



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Rafael López, Secretary

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY SERVICES
SSA/CPA-26-001-S
QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES #2**

Question 24: Is there a designated daily rate for the services requested or is DHS looking for the providers to name the rate they would need to be able to provide these services (especially for new contracts for services not currently provided)?

Response: Rates for Child Placement Agency services are issued by the Maryland State Department of Education, Interagency Rates Committee. For FY26 forms and instructions contact irc.rates@maryland.gov

Question 25: Section B3 within Attachment B (page 4) notes: "The Contractor shall fill each and every Program vacancy with a referred children who meet the criteria stated on the Contractor's Profile. No child shall be rejected or ejected without the prior notice and written authorization of the DHS SSA Executive Director designee. The Contractor shall submit the request and supporting written documentation to the LDSS and SSA Executive Director within twenty-four (24) hours of the reason for the rejection or ejection is known."

Is the above excerpt from Attachment B a variance or update to the current processes associated with ejection or rejection of referred youth?

- If so, what is the precise variance to either process or decision authority?
- Does this statement prevent the provider from discharging (through timed notices) at the discretion of the provider (based on youth behaviors, risks, etc.)?
- Will providers continue to be able to discharge in alignment with proper care needs and procedures as is the current process?

Response: The excerpt from Attachment B reflects an update to the current discharge process. It does not prevent a provider from initiating a discharge with appropriate notice. However, the provider must notify both the Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) and the Social Services Administration (SSA) prior to discharging a youth. This ensures that the youth's service needs are met and that there is adequate time to coordinate a safe and appropriate transition to the next placement. Providers may request a discharge in alignment with clinical or programmatic considerations, but early coordination with LDSS and SSA is essential—except in circumstances where immediate discharge is necessary due to urgent safety or well-being concerns.

Question 26: I wanted to reach out concerning the expression of interest forms you sent out. I oversee a CPA program and was wondering if all the attachments were necessary to be completed for existing programs.

Response: Please refer to Question 12.

Question 27: Will CPA contracts automatically be renewed if you submit the EOI or we will go thru a bidding process to be awarded a CPA contract?

Response: The REOI method does not involve bidding. However, any provider wishing to provide or continue to provide services must submit a response to the EOI. All responses will be reviewed for compliance with the REOI requirements to be awarded a contract.

Question 28: Will there be a separate solicitation coming out for traditional foster care as well?

Response: CPAs provide services consistent with treatment foster care and independent living programs. The REOI is specifically looking at procuring the following programs:

- Treatment Foster Care
- Treatment Foster Care-Medically Fragile
- Treatment Foster Care-Teen Parent Programs
- Independent Living
- Independent Living Program- Teen Parent Programs

Question 29: As a follow up to your revised letter in which you added that we must include our rate letter with our submission, if we do not currently have a contract for a certain service (in our case, Mother Baby) and as such don't have a rate letter, how should we proceed? We are interested in providing this additional service (which we do not currently provide and do not have a contract for).

Response: The Provider should follow steps identified by Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Interagency Rates Committee (IRC) to obtain a rate. For FY26 forms and instructions contact irc.rates@maryland.gov

Question 30: If we add a medically fragile program to our contract, do we have to get a new rate for that program?

Response: Yes

Question 31: I am not sure if you can answer this question but we are a new agency and are curious about what the program questionnaire is.

Response: A program questionnaire is a service profile that each contracted provider completes. It becomes a part of the contract and the LDSS use it to identify appropriate placement for youth.

Question 32: My additional question was related to increase in bed capacity. We are currently contracted for 55 and want to increase to 67. We want to know where to indicate the change and/or request?

Response: This information should be included with the EOI response. Please see #3 of the Revised Letter to Providers.

Question 33: The EOI letter states that we need to provide "certificate of Insurance." Is that just referring to General Liability insurance?

Response: Please see the Insurance Section of the Scope of Work (page 20). Current certificates of insurance may be submitted with the

response. If awarded a Contract, providers must submit the required certificates and corresponding amounts noted in the REOI.

Question 34: Where do I find our goal in writing and do we have subgoals? I was told by another agency that the goal for CPAs is 5% but yesterday I believe you said 3%. Also, if our contract is for \$10,000,000 and our goal is 5%, does that mean that we have to spend \$500,000 on MBE contracts?

Response: Please see Amendment #2. The MBE goal is 3% of your total contract value. If your contract is \$10,000,000, your MBE commitment would need to be \$300,000, or 3%. This information can be found in Attachment B – Scope of Work.

**Sang Kang
Procurement Officer
June 18, 2026**