs Contractor in writing.

12.14 Notices. Except as otherwise provided by this Section, all notices, consents, approvals, demands, requests or other communications provided for or permitted to be given under any of the provisions of this Agreement will be in writing and will be sent via certified mail, hand delivery, overnight courier, facsimile transmission (to the extent a facsimile number is set forth below), or email (to the extent an email address is set forth below) as provided below, and notice will be deemed given (i) if delivered by certified mail, when deposited, postage prepaid, in the United States mail, or (ii) if delivered by hand, overnight courier, facsimile (to the extent a facsimile number is set forth below) or email (to the extent an email address is set forth below), when received:

If to University: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Vikki Ross, Director of Purchasing
7703 Floyd Curl Drive; Mail Code 7962
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900
Email: purchadmin@uthscsa.edu
APPENDIX TWO

Tel: (210) 562-6200; Fax: 210-562-6290

with copy to: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Attn: Mike Charlton
Assistant Vice President for Risk Management and Safety
Environmental Health & Safety
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900
Email: charlton@uthscsa.edu
Tel.: (210) 567-2955; Fax: (210) 567-2965

If to Contractor: _________________________
_________________________
Attention: _________________________

or other person or address as may be given in writing by either party to the other in accordance with this Section.

Notwithstanding any other requirements for notices given by a party under this Agreement, if Contractor intends to deliver written notice to University pursuant to Section 2251.054, Texas Government Code, then Contractor will send that notice to University as follows:

If to University: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Vikki Ross, Director of Purchasing
7703 Floyd Curl Drive; Mail Code 7962
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900
Email: purchadmin@uthscsa.edu
Tel: (210) 562-6200; Fax: 210-562-6290

with copy to: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Attn: Mike Charlton
Assistant Vice President for Risk Management and Safety
Environmental Health & Safety
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900
Email: charlton@uthscsa.edu
Tel.: (210) 567-2955; Fax: (210) 567-2965

or other person or address as may be given in writing by University to Contractor in accordance with this Section.
APPENDIX TWO

12.15 **Severability.** In case any provision of this Agreement will, for any reason, be held invalid or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity or unenforceability will not affect any other provision of this Agreement, and this Agreement will be construed as if the invalid or unenforceable provision had not been included.

12.16 **State Auditor’s Office.** Contractor understands that acceptance of funds under this Agreement constitutes acceptance of the authority of the Texas State Auditor’s Office, or any successor agency (collectively, “Auditor”), to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds pursuant to Sections 51.9335(c), 73.115(c) and 74.008(c), *Texas Education Code*. Contractor agrees to cooperate with the Auditor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. Contractor will include this provision in all contracts with subcontractors.

12.17 **Limitation of Liability.** EXCEPT FOR UNIVERSITY’S OBLIGATION (IF ANY) TO PAY CONTRACTOR CERTAIN FEES AND EXPENSES UNIVERSITY WILL HAVE NO LIABILITY TO CONTRACTOR OR TO ANYONE CLAIMING THROUGH OR UNDER CONTRACTOR BY REASON OF THE EXECUTION OR PERFORMANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY DUTY OR OBLIGATION OF UNIVERSITY TO CONTRACTOR OR TO ANYONE CLAIMING THROUGH OR UNDER CONTRACTOR, NO PRESENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATED ENTERPRISE, SUBCONTRACTOR, AGENT, OFFICER, DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEE, REPRESENTATIVE, ATTORNEY OR REGENT OF UNIVERSITY, OR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM, OR ANYONE CLAIMING UNDER UNIVERSITY HAS OR WILL HAVE ANY PERSONAL LIABILITY TO CONTRACTOR OR TO ANYONE CLAIMING THROUGH OR UNDER CONTRACTOR BY REASON OF THE EXECUTION OR PERFORMANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT.

12.18 **Survival of Provisions.** No expiration or termination of this Agreement will relieve either party of any obligations under this Agreement that by their nature survive expiration or termination, including Sections 6.7, 9, 12.5, 12.9, 12.10, 12.11, 12.13, 12.16, 12.17, 12.19 and 12.21.

12.19 **Breach of Contract Claims.**

12.19.1 To the extent that Chapter 2260, *Texas Government Code*, as it may be amended from time to time ("Chapter 2260"), is applicable to this Agreement and is not preempted by other Applicable Laws, the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 will be used, as further described herein, by University and Contractor to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by Contractor:

12.19.1.1 Contractor’s claims for breach of this Agreement that the parties cannot resolve pursuant to other provisions of this Agreement or in the ordinary course of business will be submitted to the negotiation process provided in subchapter B of Chapter 2260. To initiate the process, Contractor will submit written notice, as required by subchapter B of Chapter 2260, to University in accordance with the notice provisions in this Agreement. Contractor’s notice will specifically state that the provisions of subchapter B of Chapter 2260 are being invoked, the date
and nature of the event giving rise to the claim, the specific contract provision that University allegedly breached, the amount of damages Contractor seeks, and the method used to calculate the damages. Compliance by Contractor with subchapter B of Chapter 2260 is a required prerequisite to Contractor's filing of a contested case proceeding under subchapter C of Chapter 2260. The chief business officer of University, or another officer of University as may be designated from time to time by University by written notice to Contractor in accordance with the notice provisions in this Agreement, will examine Contractor's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with Contractor in an effort to resolve the claims.

12.19.1.2 If the parties are unable to resolve their disputes under Section 12.19.1.1, the contested case process provided in subchapter C of Chapter 2260 is Contractor's sole and exclusive process for seeking a remedy for any and all of Contractor's claims for breach of this Agreement by University.

12.19.1.3 Compliance with the contested case process provided in subchapter C of Chapter 2260 is a required prerequisite to seeking consent to sue from the Legislature under Chapter 107, Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code. The parties hereto specifically agree that (i) neither the execution of this Agreement by University nor any other conduct, action or inaction of any representative of University relating to this Agreement constitutes or is intended to constitute a waiver of University's or the state's sovereign immunity to suit and (ii) University has not waived its right to seek redress in the courts.

12.19.2 The submission, processing and resolution of Contractor's claim is governed by the published rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, as currently effective, thereafter enacted or subsequently amended.

12.19.3 University and Contractor agree that any periods set forth in this Agreement for notice and cure of defaults are not waived.

12.20 Undocumented Workers. The Immigration and Nationality Act (8 United States Code 1324a) ("Immigration Act") makes it unlawful for an employer to hire or continue employment of undocumented workers. The United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Service has established the Form I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification Form ("I-9 Form") as the document to be used for employment eligibility verification (8 Code of Federal Regulations 274a). Among other things, Contractor is required to: (1) have all employees complete and sign the I-9 Form certifying that they are eligible for employment; (2) examine verification documents required by the I-9 Form to be presented by the employee and ensure the documents appear to be genuine and related to the individual; (3)
record information about the documents on the I-9 Form, and complete the
certification portion of the I-9 Form; and (4) retain the I-9 Form as required by
Applicable Laws. It is illegal to discriminate against any individual (other than a
citizen of another country who is not authorized to work in the United States) in
hiring, discharging, or recruiting because of that individual's national origin or
citizenship status. If Contractor employs unauthorized workers during
performance of this Agreement in violation of the Immigration Act then, in
addition to other remedies or penalties prescribed by Applicable Laws, University
may terminate this Agreement in accordance with Section 8. Contractor
represents and warrants that it is in compliance with and agrees that it will remain
in compliance with the provisions of the Immigration Act.

12.21 Limitations. THE PARTIES ARE AWARE THAT THERE ARE CONSTITUTIONAL AND
STATUTORY LIMITATIONS ON THE AUTHORITY OF UNIVERSITY (A STATE AGENCY) TO
ENTER INTO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS THAT MAY BE A PART OF THIS
AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THOSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO LIENS ON
UNIVERSITY’S PROPERTY; DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES;
DISCLAIMERS AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES; WAIVERS, DISCLAIMER
AND LIMITATIONS OF LEGAL RIGHTS, REMEDIES, REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESSES;
LIMITATIONS OF PERIODS TO BRING LEGAL ACTION; GRANTING CONTROL OF
LITIGATION OR SETTLEMENT TO ANOTHER PARTY; LIABILITY FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS
OF THIRD PARTIES; PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS’ FEES; DISPUTE RESOLUTION;
INDEMNITIES; AND CONFIDENTIALITY (COLLECTIVELY, THE “LIMITATIONS”), AND TERMS
AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO THE LIMITATIONS WILL NOT BE BINDING ON UNIVERSITY
EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT AUTHORIZED BY THE LAWS AND CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE
OF TEXAS.

12.22 Ethics Matters; No Financial Interest.
Contractor and its employees, agents, representatives and subcontractors have
read and understand University’s Conflicts of Interest Policy available at
http://www.uthscsa.edu/compliance, and
Guide available at http://www.uthscsa.edu/compliance, and
http://www.uthscsa.edu/hop2000/10.1.2.pdf, and applicable state ethics laws
and rules available at www.utsystem.edu/ogc/ethics. Neither Contractor nor its
employees, agents, representatives or subcontractors will assist or cause
University employees to violate University’s Conflicts of Interest Policy,
provisions described by University’s Standards of Conduct Guide, or applicable
state ethics laws or rules. Contractor represents and warrants that no member of
the Board has a direct or indirect financial interest in the transaction that is the
subject of this Agreement.

12.23 State of Texas Computer Equipment Recycling Program Certification.
Pursuant to Section 361.965, Texas Health and Safety Code, Contractor certifies
that it is full compliance with the State of Texas Manufacturer Responsibility and
Consumer Convenience Computer Equipment Collection and Recovery Act set
forth in Chapter 361, Subchapter Y, Texas Health and Safety Code, and the rules
adopted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality under that Act as set
forth in Title 30, Chapter 328, Subchapter I, Texas Administrative Code. Contractor
acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

12.24 **Enforcement.** Contractor agrees and acknowledges that University is entering into this Agreement in reliance on Contractor's special and unique knowledge and abilities with respect to performing the Work. Contractor's services provide a peculiar value to University. University cannot be reasonably or adequately compensated in damages for the loss of Contractor's services. Accordingly, Contractor acknowledges and agrees that a breach by Contractor of the provisions of this Agreement will cause University irreparable injury and damage. Contractor, therefore, expressly agrees that University will be entitled to injunctive and/or other equitable relief in any court of competent jurisdiction to prevent or otherwise restrain a breach of this Agreement.

12.25 **Access by Individuals with Disabilities.** Contractor represents and warrants ("EIR Accessibility Warranty") that the electronic and information resources and all associated information, documentation, and support that it provides to University under this Agreement (collectively, the "EIRs") comply with the applicable requirements set forth in Title 1 TAC Chapter 213 and Title 1 TAC Section 206.70 (as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, Texas Government Code). To the extent Contractor becomes aware that the EIRs, or any portion of the EIRs, do not comply with the EIR Accessibility Warranty, then Contractor represents and warrants that it will, at no cost to University, either (1) perform all necessary remediation to make the EIRs satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty or (2) replace the EIRs with new EIRs that satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty. In the event that Contractor is unable to do so, then University may terminate this Agreement and Contractor will refund to University all amounts University has paid under this Agreement within thirty (30) days after the termination date.

12.26 **HIPAA Compliance.** Contractor agrees that it will execute a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement ("BAA") with University and the BAA will be in the form set forth in **Exhibit D**, HIPAA Business Associate Agreement, attached and incorporated for all purposes.
12.27 **Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan.** Contractor agrees to use good faith efforts to subcontract the Work in accordance with the Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan ("HSP") (ref. Exhibit E). Contractor agrees to maintain business records documenting its compliance with the HSP and to submit a monthly compliance report to University in the format required by Texas Procurement and Support Services Division of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts or any successor agency (collectively, “TPSS”). Submission of compliance reports will be required as a condition for payment under this Agreement. If University determines that Contractor has failed to subcontract as set out in the HSP, University will notify Contractor of any deficiencies and give Contractor an opportunity to submit documentation and explain why the failure to comply with the HSP should not be attributed to a lack of good faith effort by Contractor. If University determines that Contractor failed to implement the HSP in good faith, University, in addition to any other remedies, may report nonperformance to the TPSS in accordance with 34 TAC Sections 20.101 through 20.108. University may also revoke this Agreement for breach and make a claim against Contractor.

12.27.1 **Changes to the HSP.** If at any time during the Term of this Agreement, Contractor desires to change the HSP, before the proposed changes become effective (a) Contractor must comply with 34 TAC Section 20.14; (b) the changes must be reviewed and approved by University; and (c) if University approves changes to the HSP, this Agreement must be amended in accordance with Section 12.6 to replace the HSP with the revised subcontracting plan.

12.27.2 **Expansion of the Work.** If University expands the scope of the Work through a change order or any other amendment, University will determine if the additional Work contains probable subcontracting opportunities not identified in the initial solicitation for the Work. If University determines additional probable subcontracting opportunities exist, Contractor will submit an amended subcontracting plan covering those opportunities. The amended subcontracting plan must comply with the provisions of 34 TAC Section 20.14 before (a) this Agreement may be amended to include the additional Work; or (b) Contractor may perform the additional Work. If Contractor subcontracts any of the additional subcontracting opportunities identified by University without prior authorization and without complying with 34 TAC Section 20.14, Contractor will be deemed to be in breach of this Agreement under Section 8 and will be subject to any remedial actions provided by Applicable Laws, including Chapter 2161, Texas Government Code and 34 TAC Section 20.14. University may report nonperformance under this Agreement to the TPSS in accordance with 34 TAC Sections 20.101 through 20.108.
APPENDIX TWO

12.28 **Responsibility for Individuals Performing Work; Criminal Background Checks.** Each individual who is assigned to perform the Work under this Agreement will be an employee of Contractor or an employee of a subcontractor engaged by Contractor. Contractor is responsible for the performance of all individuals performing the Work under this Agreement. Prior to commencing the Work, Contractor will (1) provide University with a list ("List") of all individuals who may be assigned to perform the Work, and (2) have an appropriate criminal background screening performed on all the individuals. Contractor will determine on a case-by-case basis whether each individual assigned to perform the Work is qualified to provide the services. Contractor will not knowingly assign any individual to provide services on University’s campus who has a history of criminal conduct unacceptable for a university campus or healthcare center, including violent or sexual offenses. Contractor will update the List each time there is a change in the individuals assigned to perform the Work.

Prior to commencing performance of the Work under this Agreement, Contractor will provide University a letter signed by an authorized representative of Contractor certifying compliance with this Section. Contractor will provide University an updated certification letter each time there is a change in the individuals assigned to perform the Work.

12.29 **Certifications of Nonsegregated Facilities and Equal Employment Opportunities Compliance.** Contractor certifies that, except for restrooms and wash rooms and one (1) or more lactation rooms each of which is segregated on the basis of sex: (1) it does not maintain or provide for its employees any segregated facilities at any of its establishments and that it does not permit its employees to perform their services at any location under its control where segregated facilities are maintained; (2) it will not maintain or provide for its employees any segregated facilities at any of its establishments; and (3) it will not permit its employees to perform their services at any location under its control where segregated facilities are maintained. A breach of this certification is a violation of the Equal Opportunity clause. The term "segregated facilities" means any waiting rooms, work areas, rest rooms and wash rooms, entertainment areas, and transportation or housing facilities provided for employees which are segregated by explicit directive or are in fact segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, because of habit, local custom, or otherwise. Contractor further agrees that, except where it has contracts prior to the award with subcontractors exceeding $10,000.00 which are not exempt from the provisions of the Equal Opportunity clause, Contractor will retain the certifications for each one of its subcontractors in Contractor’s files, and that it will forward the following notice to all proposed subcontractors (except where the proposed subcontractors have submitted identical certifications for specific time periods):

**NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTORS OF REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATIONS OF NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES - A Certification on Nonsegregated Facilities must be submitted prior to the award of any subcontract exceeding $10,000.00 which is not exempt from the provisions of the Equal Opportunity clause. The certification may be submitted either for each subcontract or for all subcontracts during a period (i.e. quarterly, semiannually, or annually).**
Contractor understands that the penalty for making false statements regarding the subject matters of this Section is prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

12.30  **Debarment.** Contractor confirms that neither Contractor nor its Principals are suspended, debarred, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the award of contracts from United States (“U.S.”) federal government procurement or nonprocurement programs, or are listed in the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs (http://www.sam.gov/) issued by the U.S. General Services Administration. “Principals” means officers, directors, owners, partners, and persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g. general manager, plant manager, head of a subsidiary, division or business segment, and similar positions). Contractor will provide immediate written notification to University if, at any time prior to award, Contractor learns that this certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when University executes this Agreement. If it is later determined that Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to the other remedies available to University, University may terminate this Agreement for default by Contractor.

12.31  **Office of Inspector General Certification.** Contractor acknowledges that University is prohibited by federal regulations from allowing any employee, representative, agent or subcontractor of Contractor to work on site at University’s premises or facilities if that individual is not eligible to work on federal healthcare programs including Medicare, Medicaid, or other similar federal programs. Therefore, Contractor will not assign any employee, representative, agent or subcontractor that appears on the List of Excluded Individuals issued by the United States Office of the Inspector General (“OIG”) to work on site at University’s premises or facilities. Contractor will perform an OIG sanctions check quarterly on each of its employees, representatives, agents, and subcontractors during the time the employees, representatives, agents, or subcontractors are assigned to work on site at University’s premises or facilities. Contractor acknowledges that University will require immediate removal of any employee, representative, agent, or subcontractor of Contractor assigned to work at University’s premises or facilities if the employee, representative, agent, or subcontractor is found to be on the OIG’s List of Excluded Individuals. The OIG’s List of Excluded Individuals may be accessed through the following Internet website:  http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/

12.32  **Access to Documents.** To the extent applicable to this Agreement, in accordance with Section 1861(v)(I)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) as amended, and the provisions of 42 CFR Section 420.300, et seq., Contractor will allow, during and for a period of not less than four (4) years after the expiration or termination of this Agreement, access to this Agreement and its books, documents, and records; and contracts between Contractor and its subcontractors or related organizations, including books, documents and records relating to same, by the Comptroller General of the United States, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and their duly authorized representatives.
12.33 **OSHA Compliance.** To the extent applicable to the services to be performed under this Agreement, Contractor represents and warrants, that all articles and services furnished under this Agreement meet or exceed the safety standards established and promulgated under the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Law (Public Law 91-598) and its regulations in effect or proposed as of the date of this Agreement.

12.34 **EIR Environment Specifications.** Exhibit____, attached and incorporated for all purposes, establishes specifications, representations, warranties and agreements related to the environment specifications of EIR that Contractor is providing to University under this Agreement. The specifications, representations, warranties and agreements set forth in Exhibit____ are binding on Contractor. Contractor agrees to perform the Work in compliance with Exhibit____.

12.35 **Security Characteristics and Functionality of Proposer’s Information Resources.** Exhibit____, attached and incorporated for all purposes, establishes specifications, representations, warranties and agreements related to the products and services Contractor is providing to University under this Agreement. The specifications, representations, warranties and agreements set forth in Exhibit____ are binding on Contractor. Contractor agrees to perform the Work in compliance with Exhibit____.
APPENDIX TWO

University and Contractor have executed and delivered this Agreement to be effective as of the Effective Date.

UNIVERSITY: 

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT SAN ANTONIO

By: ____________________________
Name: __________________________
Title: __________________________

CONTRACTOR: 

_______________________________

_______________________________

EXHIBIT A – Scope of Work
EXHIBIT B – Schedule
EXHIBIT C – Payment for Services
EXHIBIT D – HIPAA Business Associate Agreement
EXHIBIT E – HUB Subcontracting Plan
EXHIBIT F – Electronic and Information Resources Environment Specifications
EXHIBIT G – Security Characteristics and Functionality of Contractor’s Information Resources
In accordance with Texas Gov't Code §2161.252, the contracting agency has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under this contract. Therefore, all respondents, including State of Texas certified Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) must complete and submit this State of Texas HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) with their response to the bid requisition (solicitation).

NOTE: Responses that do not include a completed HSP shall be rejected pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §2161.252(b).

The HUB Program promotes equal business opportunities for economically disadvantaged persons to contract with the State of Texas in accordance with the goals specified in the 2009 State of Texas Disparity Study. The statewide HUB goals defined in 34 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §20.13 are:

- 11.2 percent for heavy construction other than building contracts,
- 21.1 percent for all building construction, including general contractors and operative builders contracts,
- 32.7 percent for all special trade construction contracts,
- 23.6 percent for professional services contracts,
- 24.6 percent for all other services contracts, and
- 21 percent for commodities contracts.

- - Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements - -

In accordance with 34 TAC §20.14(d)(1)(D)(iii), a respondent (prime contractor) may demonstrate good faith effort to utilize Texas certified HUBs for its subcontracting opportunities if the total value of the respondent’s subcontracts with Texas certified HUBs meets or exceeds the statewide HUB goal or the agency specific HUB goal, whichever is higher. When a respondent uses this method to demonstrate good faith effort, the respondent must identify the HUBs with which it will subcontract. If using existing contracts with Texas certified HUBs to satisfy this requirement, only contracts that have been in place for five years or less shall qualify for meeting the HUB goal. This limitation is designed to encourage vendor rotation as recommended by the 2009 Texas Disparity Study.
SECTION 2 | SUBCONTRACTING INTENTIONS

After dividing the contract work into reasonable lots or portions to the extent consistent with prudent industry practices, and taking into consideration the scope of work to be performed under the proposed contract, including all potential subcontracting opportunities, the respondent must determine what portions of work, including goods and services, will be subcontracted. Note: In accordance with 34 TAC §20.11, an “Subcontractor” means a person who contracts with a prime contractor to work, to supply commodities, or to contribute toward completing work for a governmental entity.

a. Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that identifies your subcontracting intentions:
   - Yes, I will be subcontracting portions of the contract. (If Yes, complete Item b, of this SECTION and continue to Item c of this SECTION.)
   - No, I will not be subcontracting any portion of the contract, and I will be fulfilling the entire contract with my own resources. (If No, continue to SECTION 3.)

b. List all the portions of work (subcontracting opportunities) you will subcontract. Also, based on the total value of the contract, identify the percentages of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUBs, and the percentage of the contract you expect to award to vendors that are not a Texas certified HUB (i.e., Non-HUB).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Subcontracting Opportunity Description</th>
<th>HUBs</th>
<th>Non-HUBs</th>
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(Note: If you have more than fifteen subcontracting opportunities, a continuation sheet is available online at [http://window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-subcontracting-plan/](http://window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-subcontracting-plan/))

c. Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether you will be using only Texas certified HUBs to perform all of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b.
   - Yes (If Yes, continue to SECTION 4 and complete an “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed.)
   - No (If No, continue to Item d, of this SECTION.)

d. Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether the aggregate expected percentage of the contract you will subcontract with Texas certified HUBs with which you have had contracts in place with for five (5) years or less meets or exceeds the HUB goal the contracting agency identified on page 1 in the “Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements”.
   - Yes (If Yes, continue to SECTION 4 and complete an “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed.)
   - No (If No, continue to SECTION 4 and complete an “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed.)
### SECTION 2 | **SUBCONTRACTING INTENTIONS (CONTINUATION SHEET)**

This page can be used as a continuation sheet to the HSP Form's page 2, SECTION 2, Item b. Continue listing the portions of work (subcontracting opportunities) you will subcontract. Also, based on the total value of the contract, identify the percentages of the contract you expect to award to Texas certified HUBs, and the percentage of the contract you expect to award to vendors that are not a Texas certified HUB (i.e., Non-HUB).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you have had contracts in place for five (5) years or less.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<td>Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you have had contracts in place for more than five (5) years.</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to non-HUBs.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate percentages of the contract expected to be subcontracted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Subcontracting Opportunity Description</th>
<th>HUBs</th>
<th>Non-HUBs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you have had contracts in place for five (5) years or less.</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to HUBs with which you have had contracts in place for more than five (5) years.</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of the contract expected to be subcontracted to non-HUBs.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Aggregate percentages of the contract expected to be subcontracted:
SECTION 3  SELF PERFORMING JUSTIFICATION (If you responded “No” to SECTION 2, Item a, you must complete this SECTION and continue to SECTION 4.)

Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether your response/proposal contains an explanation demonstrating how your company will fulfill the entire contract with its own resources.

☐ - Yes  (If Yes, in the space provided below list the specific page(s)/section(s) of your proposal which explains how your company will perform the entire contract with its own equipment, supplies, materials and/or employees.)

☐ - No   (If No, in the space provided below explain how your company will perform the entire contract with its own equipment, supplies, materials and/or employees.)

SECTION 4  AFFIRMATION

As evidenced by my signature below, I affirm that I am an authorized representative of the respondent listed in SECTION 1, and that the information and supporting documentation submitted with the HSP is true and correct. Respondent understands and agrees that, if awarded any portion of the requisition:

- The respondent will provide notice as soon as practical to all the subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs) of their selection as a subcontractor for the awarded contract. The notice must specify at a minimum the contracting agency’s name and its point of contact for the contract, the contract award number, the subcontracting opportunity they (the subcontractor) will perform, the approximate dollar value of the subcontracting opportunity and the expected percentage of the total contract that the subcontracting opportunity represents. A copy of the notice required by this section must also be provided to the contracting agency’s point of contact for the contract no later than ten (10) working days after the contract is awarded.

- The respondent must submit monthly compliance reports (Prime Contractor Progress Assessment Report – PAR) to the contracting agency, verifying its compliance with the HSP, including the use of and expenditures made to its subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs). (The PAR is available at http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/progressassessmentrpt.xls).

- The respondent must seek approval from the contracting agency prior to making any modifications to its HSP, including the hiring of additional or different subcontractors and the termination of a subcontractor the respondent identified in its HSP. If the HSP is modified without the contracting agency’s prior approval, respondent may be subject to any and all enforcement remedies available under the contract or otherwise available by law, up to and including debarment from all state contracting.

- The respondent must, upon request, allow the contracting agency to perform on-site reviews of the company’s headquarters and/or work-site where services are being performed and must provide documentation regarding staffing and other resources.

____________________________________ _________________________________ ___________________ ___________________
Signature Printed Name Title Date

REMINDER:
- If you responded “Yes” to SECTION 2, Items c or d, you must complete an “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b.

- If you responded “No” to SECTION 2, Items c and d, you must complete an “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b.
HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)

Enter your company’s name here: ___________________________ Requisition #: ___________________________

IMPORTANT: If you responded “Yes” to SECTION 2, Items c or d of the completed HSP form, you must submit a completed “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method A (Attachment A)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b of the completed HSP form. You may photo-copy this page or download the form at http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/HUBSubcontractingPlanAttachment-A.doc

SECTION A-1 SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

Enter the item number and description of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION 2, Item b, of the completed HSP form for which you are completing this attachment.

Item #: ___________________________ Description: ___________________________

SECTION A-2 SUBCONTRACTOR SELECTION

List the subcontractor(s) you selected to perform the subcontracting opportunity you listed above in SECTION A-1. Also identify whether they are a Texas Certified HUB and their VID number, the approximate dollar value of the work to be subcontracted, the expected percentage of work to be subcontracted, and indicate whether the company is a Texas certified HUB.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Texas Certified HUB</th>
<th>VID # (Required if Texas Certified HUB)</th>
<th>Approximate Dollar Amount</th>
<th>Expected Percentage of Contract</th>
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REMINDER: As specified in SECTION 4 of the completed HSP form, if you (respondent) are awarded any portion of the requisition, you are required to provide notice as soon as practical to all the subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs) of their selection as a subcontractor. The notice must specify at a minimum the contracting agency’s name and its point of contact for the contract, the contract award number, the subcontracting opportunity they (the subcontractor) will perform, the approximate dollar value of the subcontracting opportunity and the expected percentage of the total contract that the subcontracting opportunity represents. A copy of the notice required by this section must also be provided to the contracting agency’s point of contact for the contract no later than ten (10) working days after the contract is awarded.
IMPORTANT: If you responded “No” to SECTION 2, Items c and d of the completed HSP form, you must submit a completed “HSP Good Faith Effort - Method B (Attachment B)” for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2, Item b of the completed HSP form. You may photo-copy this page or download the form at http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/HUBSubcontractingPlanAttachment-B.doc

SECTION B-1 SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY
Enter the item number and description of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION 2, Item b, of the completed HSP form for which you are completing this attachment.

Item #: ____________________________ Description: ____________________________

SECTION B-2 MENTOR PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM
If respondent is participating as a Mentor in a State of Texas Mentor Protégé Program, submitting its Protégé (Protégé must be a State of Texas certified HUB) as a subcontractor to perform the subcontracting opportunity listed in SECTION B-1, constitutes a good faith effort to subcontract with a Texas certified HUB towards that specific portion of work.

Check the appropriate box (Yes or No) that indicates whether you will be subcontracting the portion of work you listed in SECTION B-1 to your Protégé.

- Yes (If Yes, to continue to SECTION B-4.)
- No / Not Applicable (If No or Not Applicable, continue to SECTION B-3.)

SECTION B-3 NOTIFICATION OF SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY
When completing this section you MUST comply with items a, b, c and d, thereby demonstrating your Good Faith Effort of having notified Texas certified HUBs and minority or women trade organizations or development centers about the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Your notice should include the scope of work, information regarding the location to review plans and specifications, bonding and insurance requirements, required qualifications, and identify a contact person.

When sending notice of your subcontracting opportunity, you are encouraged to use the attached HUB Subcontracting Opportunity Notice form, which is also available online at http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-subcontracting-plan/

Retain supporting documentation (i.e., certified letter, fax, e-mail) demonstrating evidence of your good faith effort to notify the Texas certified HUBs and minority or women trade organizations or development centers.

a. Provide written notification of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1, to three (3) or more Texas certified HUBs. Unless the contracting agency specified a different time period, you must allow the HUBs at least seven (7) working days to respond to the notice prior to your submitting your bid response to the contracting agency. When searching for Texas certified HUBs, ensure that you use the State of Texas’ Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL) and Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Search directory located at http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/cmbl/cmblhub.html. HUB Status code “A” signifies that the company is a Texas certified HUB.

b. List the three (3) Texas certified HUBs you notified regarding the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Include the company’s Vendor ID (VID) number, the date you sent notice to that company, and indicate whether it was responsive or non-responsive to your subcontracting opportunity notice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>VID #</th>
<th>Date Notice Sent (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>Did the HUB Respond?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>- Yes</td>
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<td>- Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. Provide written notification of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1 to minority or women trade organizations or development centers to assist in identifying potential HUBs by disseminating the subcontracting opportunity to their members/participants. Unless the contracting agency specified a different time period, you must provide your subcontracting opportunity notice to minority or women trade organizations or development centers at least seven (7) working days prior to submitting your bid response to the contracting agency.

A list of trade organizations and development centers that have expressed an interest in receiving notices of subcontracting opportunities is available on the Statewide HUB Program’s webpage at http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/mwb-links-1/

d. Enter the name of the minority or women trade organizations or development centers you notified regarding the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Include the date when you sent notice to it and indicate if it accepted or rejected your notice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minority/Women Trade Organizations or Development Centers</th>
<th>Date Notice Sent (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
<th>Was the Notice Accepted?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>- Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/ /</td>
<td>- Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SECTION B-4  SUBCONTRACTOR SELECTION**

**a.** List the subcontractor(s) you selected to perform the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1. Also identify whether they are a Texas Certified HUB and their VID number, the approximate dollar value of the work to be subcontracted, the expected percentage of work to be subcontracted, and indicate whether the company is a Texas certified HUB.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Texas Certified HUB</th>
<th>VID # (Required if Texas Certified HUB)</th>
<th>Approximate Dollar Amount</th>
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**b.** If any of the subcontractors you have selected to perform the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION B-1 is not a Texas certified HUB, provide written justification for your selection process (attach additional page if necessary):

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**REMEMBER:** As specified in SECTION 4 of the completed HSP form, if you (respondent) are awarded any portion of the requisition, you are required to provide notice as soon as practical to all the subcontractors (HUBs and Non-HUBs) of their selection as a subcontractor. The notice must specify at a minimum the contracting agency’s name and its point of contact for the contract, the contract award number, the subcontracting opportunity it (the subcontractor) will perform, the approximate dollar value of the subcontracting opportunity and the expected percentage of the total contract that the subcontracting opportunity represents. A copy of the notice required by this section must also be provided to the contracting agency’s point of contact for the contract no later than ten (10) working days after the contract is awarded.
HUB Subcontracting Opportunity Notification Form

In accordance with Texas Gov’t Code, Chapter 2161, each state agency that considers entering into a contract with an expected value of $100,000 or more shall, before the agency solicits bids, proposals, offers, or other applicable expressions of interest, determine whether subcontracting opportunities are probable under the contract. The state agency I have identified below in Section B has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under the requisition to which my company will be responding.

34 Texas Administrative Code, §20.14 requires all respondents (prime contractors) bidding on the contract to provide notice of each of their subcontracting opportunities to at least three (3) Texas certified HUBs (who work within the respective industry applicable to the subcontracting opportunity), and allow the HUBs at least seven (7) working days to respond to the notice prior to the respondent submitting its bid response to the contracting agency. In addition, the respondent must provide notice of each of its subcontracting opportunities to minority/women trade organizations or development centers at least seven (7) working days prior to submitting its bid response to the contracting agency.

We respectfully request that vendors interested in bidding on the subcontracting opportunity identified in Section C reply no later than the date and time identified in Section C, Item 1. Submit your response to the point-of-contact referenced in Section A.

### Section A
#### Prime Contractor’s Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name:</th>
<th>State of Texas VID #:</th>
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<tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Point-of-Contact:</th>
<th>Phone #:</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>E-mail Address:</th>
<th>Fax #:</th>
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</table>

### Section B
#### Contracting State Agency and Requisition Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Name:</th>
<th>Phone #:</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Requisition #:</th>
<th>Bid Open Date:</th>
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</table>

### Section C
#### Subcontracting Opportunity Response Due Date, Description, Requirements and Related Information

1. Potential Subcontractor’s Bid Response Due Date:
   - Our firm must receive your bid response to this subcontracting opportunity no later than 5:00 P.M., Central Daylight Standard Time on: (Date)
   - (Note: In accordance with 34 TAC §20.14, each notice of subcontracting opportunity shall be provided to at least three (3) Texas certified HUBs, and allow the HUBs at least seven (7) working days to respond to the notice prior to submitting our bid response to the contracting agency. In addition, we must provide the same notice to minority/women trade organizations or development centers at least seven (7) working days prior to submitting our bid response to the contracting agency.)

2. Scope of Work:

3. Required Qualifications:
   - □ - Not Applicable

4. Bonding/Insurance Requirements:
   - □ - Not Applicable

5. Location to review plans/specifications:
   - □ - Not Applicable
Sample Business Associate Agreement Provisions

This Business Associate Agreement (the “Agreement”), is made as of the ___ day of ______________, 20__ (the “Effective Date”), by and between Business Associate and Covered Entity (collectively the “Parties”) to comply with privacy standards adopted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as they may be amended from time to time, 45 C.F.R. parts 160 and 164 (“the Privacy Rule”) and security standards adopted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as they may be amended from time to time, 45 C.F.R. parts 160, 162 and 164, subpart C (“the Security Rule”), and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and regulations promulgated there under and any applicable state confidentiality laws.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Business Associate provides Medical Revenue Cycle Management, Medical Billing, Coding, Insurance Follow-Up Collections and Accounts Receivable Management Services for services performed by the South Texas Practice Plan to or on behalf of Covered Entity;

WHEREAS, in connection with these services, Covered Entity discloses to Business Associate certain protected health information that is subject to protection under the HIPAA Rules; and

WHEREAS, the HIPAA Rules require that Covered Entity receive adequate assurances that Business Associate will comply with certain obligations with respect to the PHI received in the course of providing services to or on behalf of Covered Entity.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

A. Definitions. Terms used herein, but not otherwise defined, shall have meaning ascribed by the Privacy Rule and the Security Rule.

1. Breach. “Breach” shall mean the unauthorized acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of protected health information which compromises the security or privacy of such information, except where an unauthorized person to whom such information is disclosed would not reasonably have been able to retain such information.

2. Business Associate. “Business Associate” shall mean [insert name of Business Associate].

3. Covered Entity. “Covered Entity” shall mean The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

4. Designated Record Set. “Designated Record Set” shall mean a group of records maintained by or for a Covered Entity that is: (i) the medical records and billing
records about Individuals maintained by or for a covered health care provider; (ii) the enrollment, payment, claims adjudication, and case or medical management record systems maintained by or for a health plan; or (iii) used, in whole or in part, by or for the covered entity to make decisions about Individuals. For purposes of this definition, the term “record” means any item, collection, or grouping of information that includes protected health information and is maintained, collected, used, or disseminated by or for a covered entity.

5. **HIPAA Rules.** The Privacy Rule and the Security Rule and amendments codified and promulgated by the HITECH Act are referred to collectively herein as “HIPAA Rules.”

6. **Individual.** “Individual” shall mean the person who is the subject of the protected health information.

7. **Protected Health Information (“PHI”).** “Protected Health Information” or PHI shall mean individually identifiable health information that is transmitted or maintained in any form or medium.

8. **Required by Law.** “Required by Law” shall mean a mandate contained in law that compels a use or disclosure of PHI.

9. **Secretary.** “Secretary” shall mean the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her Designee.

10. **Sensitive Personal Information.** “Sensitive Personal Information” shall mean an individual’s first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of the following items, if the name and the items are not encrypted: a) social security number; driver’s license number or government-issued identification number; or account number or credit or debit card number in combination with any required security code, access code, or password that would permit access to an individual’s financial account; or b) information that identifies an individual and relates to: the physical or mental health or condition of the individual; the provision of health care to the individual; or payment for the provision of health care to the individual.

11. **Unsecured PHI.** “Unsecured PHI” shall mean PHI that is not rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals through the use of a technology or methodology specified by the Secretary in the guidance issued under section 13402(h)(2) of Public Law 111-5 on the HHS Web site.

B. **Purposes for which PHI May Be Disclosed to Business Associate.** In connection with the services provided by Business Associate to or on behalf of Covered Entity described in this Agreement, Covered Entity may disclose PHI to Business Associate for the purposes of demonstrating the ability, through its professional staff expertise, organizational systems, programs, and proven experience to have effectively managed a third party, full service Medical Revenue Cycle Management program to include but not
limited to, billing, insurance follow-up, collections and accounts receivable management.

C. **Obligations of Covered Entity.** If deemed applicable by Covered Entity, Covered Entity shall:

1. provide Business Associate a copy of its Notice of Privacy Practices (“Notice”) produced by Covered Entity in accordance with 45 C.F.R. 164.520 as well as any changes to such Notice;

2. provide Business Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, authorizations by Individuals relating to the use and/or disclosure of PHI, if such changes affect Business Associate’s permitted or required uses and/or disclosures;

3. notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use and/or disclosure of PHI to which Covered Entity has agreed in accordance with 45 C.F.R. 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate’s use or disclosure of PHI;

4. not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy rule if done by the Covered entity;

5. notify Business Associate of any amendment to PHI to which Covered Entity has agreed that affects a Designated Record Set maintained by Business Associate;

6. if Business Associate maintains a Designated Record Set, provide Business Associate with a copy of its policies and procedures related to an Individual’s right to: access PHI; request an amendment to PHI; request confidential communications of PHI; or request an accounting of disclosures of PHI; and,

7. notify individuals of breach.

D. **Obligations of Business Associate.** Business Associate agrees to comply with applicable federal and state confidentiality and security laws, specifically the provisions of the HIPAA Rules applicable to business associates, including:

1. **Use and Disclosure of PHI.** Except as otherwise permitted by this Agreement or applicable law, Business Associate shall not use or disclose PHI except as necessary to provide Services described above to or on behalf of Covered Entity, and shall not use or disclose PHI that would violate the HIPAA Rules if used or disclosed by Covered Entity. Also, knowing that there are certain restrictions on disclosure of PHI. Provided, however, Business Associate may use and disclose PHI as necessary for the proper management and administration of Business Associate, or to carry out its legal responsibilities. Business Associate shall in such cases:
APPENDIX FOUR

(a) provide information and training to members of its workforce using or disclosing PHI regarding the confidentiality requirements of the HIPAA Rules and this Agreement;

(b) obtain reasonable assurances from the person or entity to whom the PHI is disclosed that: (a) the PHI will be held confidential and further used and disclosed only as Required by Law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person or entity; and (b) the person or entity will notify Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which confidentiality of the PHI has been breached; and

(c) agree to notify the designated Privacy Officer of Covered Entity of any instances of which it is aware in which the PHI is used or disclosed for a purpose that is not otherwise provided for in this Agreement or for a purpose not expressly permitted by the HIPAA Rules.

2. Data Aggregation. In the event that Business Associate works for more than one Covered Entity, Business Associate is permitted to use and disclose PHI for data aggregation purposes, however, only in order to analyze data for permitted health care operations, and only to the extent that such use is permitted under the HIPAA Rules.

3. De-identified Information. Business Associate may use and disclose de-identified health information if written approval from the Covered Entity is obtained, and the PHI is de-identified in compliance with the HIPAA Rules. Moreover, Business Associate shall review and comply with the requirements defined under Section E. of this Agreement.

4. Safeguards.

(a) Business Associate shall maintain appropriate safeguards to ensure that PHI is not used or disclosed other than as provided by this Agreement or as Required by Law. Business Associate shall implement administrative, physical and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of any paper or electronic PHI it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity.

(b) Business Associate shall assure that all PHI be secured when accessed by Business Associate’s employees, agents or subcontractor. Any access to PHI by Business Associate’s employees, agents or subcontractors shall be limited to legitimate business needs while working with PHI. Any personnel changes by Business Associate, eliminating the legitimate business needs for employees, agents or contractors access to PHI – either by revision of duties or termination – shall be immediately reported to Covered Entity. Such reporting shall be made no later than the third business day after the personnel change becomes effective.
5. **Minimum Necessary.** Business Associate shall ensure that all uses and disclosures of PHI are subject to the principle of “minimum necessary use and disclosure,” i.e., that only PHI that is the minimum necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure, or request is used or disclosed; and, the use of limited data sets when possible.

6. **Disclosure to Agents and Subcontractors.** If Business Associate discloses PHI received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, to agents, including a subcontractor, Business Associate shall require the agent or subcontractor to agree to the same restrictions and conditions as apply to Business Associate under this Agreement. Business Associate shall ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the paper or electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the Covered Entity. Business Associate shall be liable to Covered Entity for any acts, failures or omissions of the agent or subcontractor in providing the services as if they were Business Associate’s own acts, failures or omissions, to the extent permitted by law. Business Associate further expressly warrants that its agents or subcontractors will be specifically advised of, and will comply in all respects with, the terms of this Agreement.

7. **Individual Rights Regarding Designated Record Sets.** If Business Associate maintains a Designated Record Set on behalf of Covered Entity Business Associate agrees as follows:

   (a) **Individual Right to Copy or Inspection.** Business Associate agrees that if it maintains a Designated Record Set for Covered Entity that is not maintained by Covered Entity, it will permit an Individual to inspect or copy PHI about the Individual in that set as directed by Covered Entity to meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 164.524. If the PHI is in electronic format, the Individual shall have a right to obtain a copy of such information in electronic format and, if the Individual chooses, to direct that an electronic copy be transmitted directly to an entity or person designated by the individual in accordance with HITECH section 13405 (c). Under the Privacy Rule, Covered Entity is required to take action on such requests as soon as possible, but not later than 30 days following receipt of the request. Business Associate agrees to make reasonable efforts to assist Covered Entity in meeting this deadline. The information shall be provided in the form or format requested if it is readily producible in such form or format; or in summary, if the Individual has agreed in advance to accept the information in summary form. A reasonable, cost-based fee for copying health information may be charged. If Covered Entity maintains the requested records, Covered Entity, rather than Business Associate shall permit access according to its policies and procedures implementing the Privacy Rule.
(b) **Individual Right to Amendment.** Business Associate agrees, if it maintains PHI in a Designated Record Set, to make amendments to PHI at the request and direction of Covered Entity pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 164.526. If Business Associate maintains a record in a Designated Record Set that is not also maintained by Covered Entity, Business Associate agrees that it will accommodate an Individual’s request to amend PHI only in conjunction with a determination by Covered Entity that the amendment is appropriate according to 45 C.F.R. § 164.526.

(c) **Accounting of Disclosures.** Business Associate agrees to maintain documentation of the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures of PHI, whether PHI is paper or electronic format, in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528 and HITECH Sub Title D Title VI Section 13405 (c), and to make this information available to Covered Entity upon Covered Entity’s request, in order to allow Covered Entity to respond to an Individual’s request for accounting of disclosures. Under the Privacy Rule, Covered Entity is required to take action on such requests as soon as possible but not later than 60 days following receipt of the request. Business Associate agrees to use its best efforts to assist Covered Entity in meeting this deadline but not later than 45 days following receipt of the request. Such accounting must be provided without cost to the individual or Covered Entity if it is the first accounting requested by an individual within any 12 month period; however, a reasonable, cost-based fee may be charged for subsequent accountings if Business Associate informs the individual in advance of the fee and is afforded an opportunity to withdraw or modify the request. Such accounting is limited to disclosures that were made in the six (6) years prior to the request (not including disclosures prior to the compliance date of the Privacy Rule) and shall be provided for as long as Business Associate maintains the PHI.

8. **Internal Practices, Policies and Procedures.** Except as otherwise specified herein, Business Associate shall make available its internal practices, policies and procedures relating to the use and disclosure of PHI, received from or on behalf of Covered Entity to the Secretary or his or her agents for the purpose of determining Covered Entity’s compliance with the HIPAA Rules, or any other health oversight agency, or to Covered Entity. Records requested that are not protected by an applicable legal privilege will be made available in the time and manner specified by Covered Entity or the Secretary.

9. **Notice of Privacy Practices.** Business Associate shall abide by the limitations of Covered Entity’s Notice of which it has knowledge. Any use or disclosure permitted by this Agreement may be amended by changes to Covered Entity’s Notice; provided, however, that the amended Notice shall not affect permitted uses and disclosures on which Business Associate relied prior to receiving notice of such amended Notice.
10. **Withdrawal of Authorization.** If the use or disclosure of PHI in this Agreement is based upon an Individual’s specific authorization for the use or disclosure of his or her PHI, and the Individual revokes such authorization, the effective date of such authorization has expired, or such authorization is found to be defective in any manner that renders it invalid, Business Associate shall, if it has notice of such revocation, expiration, or invalidity, cease the use and disclosure of the Individual’s PHI except to the extent it has relied on such use or disclosure, or if an exception under the Privacy Rule expressly applies.

11. **Knowledge of HIPAA Rules.** Business Associate agrees to review and understand the HIPAA Rules as it applies to Business Associate, and to comply with the applicable requirements of the HIPAA Rule, as well as any applicable amendments.

12. **Information Breach Notification for PHI.** Business Associate expressly recognizes that Covered Entity has certain reporting and disclosure obligations to the Secretary and the Individual in case of a security breach of unsecured PHI. Where Business Associate accesses, maintains, retains, modifies, records, stores, destroys, or otherwise holds, uses or discloses unsecured paper or electronic PHI, Business Associate immediately following the discovery of a breach of such information, shall notify Covered Entity of such breach. Initial notification of the breach does not need to be in compliance with Sub Title D Title IV Section 13402 of the HITECH Act; however, Business Associate must provide Covered Entity with all information necessary for Covered Entity to comply with Sub Title D Title IV Section 13402 of the HITECH Act without reasonable delay, and in no case later than 30 days following the discovery of the breach. Business Associate shall be liable for the costs associated with such breach if caused by the Business Associate’s negligent or willful acts or omissions, or the negligent or willful acts or omissions of Business Associate’s agents, officers, employees or subcontractors.

13. **Breach Notification to Individuals.** Business Associate’s duty to notify Covered Entity of any breach does not permit Business Associate to notify those individuals whose PHI has been breached by Business Associate without the express written permission of Covered Entity to do so. Any and all notification to those individuals whose PHI has been breached shall be made under the direction, review and control of Covered Entity. The Business Associate will notify the Privacy Officer via telephone with follow-up in writing to include; name of individuals whose PHI was breached, information breached, date of breach, form of breach, etc. The cost of the notification will be paid by the Business Associate. **[Include language if UT will provide notifications.]**

14. **Information Breach Notification for Other Sensitive Personal Information.** In addition to the reporting under Section D.11, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity of any breach of computerized sensitive personal information to assure Covered Entity’s compliance with the notification requirements of Title 11, Subtitle B, Chapter 521, Subchapter A, Section 521.053, Texas Business &
APPENDIX FOUR

Commerce Code. Accordingly, Business Associate shall be liable for all costs associated with any breach caused by Business Associate’s negligent or willful acts or omissions, or those negligent or willful acts or omissions of Business Associate’s agents, officers, employees or subcontractors.

E. Permitted Uses and Disclosures by Business Associates. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in this Business Associates Agreement or in a Master Services Agreement, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the HIPAA Rules if done by Covered Entity or the minimum necessary policies and procedures of the Covered Entity. Also, Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with the HIPAA Rules.

1. Use. Business Associate will not, and will ensure that its directors, officers, employees, contractors and other agents do not, use PHI other than as permitted or required by Business Associate to perform the Services or as required by law, but in no event in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Standards or Security standards if used by Covered Entity.

2. Disclosure. Business Associate will not, and will ensure that its directors, officers, employees, contractors, and other agents do not, disclose PHI other than as permitted pursuant to this arrangement or as required by law, but in no event disclose PHI in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Standards or Security Standards if disclosed by Covered Entity.

3. Business Associate acknowledges and agrees that Covered Entity owns all right, title, and interest in and to all PHI, and that such right, title, and interest will be vested in Covered Entity. Neither Business Associate nor any of its employees, agents, consultants or assigns will have any rights in any of the PHI, except as expressly set forth above. Business Associate represents, warrants, and covenants that it will not compile and/or distribute analyses to third parties using any PHI without Covered Entity’s express written consent.

F. Application of Security and Privacy Provisions to Business Associate.

1. Security Measures. Sections 164.308, 164.310, 164.312 and 164.316 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations dealing with the administrative, physical and technical safeguards as well as policies, procedures and documentation requirements that apply to Covered Entity shall in the same manner apply to Business Associate. Any additional security requirements contained in Sub Title D of Title IV of the HITECH Act that apply to Covered Entity shall also apply to Business Associate. Pursuant to the foregoing requirements in this section, the Business Associate will implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the paper or electronic PHI that it creates, has access to, or transmits. Business Associate will also ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides such
information, agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect such information. Business Associate will ensure that PHI contained in portable devices or removable media is encrypted.

2. **Annual Guidance.** For the first year beginning after the date of the enactment of the HITECH Act and annually thereafter, the secretary shall annually issue guidance on the most effective and appropriate technical safeguards for use in carrying out the sections referred to in subsection (a) and the security standards in subpart C of part 164 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations. Business Associate shall, at their own cost and effort, monitor the issuance of such guidance and comply accordingly.

3. **Privacy Provisions.** The enhanced HIPAA privacy requirements including but not necessarily limited to accounting for certain PHI disclosures for treatment, restrictions on the sale of PHI, restrictions on marketing and fundraising communications, payment and health care operations contained Subtitle D of the HITECH Act that apply to the Covered entity shall equally apply to the Business Associate.

4. **Application of Civil and Criminal Penalties.** If Business Associate violates any security or privacy provision specified in subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, sections 1176 and 1177 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d-5, 1320d-5) shall apply to Business Associate with respect to such violation in the same manner that such sections apply to Covered Entity if it violates such provisions.

G. **Term and Termination.**

1. **Term.** This Agreement shall be effective as of the Effective Date and shall be terminated when all PHI provided to Business Associate by Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, is destroyed or returned to Covered Entity.

2. **Termination for Cause.** Upon Covered entity’s knowledge of a material breach by Business Associate, Covered Entity shall either:

   a. Provide an opportunity for Business associate to cure the breach or end the violation and terminate this Agreement, whether it is in the form of a stand alone agreement or an addendum to a Master Services Agreement, if Business Associate does not cure the breach or end the violation within the time specified by Covered Entity; or

   b. Immediately terminate this Agreement whether it is in the form of a stand alone agreement of an addendum to a Master Services Agreement if Business associate has breached a material term of this Agreement and cure is not possible.

3. **Effect of Termination.** Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, Business Associate agrees to return or destroy all PHI received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, maintained by
Business Associate in any form. If Business Associate determines that the return or destruction of PHI is not feasible, Business Associate shall inform Covered Entity in writing of the reason thereof, and shall agree to extend the protections of this Agreement to such PHI and limit further uses and disclosures of the PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the PHI not feasible for so long as Business Associate retains the PHI.

H. Miscellaneous.

1. **Indemnification.** To the extent permitted by law, Business Associate agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Covered Entity from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, judgments or causes of action of any nature for any relief, elements of recovery or damages recognized by law (including, without limitation, attorney’s fees, defense costs, and equitable relief), for any damage or loss incurred by Covered Entity arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to any acts or omissions or other conduct of Business Associate or its agents in connection with the performance of Business Associate’s or its agents’ duties under this Agreement. This indemnity shall apply even if Covered Entity is alleged to be solely or jointly negligent or otherwise solely or jointly at fault; provided, however, that a trier of fact finds Covered Entity not to be solely or jointly negligent or otherwise solely or jointly at fault. This indemnity shall not be construed to limit Covered Entity’s rights, if any, to common law indemnity.

   Covered Entity shall have the option, at its sole discretion, to employ attorneys selected by it to defend any such action, the costs and expenses of which shall be the responsibility of Business Associate. Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with timely notice of the existence of such proceedings and such information, documents and other cooperation as reasonably necessary to assist Business Associate in establishing a defense to such action.

   These indemnities shall survive termination of this Agreement, and Covered Entity reserves the right, at its option and expense, to participate in the defense of any suit or proceeding through counsel of its own choosing.

2. **Mitigation.** If Business Associate violates this Agreement or either of the HIPAA Rules, Business Associate agrees to mitigate any damage caused by such breach.

3. **Rights of Proprietary Information.** Covered Entity retains any and all rights to the proprietary information, confidential information, and PHI it releases to Business Associate.

4. **Survival.** The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section E.3 of this Agreement shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

5. **Notices.** Any notices pertaining to this Agreement shall be given in writing and shall be deemed duly given when personally delivered to a Party or a Party's authorized representative as listed below or sent by means of a reputable overnight carrier, or sent by means of certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. A notice
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sent by certified mail shall be deemed given on the date of receipt or refusal of receipt. All notices shall be addressed to the appropriate Party as follows:

If to Covered Entity:

______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

Attn: ________________________
Phone Number: ________________

If to Business Associate:

______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

Attn: _________________________
Phone Number: ________________

6. Amendments. This Agreement may not be changed or modified in any manner except by an instrument in writing signed by a duly authorized officer of each of the Parties hereto. The Parties, however, agree to amend this Agreement from time to time as necessary, in order to allow Covered Entity’s to comply with the requirements of the HIPAA Rules.

7. Choice of Law. This Agreement and the rights and the obligations of the Parties hereunder shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of Texas, without regard to applicable conflict of laws principles.

8. Assignment of Rights and Delegation of Duties. This Agreement is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns. However, neither Party may assign any of its rights or delegate any of its obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, however, Covered Entity retains the right to assign or delegate any of its rights or obligations hereunder to any of its wholly owned subsidiaries, affiliates or successor companies. Assignments made in violation of this provision are null and void.

9. Nature of Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create (i) a partnership, joint venture or other joint business relationship between the Parties or any of their affiliates, (ii) any fiduciary duty owed by one Party to another Party or
APPENDIX FOUR

any of its affiliates, or (iii) a relationship of employer and employee between the Parties.

10. **No Waiver**. Failure or delay on the part of either Party to exercise any right, power, privilege or remedy hereunder shall not constitute a waiver thereof. No provision of this Agreement may be waived by either Party except by a writing signed by an authorized representative of the Party making the waiver.

11. **Equitable Relief**. Any disclosure of misappropriation of PHI by Business Associate in violation of this Agreement will cause Covered Entity irreparable harm, the amount of which may be difficult to ascertain. Business Associate therefore agrees that Covered Entity shall have the right to apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for specific performance and/or an order restraining and enjoining Business Associate from any such further disclosure or breach, and for such other relief as Covered Entity shall deem appropriate. Such rights are in addition to any other remedies available to Covered Entity at law or in equity. Business Associate expressly waives the defense that a remedy in damages will be adequate, and further waives any requirement in an action for specific performance or injunction for the posting of a bond by Covered Entity.

12. **Severability**. The provisions of this Agreement shall be severable, and if any provision of this Agreement shall be held or declared to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect as though such illegal, invalid or unenforceable provision had not been contained herein.

13. **No Third Party Beneficiaries**. Nothing in this Agreement shall be considered or construed as conferring any right or benefit on a person not party to this Agreement nor imposing any obligations on either Party hereto to persons not a party to this Agreement.

14. **Headings**. The descriptive headings of the articles, sections, subsections, exhibits and schedules of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only, do not constitute a part of this Agreement and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.

15. **Entire Agreement**. This Agreement, together with all Exhibits, Riders and amendments, if applicable, which are fully completed and signed by authorized persons on behalf of both Parties from time to time while this Agreement is in effect, constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all previous written or oral understandings, agreements, negotiations, commitments, and any other writing and communication by or between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. In the event of any inconsistencies between any provisions of this Agreement in any provisions of the Exhibits, Riders, or amendments, the provisions of this Agreement shall control.
16. **Interpretation.** Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits Covered Entity to comply with the HIPAA Rules and any applicable state confidentiality laws. The provisions of this Agreement shall prevail over the provisions of any other agreement that exists between the Parties that may conflict with, or appear inconsistent with, any provision of this Agreement or the HIPAA Rules.

17. **Regulatory References.** A citation in this Agreement to the Code of Federal Regulations shall mean the cited section as that section may be amended from time to time.

Agreed to:

**BUSINESS ASSOCIATE**

By: __________________________

(Authorized Signature)

Name: _________________________

(Type or Print)

Title: __________________________

Date: __________________________

**COVERED ENTITY**

By: __________________________

(Authorized Signature)

Name: _________________________

(Type or Print)

Title: __________________________

Date: __________________________
Access by Individuals with Disabilities. Contractor represents and warrants (“EIR Accessibility Warranty”) that the electronic and information resources and all associated information, documentation, and support that it provides to University under this Agreement (collectively, the “EIRs”) comply with the applicable requirements set forth in Title 1, Chapter 213, Texas Administrative Code, and Title 1, Chapter 206, Rule §206.70, Texas Administrative Code (as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, Government Code.) To the extent Contractor becomes aware that the EIRs, or any portion thereof, do not comply with the EIR Accessibility Warranty, then Contractor represents and warrants that it will, at no cost to University, either (1) perform all necessary remediation to make the EIRs satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty or (2) replace the EIRs with new EIRs that satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty. In the event that Contractor fails or is unable to do so, then University may terminate this Agreement and Contractor will refund to University all amounts University has paid under this Agreement within thirty (30) days after the termination date.
APPENDIX SIX

ELECTRONIC AND INFORMATION RESOURCES ENVIRONMENT SPECIFICATIONS

The specifications, representations, warranties and agreements set forth in Proposer’s responses to this APPENDIX SIX will be incorporated into the Agreement.

University is primarily a Microsoft products environment.

Basic Specifications

1. If the EIR will be hosted by University, please describe the overall environment requirements for the EIR (size the requirements to support the number of concurrent users, the number of licenses and the input/output generated by the application as requested in the application requirements).
   A. Hardware: If Proposer will provide hardware, does the hardware have multiple hard drives utilizing a redundant RAID configuration for fault tolerance? Are redundant servers included as well?
   B. Operating System and Version:
   C. Web Server: Is a web server required? If so, what web application is required (Apache or IIS)? What version? Are add-ins required?
   D. Application Server:
   E. Database:
   F. Other Requirements: Are any other hardware or software components required?
   G. Assumptions: List any assumptions made as part of the identification of these environment requirements.
   H. Storage: What are the space/storage requirements of this implementation?
   I. Users: What is the maximum number of users this configuration will support?
   J. Clustering: How does the EIR handle clustering over multiple servers?
   K. Virtual Server Environment: Can the EIR be run in a virtual server environment?

2. If the EIR will be hosted by Proposer, describe in detail what the hosted solution includes, and address, specifically, the following issues:
   A. Describe the audit standards of the physical security of the facility; and
   B. Indicate whether Proposer is willing to allow an audit by University or its representative.

3. If the user and administrative interfaces for the EIR are web-based, do the interfaces support Firefox on Mac as well as Windows and Safari on the Macintosh?

4. If the EIR requires special client software, what are the environment requirements for that client software?

5. Manpower Requirements: Who will operate and maintain the EIR? Will additional University full time employees (FTEs) be required? Will special training on the EIR be required by Proposer’s technical staff? What is the estimated cost of required training.

6. Upgrades and Patches: Describe Proposer’s strategy regarding EIR upgrades and patches
for both the server and, if applicable, the client software. Included Proposer’s typical release schedule, recommended processes, estimated outage and plans for next version/major upgrade.

**Security**

1. Has the EIR been tested for application security vulnerabilities? For example, has the EIR been evaluated against the Open Web Application Security Project (“OWASP”) Top 10 list that includes flaws like cross site scripting and SQL injection? If so, please provide the scan results and specify the tool used. University will not take final delivery of the EIR if University determines there are serious vulnerabilities within the EIR.

2. Which party, Proposer or University, will be responsible for maintaining critical EIR application security updates?

3. If the EIR is hosted, indicate whether Proposer’s will permit University to conduct a penetration test on University’s instance of the EIR.

4. If confidential data, including HIPAA or FERPA data, is stored in the EIR, will the data be encrypted at rest and in transmittal?

**Integration**

1. Is the EIR authentication Security Assertion Markup Language (“SAML”) compliant? Has Proposer ever implemented the EIR with Shibboleth authentication? If not, does the EIR integrate with Active Directory? Does the EIR support SSL connections to this directory service?

2. Does the EIR rely on Active Directory for group management and authorization or does the EIR maintain a local authorization/group database?

3. What logging capabilities does the EIR have? If this is a hosted EIR solution, will University have access to implement logging with University’s standard logging and monitoring tools, RSA’s Envision?

4. Does the EIR have an application programming interface (“API”) that enables us to incorporate it with other applications run by the University? If so, is the API .Net based? Web Services-based? Other?

5. Will University have access to the EIR source code? If so, will the EIR license permit University to make modifications to the source code? Will University’s modifications be protected in future upgrades?
6. Will Proposer place the EIR source code in escrow with an escrow agent so that if Proposer is no longer in business or Proposer has discontinued support, the EIR source code will be available to University.

**Accessibility Information**

APPENDIX SEVEN
SECURITY CHARACTERISTICS AND FUNCTIONALITY OF CONTRACTOR'S INFORMATION RESOURCES

The specifications, representations, warranties and agreements set forth in Proposer's responses to this APPENDIX SEVEN will be incorporated into the Agreement.

“Information Resources” means any and all computer printouts, online display devices, mass storage media, and all computer-related activities involving any device capable of receiving email, browsing Web sites, or otherwise capable of receiving, storing, managing, or transmitting Data including, but not limited to, mainframes, servers, Network Infrastructure, personal computers, notebook computers, hand-held computers, personal digital assistant (PDA), pagers, distributed processing systems, network attached and computer controlled medical and laboratory equipment (i.e. embedded technology), telecommunication resources, network environments, telephones, fax machines, printers and service bureaus. Additionally, it is the procedures, equipment, facilities, software, and Data that are designed, built, operated, and maintained to create, collect, record, process, store, retrieve, display, and transmit information.

“University Records” means records or record systems that Proposer (1) creates, (2) receives from or on behalf of University, or (3) has access, and which may contain confidential information (including credit card information, social security numbers, and private health information (“PHI”) subject to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”) of 1996 (Public Law 104-191), or education records subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”).

General Protection of University Records

1. Describe the security features incorporated into Information Resources (ref. Section 5.3.4 of the RFP) to be provided or used by Proposer pursuant to this RFP.

2. List all products, including imbedded products that are a part of Information Resources and the corresponding owner of each product.

3. Describe any assumptions made by Proposer in its proposal regarding information security outside those already listed in the proposal.

Complete the following additional questions if the Information Resources will be hosted by Proposer:

4. Describe the monitoring procedures and tools used for monitoring the integrity and availability of all products interacting with Information Resources, including procedures and tools used to, detect security incidents and to ensure timely remediation.

5. Describe the physical access controls used to limit access to Proposer's data center and network components.

6. What procedures and best practices does Proposer follow to harden all systems that would interact with Information Resources, including any systems that would hold or process University Records, or from which University Records may be accessed?
7. What technical security measures does the Proposer take to detect and prevent unintentional, accidental and intentional corruption or loss of University Records?

8. Will the Proposer agree to a vulnerability scan by University of the web portal application that would interact with Information Resources, including any systems that would hold or process University Records, or from which University Records may be accessed? If Proposer objects, explain basis for the objection to a vulnerability scan.

9. Describe processes Proposer will use to provide University assurance that the web portal and all systems that would hold or process University Records can provide adequate security of University Records.

10. Does Proposer have a data backup and recovery plan supported by policies and procedures, in place for Information Resources? If yes, briefly describe the plan, including scope and frequency of backups, and how often the plan is updated. If no, describe what alternative methodology Proposer uses to ensure the restoration and availability of University Records.

11. Does Proposer encrypt backups of University Records? If yes, describe the methods used by Proposer to encrypt backup data. If no, what alternative safeguards does Proposer use to protect backups against unauthorized access?

12. Describe the security features incorporated into Information Resources to safeguard University Records containing confidential information.

Complete the following additional question if Information Resources will create, receive, or access University Records containing PHI subject to HIPAA:

13. Does Proposer monitor the safeguards required by the HIPAA Security Rule (45 C.F.R. § 164 subpts. A, E (2002)) and Proposer's own information security practices, to ensure continued compliance? If yes, provide a copy of or link to the Proposer’s HIPAA Privacy & Security policies and describe the Proposer's monitoring activities and the frequency of those activities with regard to PHI.

Access Control

1. How will users gain access (i.e., log in) to Information Resources?

2. Do Information Resources provide the capability to use local credentials (i.e., federated authentication) for user authentication and login? If yes, describe how Information Resources provide that capability.

3. Do Information Resources allow for multiple security levels of access based on affiliation (e.g., staff, faculty, and student) and roles (e.g., system administrators, analysts, and information consumers), and organizational unit (e.g., college, school, or department? If yes, describe how Information Resources provide for multiple security levels of access.

4. Do Information Resources provide the capability to limit user activity based on user affiliation, role, and/or organizational unit (i.e., who can create records, delete records, create and save reports, run reports only, etc.)? If yes, describe how Information Resources provide that capability. If no, describe what alternative functionality is provided to ensure that users have need-to-know based access to Information Resources.

5. Do Information Resources manage administrator access permissions at the virtual system level? If yes, describe how this is done.
6. Describe Proposer's password policy including password strength, password generation procedures, password storage specifications, and frequency of password changes. If passwords are not used for authentication or if multi-factor authentication is used to Information Resources, describe what alternative or additional controls are used to manage user access.

*Complete the following additional questions if Information Resources will be hosted by Proposer:*

7. What administrative safeguards and best practices does Proposer have in place to vet Proposer's and third-parties' staff members that would have access to the environment hosting University Records to ensure need-to-know-based access?

8. What procedures and best practices does Proposer have in place to ensure that user credentials are updated and terminated as required by changes in role and employment status?

9. Describe Proposer's password policy including password strength, password generation procedures, and frequency of password changes. If passwords are not used for authentication or if multi-factor authentication is used to Information Resources, describe what alternative or additional controls are used to manage user access.

**Use of Data**

*Complete the following additional questions if Information Resources will be hosted by Proposer:*

1. What administrative safeguards and best practices does Proposer have in place to vet Proposer's and third-parties' staff members that have access to the environment hosting all systems that would hold or process University Records, or from which University Records may be accessed, to ensure that University Records will not be accessed or used in an unauthorized manner?

2. What safeguards does Proposer have in place to segregate University Records from system data and other customer data and/or as applicable, to separate specific University data, such as HIPAA and FERPA protected data, from University Records that are not subject to such protection, to prevent accidental and unauthorized access to University Records?

3. What safeguards does Proposer have in place to prevent the unauthorized use, reuse, distribution, transmission, manipulation, copying, modification, access, or disclosure of University Records?

4. What procedures and safeguards does Proposer have in place for sanitizing and disposing of University Records according to prescribed retention schedules or following the conclusion of a project or termination of a contract to render University Records unrecoverable and prevent accidental and unauthorized access to University Records? Describe the degree to which sanitizing and disposal processes addresses University data that may be contained within backup systems. If University data contained in backup systems is not fully sanitized, describe processes in place that would prevent subsequent restoration of backed-up University data.

**Data Transmission**

1. Do Information Resources encrypt all University Records in transit and at rest? If yes, describe how Information Resources provide that security. If no, what alternative methods are used to safeguard University Records in transit and at rest?
Complete the following additional questions if Information Resources will be hosted by Proposer:

2. How does data flow between University and Information Resources? If connecting via a private circuit, describe what security features are incorporated into the private circuit. If connecting via a public network (e.g., the Internet), describe the way Proposer will safeguard University Records.

3. Do Information Resources secure data transmission between University and Proposer? If yes, describe how Proposer provides that security. If no, what alternative safeguards are used to protect University Records in transit?

**Notification of Security Incidents**

Complete the following additional questions if Information Resources will be hosted by Proposer:

1. Describe Proposer’s procedures to isolate or disable all systems that interact with Information Resources in the event a security breach is identified, including any systems that would hold or process University Records, or from which University Records may be accessed.

2. What procedures, methodology, and timetables does Proposer have in place to detect information security breaches and notify University and other customers? Include Proposer’s definition of security breach.

3. Describe the procedures and methodology Proposer has in place to detect information security breaches, including unauthorized access by Proposer’s and subcontractor’s own employees and agents and provide required notifications in a manner that meets the requirements of the state breach notification law.

**Compliance with Applicable Legal & Regulatory Requirements**

Complete the following additional questions if Information Resources will be hosted by Proposer:

1. Describe the procedures and methodology Proposer has in place to retain, preserve, backup, delete, and search data in a manner that meets the requirements of state and federal electronic discovery rules, including how and in what format University Records are kept and what tools are available to University to access University Records.

2. Describe the safeguards Proposer has in place to ensure that systems (including any systems that would hold or process University Records, or from which University Records may be accessed) that interact with Information Resources reside within the United States of America. If no such controls, describe Proposer’s processes for ensuring that data is protected in compliance with all applicable US federal and state requirements, including export control.

3. List and describe any regulatory or legal actions taken against Proposer for security or privacy violations or security breaches or incidents, including the final outcome.
## APPENDIX EIGHT

### QUESTIONNAIRE RELATED TO MEDICAL REVENUE CYCLE MANAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>QUESTIONS FOR RESPONSE BY PROPOSER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>GENERAL QUESTIONS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>How many years have you been in business? Years: _____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Have you been in business under any other name?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>If yes, what business name?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>Do you have a compliance plan in place?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5</td>
<td>Do you have the necessary Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act regulations in place?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6</td>
<td>Has your company ever been investigated in a fraud or abuse case?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7</td>
<td>If yes, what was the outcome?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8</td>
<td>Have you provided billing services for a practice that has been investigated in a fraud or abuse case?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9</td>
<td>If yes, what was the outcome?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10</td>
<td>What is your in-house audit system?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11</td>
<td>Do you have periodic audits done by an outside firm?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A12</td>
<td>Is there a current auditor's report or summary available?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A13</td>
<td>How many certified coders are on staff?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A14</td>
<td>How often is training done?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A15</td>
<td>What is your hiring and background-check policy?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A16</td>
<td>Do you carry errors &amp; omission's insurance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A17</td>
<td>Do you offer bookkeeping services?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A18</td>
<td>How many clients do you have within the Internal Medicine Specialty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A19</td>
<td>How many clients do you have within the Family Medicine Specialty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A20</td>
<td>How many clients do you have within the Adult Psychiatry Specialty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A21</td>
<td>How many clients do you have within the Child Psychiatry Specialty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A22</td>
<td>How many clients do you have within the Ob/Gyn Specialty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23</td>
<td>How many clients do you have within the General Surgery Specialty?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A24</td>
<td>Does your organization participate with CAQH?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A25</td>
<td>Does your organization utilize the CAQH's Universal Provider Database?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A26</td>
<td>Describe the access front-end revenue cycle and managed care operations have access to the practice management software?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BILLING QUESTIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>What insurance companies do you bill electronically?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Are insurance payments posted electronically?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>If yes, from what companies?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>Are there any exceptions to billing electronically?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B5</td>
<td>How is the information transmitted back and forth between the practice and billing service? Is the information sent on paper, disk or electronically?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B6</td>
<td>How is the work load distributed? Is one person responsible to an account or do several people work on it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B7</td>
<td>Are there any billing processes that your company does not supply?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B8</td>
<td>If yes, what are they?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B9</td>
<td>Do you handle all billing-related and ancillary documentation to insurance companies and private-pay patients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B10</td>
<td>If no, what is not handled?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B11</td>
<td>What is your procedure for deposits - lock boxes or other?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| B12 | How often do you submit claims to insurance companies?  
Timeframe for submission_______________________ |
| B13 | How often do you send statements to patients?  
Timeframe for submission_______________________ |
<p>| B14 | Who is responsible for: CPT coding? |
| B15 | Who is responsible for: HCPCS coding? |
| B16 | Who is responsible for: ICD-10 coding? |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B17</th>
<th>What is the process/policy for handling problems, such as incomplete billing information?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B18</td>
<td>How are electronic rejections handled?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B19</td>
<td>How are charges batched?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B20</td>
<td>Are charges confirmed against a service log?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B21</td>
<td>What is the process for reconciling charges with a service log?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B22</td>
<td>How does front-end revenue cycle personnel communicate alternative payment arrangements?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PAYMENT POSTING/FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>How are authorizations communicated to the insurance follow-up team?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>How are returned claims and statements handled, and who is responsible for them?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Are payments posted line by line or by the total amount of the claim?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Type of posting ________________________________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>Are payments evaluated against contracted rates for payer performance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C5</td>
<td>After a claim is paid, how do you determine that there is no remaining balance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C6</td>
<td>Are small balances kept on the books or are they written off?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C7</td>
<td>Is there a threshold below which balances are written off?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C8</td>
<td>Under what circumstances do balances require authorization to be written off?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C9</td>
<td>How are zero payments (deductibles) posted?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C10</td>
<td>How are denied claims posted and tracked?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C11</td>
<td>How are rejections tracked and resolved?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| C12 | How often are reports run for credit balances?  
Timeframe ________________________________ |
| C13 | How do you handle credit balances? |
| C14 | Do you prepare a report for abandoned property? |
| C15 | Who reviews the reports and makes the decisions regarding bad debt, write offs, etc.? What standards do you follow? |
| C16 | Is there a threshold below which a balance is not billed? |
| C17 | How are point-of-service payments communicated? |
| C18 | Who is responsible for posting point-of-service payments to patient accounts? |

**DATA ENTRY QUESTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D1</th>
<th>Can your accounting system be customized to account for alternative payment arrangements? Discounts? Deposits?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D2</td>
<td>What is your data entry process?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Is there a required format for encounter forms?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D4</td>
<td>What types of forms and data are the practice required to submit to you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D5</strong></td>
<td>Can you provide a sample of the types of forms the practice needs to complete?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D6</strong></td>
<td>How do you verify and audit data entries?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D7</strong></td>
<td>From the time you receive the data, what timeframe do you need to process the claim?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D8</strong></td>
<td>Who has ownership of the data if the contract is terminated?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>REPORTS QUESTIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E1</strong></td>
<td>What types of standard reports do you provide?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E2</strong></td>
<td>Can you provide customized reports?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E3</strong></td>
<td>Can an aged report be completed by &quot;billing date&quot; and &quot;date of service&quot;?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E4</strong></td>
<td>Can the practice access the computer terminal to perform queries, update records, schedule appointments, generate demand reports, demand statements and superbills?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E5</strong></td>
<td>Can one report (same page, tabular style) be generated showing a patient's name, insurance provider, charge, payment, adjustment and balance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E6</strong></td>
<td>Can you provide a report showing the names, amounts and reasons for bad debt, write offs, and full adjustments?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E7</strong></td>
<td>What data can be accessed and exported from your system for data mining purposes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E8</strong></td>
<td>Can customized reports be run by the Practice Plan decision support staff?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
<td>COSTS QUESTIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F1</strong></td>
<td>How do you determine your fees?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2</td>
<td>If payment is by percentage, is it determined by the amount billed or by the amount collected?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3</td>
<td>Is there an additional charge for paper claims?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F4</td>
<td>Is there an extra cost for adding a new physician to the system?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F5</td>
<td>Approximately how long will adding a new physician to the system take?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F6</td>
<td>Describe the process, time and the costs involved in converting our data to a format that is transportable and useable in the event of termination?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**G COMPUTER / SOFTWARE QUESTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G1</th>
<th>Describe your system of internal controls and physical security to include the Information security system and who has access?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G2</td>
<td>Do you have regularly scheduled virus checks?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G3</td>
<td>When are your systems backed up and where are the back-ups stored (on-site or off-site)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G4</td>
<td>How are yearly and regular computer system updates handled for: CPT codes? For HCPCS codes? For ICD-10 codes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G5</td>
<td>Can the software track a patient's demographics?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G6</td>
<td>How would the system handle the following situation? A patient changes insurance companies and there are outstanding balances on Plan A and new changes on Plan B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G7</td>
<td>Can the system handle two primary insurances and differentiate which needs to be billed by date of services? Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G8</td>
<td>Is the practice required to pay for software license? Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G9</td>
<td>Does the practice have to pay for any software or hardware updates or maintenance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G10</td>
<td>Is the practice required to pay for any hardware?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G11</td>
<td>If so, does the practice retain the license and hardware if the agreement ends?  Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G12</td>
<td>Do you use the latest version of the billing software?  Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>H</strong></td>
<td><strong>COLLECTIONS QUESTIONS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1</td>
<td>Do you have a separate department that handles collections?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2</td>
<td>Can you generate reports showing the patient's name, the service provider, insurance company, charges and reason for insurance rejection?  Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H3</td>
<td>Describe the collection procedure for private-pay patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H4</td>
<td>Do you call patients with past-due balances?  Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H5</td>
<td>If the practice does not provide the service with information in a timely manner, is the account written off as a bad debt or as an insurance adjustment?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H6</td>
<td>How do you document services provided but not billable due to timeliness?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H7</td>
<td>Is there a charge to document services not billable to the insurance company or patient?  Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H8</td>
<td>Can you provide a sample of collection letters used?  Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H9</td>
<td>What process do you follow to turn an account over to collections?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H10</td>
<td>If you turn an account over to a collection agency, are the &quot;regular rate&quot; fees subtracted from the amount due to you when payment is collected?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>