



**Request for Proposal
RFP No. 230614**

The University of Arkansas System Pharmacy Benefits Manager

Q&A Addendum No. 1

The attached document provides question and answer information pertaining to the above captioned RFP.

REMINDER: It is the Respondent's responsibility to thoroughly read and examine the entire RFP and any addenda to the RFP.

Item No.	Bidder Question	Response
1	The RFP bidding instructions state: "Proposals are to be submitted electronically via the ProposalTech system by 5:00 Friday, July 28, 2023. Submissions MUST also be submitted via Hogbid to UAS and hard copies as defined in the RFP in section 2." Does this mean there are to be three submissions - via ProposalTech, via Hogbid, and mailed directly to UAS? As a submission link or portal is currently not displayed on Hogbid, when will the ability to submit through Hogbid be made available?	No submission in Hogbid is required. Submissions are to be provided in Proposal Tech and to the University System Office. The first paragraph of the Submission of Proposals section of the RFP is revised as follows: Proposals are to be submitted electronically via the Proposal Tech system by 5:00pm CST, Friday, August 4, 2023. Proposals must also be delivered to the UAS by 5:00pm CST, Friday, August 4, 2023, as defined in Section 1.3, paragraph 5 of the RFP.
2	Section 1.15 of the RFP states: "Cost and pricing terms are not considered as proprietary." Bidder understands that the University of Arkansas System's total contract cost information will not be considered confidential and proprietary. However, in the PBM industry certain facets of a pricing offer, such as customized pricing and financial guarantees, are considered confidential and proprietary information and protectable trade secrets in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 4-75-601(4). Please confirm bidders can designate this specific information "confidential," while the total cost to the University of Arkansas System will not be proprietary.	Yes, confirmed. The University will treat detailed pricing and financial guarantees as confidential and not subject to release.
3	Related to section 1.3 Instructions to Bidders, item 5; section 1.46 and 2.1 submission of proposals: Please confirm that electronic submission should be completed via ProposalTech by the stated due date. Given the electronic submission, please advise if UAS is open to the receipt of the requested hard copies and soft copies by the University of Arkansas System for delivery no later than 2 business days following the electronic submission.	All submissions are due by the published due dates. Please see the response to items 1, 4, and 7 extending the due date and opening date.
4	Please clarify item 1.47 which refers to an 'interactive version of the RFP document' available via Hogbid. Is this Hogbid item different or in addition to what is provided in ProposalTech? Please clarify whether proposal responses also need to be submitted within the Hogbid website or is submission of the TsCs document, within ProposalTech, in response to question 8.1 sufficient to meet this requirement?	No response or submission in Hogbid is required. The interactive version of the RFP document referenced in section 1.48 is the Word version of the RFP document posted on HogBid and is the same RFP document provided in Proposal Tech. Proposals, including the TsCs document posted on HogBid, must be electronically submitted in Proposal Tech no later than 5:00pm CST, Friday, August 4, 2023. Proposals must also be delivered to UAS no later than 5:00pm CST, Friday, August 4, 2023.
5	Given the below effective January 1, 2024 in the State of Arkansas, which applies to the University of Arkansas plan as a self-funded non-governmental plan, please confirm that all bidders should no longer provide rebate guarantees aligned with a standard formulary option and provide rebate guarantees relative to the requested custom formulary.	Act 501 of 2023 addresses PBM administrative requirements. The University interprets this Act to apply to administration of the University's self-funded plan.

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	<p>23 AR HB 1274: 1. PA and Appeals: If a request for authorization is denied due to a step therapy requirement, the UR entity shall authorize the preferred treatment required under the step therapy without requiring the healthcare provider to submit a new or revised request.</p> <p>21 AR ADC 003.22.107-1 et seq: 1. Step therapy exceptions must be approved if, "a patient is stable on a prescription drug selected by the patient's healthcare provider for the medical condition under consideration while on a current or previous health benefit plan."</p> <p>2. ST PA and Appeals required TATs are 24 hours for expedited and 72 hours for standard. If completed within above TATs, request is deemed approved.</p>	
6	<p>2.1 Proposal Instructions; Network & Formulary Disruption Section indicates that the basis of the evaluation will be based on "your organization's broadest, national retail network offering..." understanding the current Arkansas legislature, please confirm that Independent and PSOs are excluded for all bidding PBMs given a guarantee offered of any kind would be in direct conflict with current Arkansas legislation stating that pharmacies are entitled to NADAC reimbursement, or in lieu of, drug acquisition costs. PBMs would have no control over NADAC pricing and therefore would not be in the position to offer a guaranteed discount savings in such situations. Said differently, any network guarantee offered inclusive of independent and PSO utilization would result in artificially inflated savings purported for UAS and we are asking for confirmation that it is at the direction of Segal to exclude independent and PSO claims from network guarantees set forth given current Arkansas legislation in place (aligned with section 1.9 and 1.14 of the RFP).</p>	<p>The University will provide additional clarification. Currently we are asking all plans to include all claims in their bid submission and offering following PBM bid specifications.</p>
7	<p>Understanding the response to the proposed formulary and network responses will have material impact on bidders' offers, please consider offering an extension for submissions until August 11 to allow bidders to prepare their offers appropriately.</p>	<p>The due date will be extended to 5pm (central time) Friday, August 4th. The bid opening date will be moved from July 31st to August 7th. An addendum to the RFP addressing the date changes will be provided.</p>
8	<p>1.3 Instructions to Bidders, item 4; 1.48: Please confirm that bidders' responses and exceptions to terms, conditions, specifications, etc. are to be provided within the main response and not as a separate document given the ProposalTech tool does not have page numbers. Question 4.2.1 also states that exceptions can be provided in the appropriate section of the proposal and by signing the exception form requested in 7.1 we acknowledge that all exceptions are otherwise noted.</p>	<p>Yes, exceptions can be provided within the main response.</p>
9	<p>1.5: Please confirm that electronic signature is sufficient for both the original, hard copies, and soft copies.</p>	<p>Confirmed. Electronic signatures are acceptable on the original, hard copies, and soft copies.</p>

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10	2.1 Proposal Instructions; Financial Questionnaire Section and submission of proposals; question 5.1.3: Relative to the following request: "In addition, please provide a Financial Commitment Document, such as a Pricing Commitment Document/Pricing Supplement/ Pricing Summary/ Letter of Agreement that details every pricing component required as well as every exclusion that is part of the RFP. Please ensure your pricing document explicitly indicates if it abides by the financial requirements listed in the Financial Commitment Requirements Section below." there is also a request that the offerors include a " Signature Ready Contract, including the Financial Commitment Document (e.g., Pricing Commitment Document/Pricing Supplement/ Pricing Summary/ Letter of Agreement). Given that the pricing supplement will contain all applicable financial agreements and the proposal response will include all applicable contractual agreements, please confirm that bidders can provide their standard sample contract along with a formal pricing supplement to fulfill these requests.	Confirmed. The standard contract is sufficient for the RFP proposal.
11	5.4.5 Financial Assumptions & Calculations: Please provide the referenced file, "PBM RFP - Drug Pricing Product Exclusions.xlsx" (Provide name of attachment(s)).	It is expected the PBM provide such a file listing the product exclusions in an excel format.
12	6.8.6 Legal Responsibilities: This question references NY as follows: ".....The PBM agrees to notify UA within ten (10) business days of any breach of protected health information and in any shorter time period as required by New York's Breach Notification Law." Does this apply to this RFP or does the question intend to reference Arkansas Breach Notification Law?	Please include Arkansas Breach Notification Law.
13	Please provide NABPs for University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Pharmacy, the default option in specialty medication distribution, etc. And, any other onsite pharmacy, should there be others.	No supplemental NABP files are to be provided at this time.
14	Does UAS have a custom Specialty list you can provide us or will the university allow us to use our own?	Please use the claims file as a reference to specialty drug utilization or the UAS website. No supplemental documentation is to be provided at this time.
15	Can you confirm exceptions applicable to Pharmacy RFP TsCs_UAS 230614(6265536.1) doc can be provided within this document? Or do all exceptions, regardless of document have to be provided via the "Exceptions" doc?	Yes, exceptions can be provided within the document.
16	Is there a consultant fee? If so, what is it?	No
17	Please confirm only ProposalTech submittal is required. We do not have to submit hard copy and/or USB as well.	Not confirmed. It is a requirement that the hard/soft copies outlined in the RFP are sent to UAS by the due date. See updated time frame in previous response.
18	The RFP states that an electronic submission via ProposalTech is preferred, but we can mail hard copies to Segal if desired. Please confirm the following: If we submit our Proposal via ProposalTech, MUST BIDDERS ALSO submit one signed original and one signed copy and two soft copies, and one redacted copy to Terry Fuqyay, Director of Admin Services at the University of Arkansas System. Or, does the single electronic ProposalTech submission meet the requirements outlines. Thanks for the clarification.	Yes, it is a requirement that the hard/soft copies outlined in the RFP are sent to UAS by the due date. See updated time frame in previous response. Secondly, we ask that you submit your proposal to Segal via Proposal Tech by the same due date. However, if for any reason you are unable to submit via Proposal Tech, you do have the option of sending a hard copy to Segal at the

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		address provided. We highly recommend that you review and follow the Proposal Tech registration and submission directions to ensure a smooth submission.