



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
CENTRAL PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR
Electronic Consultation (eConsult) Services
RFQ # 34360-07925**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The State of Tennessee, Department of Health, hereinafter referred to as “the State,” issues this Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) to define mandatory goods or services requirements; solicit responses; detail response requirements; and, outline the State’s process for evaluating responses.

Through this RFQ or any subsequent solicitation, the State seeks to buy the requested goods or services and to give ALL qualified respondents, including those that are owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises, the opportunity to do business with the state as contractors or subcontractors.

1.1. Statement of Procurement Purpose

The purpose of this RFQ is to secure Electronic Consultation (eConsult) services allowing consultation between Physicians and Nurse Practitioners of the County Health Departments and eConsult Specialists including but not limited to, the following fields: Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, General Surgery, Gynecology, Otolaryngology, Pain Management, Pulmonary, Rheumatology, and Wound Care Specialist.

The uninsured patients cared for in the State’s Safety Net clinics do not have access to specialty care. In hopes of closing that gap, the State is soliciting bids for an electronic platform that gives our primary care providers access to specialists. This service will allow our providers to optimize the care that they provide to this vulnerable population.

Approximately 9.7% (2015-2019 American Community Survey) of individuals in the state of Tennessee are uninsured and often do not receive any routine primary care. The Tennessee Department of Health provides primary care for the uninsured in 56 local health departments across the state. Safety-Net clinic providers have a high burden of patients in need of complex health care needs, many of which have been recently hospitalized and have unmanaged chronic diseases. Given their uninsured status, access to specialty care for these patients is very limited. The State is seeking an asynchronous electronic platform that allows our providers to receive clinical advice and suggestions on management from specialists to improve clinical outcomes of their patients.

The State provided care to 49,500 patients in FY 2019 with over 100,000 visits. Safety-net patients have higher use of tobacco and substance use, and diagnoses of diabetes, hypertension and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) than your average Tennessean. They also seek care less frequently leading to complications arising from lack of management of these chronic diseases. Specialty care consultation needed includes, but is not limited to, the following fields: Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, General Surgery, Gynecology, Mental Health, Otorhinolaryngology, Pain Management, Pulmonary, Rheumatology, and Wound Care Specialists.

For the initial term, the maximum liability is estimated \$3,564,000 for 12 months and for the whole term the State estimates the total maximum liability as \$17,820,000.00.

- 1.1.1. All statistical and fiscal information contained in this RFQ and its exhibits, including amendments and modifications thereto, are provided “as is”, without warranty as to the accuracy or adequacy of the data or information so provided, and reflect the department’s best understanding based on information or belief available to the department at the time of RFQ preparation. No inaccuracies in such data or information shall be a basis for delay in performance or a basis for legal recovery of damages, actual, consequential or punitive.

1.2. Pre-Response Conference

A Pre-Response Conference will be held at the time and date detailed in the RFQ Schedule of Events, RFQ § 2. Pre-Response Conference attendance is not mandatory, and potential Respondents may be limited to a maximum number of attendees depending upon overall attendance and space limitations. Please contact the Solicitation Coordinator to RSVP for the Pre-Response Conference. The Conference will be held at:

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 217 919 981 932

Passcode: 48wY78uN

Dial in by phone

[+1 629-209-4396,,175926543#](#) United States, Triune

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 175 926 543#

Join on a video conferencing device

Tenant key: [stateoftn@m.webex.com](#)

Video ID: 119 373 705 7

[More info](#)

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

1.3. Notice of Intent to Respond

Before the Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events, potential Respondents should submit to the Solicitation Coordinator a Notice of Intent to Respond in the form of a simple e-mail or other written communication. Such notice should include the following information: the business or individual's name (as appropriate), a contact person's name and title, the contact person's mailing address, telephone number, facsimile, number, and e-mail address. Filing a Notice of Intent to Respond is not a prerequisite for submitting a response; however, it is necessary to ensure receipt of notices and communications relating to this RFQ.

1.4. Definitions and Abbreviations

TERM	DEFINITION
Cardiology	A medical specialty and branch of internal medicine concerned with disorders of the heart.
Dermatology	The branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of skin disorders.
Electronic Consultation	An aspect of Telemedicine which involves remote communication between clinicians and specialists.
Endocrinology	The branch of physiology and medicine concerned with endocrine and hormones.
Gastroenterology	A branch of medicine focused on the digestive system and disorders.
General Surgery	A discipline that requires knowledge of and responsibility for the preoperative, operative,

	and postoperative management of patients with a broad spectrum of diseases, including those which may require nonoperative, elective, or emergency surgical treatment.
Gynecology	Medical practice dealing with the health of the female reproductive system.
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)	A federal law that required the creation of national standards to protect sensitive patient health information from being disclosed without the patient's consent or knowledge.
Otolaryngology	The branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and management, including surgical interventions, of the ear, nose, and throat.
Otorhinolaryngology	A surgical subspecialty within medicine that deals with the surgical and medical management of conditions of the head and neck.
Pain Management	An aspect of medicine and health care involving relief of pain in various dimensions, from acute and simple to chronic and challenging.
Pulmonary	A branch of medicine pertaining to the pulmonary system.
Rheumatology	The branch of medicine devoted to the diagnosis and treatment of rheumatic diseases.
Rural Health	The health of people living in rural areas, who are generally located farther from health care facilities and other services than people living in urban areas.
Safety Net	A mechanism of health care provision providing medical and dental assistance to uninsured adults in need of services.
Specialty Care Providers	A healthcare provider, physician or medical practitioner with a specific area of expertise.
Web-Based	An external application that is accessed via a web browser over the Internet.
Wound Care Specialist	Health care professionals who have been trained in the care and treatment of all types of wounds, acute and chronic.

2. RFQ SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following schedule represents the State's best estimates for this RFQ; however, the State reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to adjust the schedule at any time, or cancel and reissue a similar solicitation. Nothing in this RFQ is intended by the State to create any property rights or expectations of a property right in any Respondent.

EVENT		TIME (Central Time Zone)	DATE (all dates are State business days)
1.	RFQ Issued		April 7, 2025
2.	Disability Accommodation Request Deadline	2:00 p.m.	April 10, 2025

3.	Pre-Response Conference	09:00 a.m.	April 11, 2025
4.	Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline	2:00 p.m.	April 14, 2025
5.	Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	April 18, 2025
6.	State response to written "Questions & Comments"		April 30, 2025
7.	RFQ Response Deadline	2:00 p.m.	May 8, 2025
8.	State Completion of Technical Response Evaluations		May 23, 2025
9.	State Schedules respondent Oral Presentations (ONLY for Top 3 ranked respondents)		May 27, 2025
10	Respondent Oral Presentations	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	June 3-5, 2025
11	RFQ Cost Proposal Opened (ONLY for the apparent successful Respondent)	2:00 p.m.	June 12, 2025
12	RFQ Negotiations		June 12-16, 2025
13	State Notice of Intent to Award Released and RFQ Files Opened for Public Inspection		June 20, 2025
14	End of Open File Period		June 27, 2025
15	State sends contract to Contractor for signature		July 2, 2025
16	Contractor Signature Deadline	4:30 p.m.	July 9, 2025

3. RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

3.1. **Response Contents:** A response to this RFQ should address the following:

- 3.1.1. **Mandatory Requirements:** This section details the mandatory technical, functional, and experience requirements that must be demonstrated in the response to this RFQ in order to be passed on to Phase II of the Technical Response evaluation. A Respondent should duplicate and use RFQ Attachment A as a guide to organize responses for the Mandatory Requirements of the RFQ response. The Respondent should reference the page location of the information within the response in the indicated column of the table. This section is included in the State's evaluation as to whether or not a Respondent meets mandatory qualifications (Phase I).
- 3.1.2. **General Qualifications & Experience:** This section is included in the State's evaluation of Phase II of the Technical Response Evaluation and details general information and qualifications that must be demonstrated in the response to this RFQ. A Respondent should duplicate and use RFQ Attachment B as a guide to organize responses for this portion of the RFQ response. The Respondent should reference the page location of the information within the response in the indicated column of the table.
- 3.1.3. **Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach:** This section is also included in the State's evaluation of Phase II of the Technical Response Evaluation and details technical qualifications, experience, and approach items that must be demonstrated in the response to this RFQ. A Respondent should duplicate and use RFQ Attachment C as a guide to organize responses for this portion of the RFQ response. The Respondent should reference the page location of the information within the response in the indicated column of the table.
- 3.1.4. **Cost Proposal:**
 - 3.1.4.1. If included as part of this solicitation, then the Cost Proposal must be recorded on an exact duplicate of RFQ Attachment D, Cost Proposal. Any response that does not follow the instructions included in RFQ Attachment D may be deemed nonresponsive.
 - 3.1.4.2. A Respondent must only record the proposed cost exactly as required by the RFQ Attachment D, Cost Proposal and must NOT record any other rates, amounts, or information.
 - 3.1.4.3. The proposed cost shall incorporate ALL costs for services under the contract for the total contract period.
 - 3.1.4.4. A Respondent must sign and date the Cost Proposal.
 - 3.1.4.5. A Respondent must submit the Cost Proposal to the State in a sealed package separate from the Technical Response.

3.2. **Response Delivery Location**

A Respondent must ensure that the State receives a Response to this RFQ no later than the Response Deadline time and dates detailed in the RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events. All responses must be delivered to:

Simeon Ayton, Sourcing Account Specialist
 Division of General Services
 Central Procurement Office
 Tennessee Tower, 3rd Floor
 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, Nashville, TN 37243

3.3. **Response Format**

3.3.1. A Respondent must ensure that the original response meets all form and content requirements detailed within this RFQ.

3.2.1. A Respondent must submit their response as specified in one of the two formats below.

3.2.1.1. Digital Media Submission

3.2.1.1.1. Technical Response

The Technical Response document should be in the form of one (1) digital document in "PDF" format properly recorded on its own otherwise blank, standard USB flash drive and should be clearly identified as the:

"RFQ #34360-07925 TECHNICAL RESPONSE ORIGINAL"

and ONE (1) digital copies of the Technical Response each in the form of one (1) digital document in "PDF" format properly recorded on its own otherwise blank, standard USB flash drive clearly labeled:

"RFQ #34360-07925 TECHNICAL RESPONSE COPY"

The customer references should be delivered by each reference in accordance with RFQ Attachment F Reference Questionnaire.

3.2.1.1.2. Cost Proposal:

The Cost Proposal should be in the form of one (1) digital document in "PDF" or "XLS" format properly recorded on a separate, otherwise blank USB flash drive clearly labeled:

"RFQ #34360-07925 COST PROPOSAL"

An electronic or facsimile signature, as applicable, on the Cost Proposal is acceptable.

3.2.1.2. E-mail Submission

3.2.1.2.1. Technical Response

The Technical Response document should be in the form of one (1) digital document in "PDF" format or other easily accessible digital format attached to an e-mail to the Solicitation Coordinator. Both the subject and file name should be clearly identified as follows:

"RFQ #34360-07925 TECHNICAL RESPONSE"

The customer references should be delivered by each reference in accordance with RFQ Attachment F Reference Questionnaire.

3.2.1.2.2. Cost Proposal:

The Cost Proposal should be in the form of one (1) digital document in "PDF" or "XLS" format or other easily accessible digital format attached to an e-mail to the Solicitation Coordinator. Both the subject and file name should be clearly identified as follows:

"RFQ #34360-07925 PROPOSAL"

An electronic or facsimile signature, as applicable, on the Cost Proposal is acceptable.

3.3.3. For e-mail submissions, the Technical Response and Cost Proposal documents must be dispatched to the Solicitation Coordinator in **separate** e-mail messages. For digital media submissions, a Respondent must separate, seal, package, and label the documents and copies for delivery as follows:

3.3.3.1. The Technical Response and copies must be placed in a sealed package that is clearly labeled:

“DO NOT OPEN... RFQ #34360-07925 TECHNICAL RESPONSE FROM [RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME]”

3.3.3.2. The Cost Proposal must be placed in a separate, sealed package that is clearly labeled:

“DO NOT OPEN... RFQ #34360-07925 COST PROPOSAL FROM [RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME]”

3.3.3.3. The separately, sealed Technical Response and Cost Proposal components may be enclosed in a larger package for mailing or delivery, provided that the outermost package is clearly labeled:

“RFQ #34360-07925 SEALED TECHNICAL RESPONSE & SEALED COST PROPOSAL FROM [RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME]”

3.3.3.4. Any Respondent wishing to submit a Response in a format other than digital may do so by contacting the Solicitation Coordinator.

3.4. **Response Prohibitions:** A response to this RFQ shall not:

- 3.4.1. Restrict the rights of the State or otherwise qualify the response to this RFQ;
- 3.4.2. Include, for consideration in this procurement process or subsequent contract negotiations, incorrect information that the Respondent knew or should have known was materially incorrect;
- 3.4.3. Include more than one response, per Respondent, to this RFQ;
- 3.4.4. Include any information concerning costs (in specific dollars or numbers) associated with the Technical Response;
- 3.4.5. Include the respondent's own contract terms and conditions (unless specifically requested by the RFQ); or
- 3.4.6. Include the respondent as a prime contractor while also permitting one or more other respondents to offer the respondent as a subcontractor in their own responses.
- 3.4.7. Include any end-user license agreement, manufacturer's terms and conditions, service guide, clickwrap agreement, shrinkwrap agreement, online terms and conditions, or other terms and conditions that will supplement, modify, or contradict the terms set forth in the pro forma contract.

3.5. **Response Errors & Revisions**

A Respondent is responsible for any and all errors or omissions in its response to this RFQ. A Respondent will not be allowed to alter or revise its response after the Response Deadline time and dates as detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events, unless such is formally requested in writing by the State (e.g., through a request for clarification, etc.).

3.6. **Response Withdrawal**

A Respondent may withdraw a response at any time before the Response Deadline time and date as detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events, by submitting a written signed request by an authorized representative of the Respondent. After withdrawing a response, a Respondent may submit another Response at any time before the Response Deadline time and date as detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.

3.7. Response Preparation Costs

The State will not pay any costs associated with the preparation, submittal, or presentation of any response. Each Respondent is solely responsible for the costs it incurs in responding to this RFQ.

4. GENERAL INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

4.1. Communications

- 4.1.1. Respondents shall reference RFQ #34360-07925 in all communications relating to this solicitation, and direct any such communications to the following person designated as the Solicitation Coordinator:

Simeon Ayton, Sourcing Account Specialist
 Division of General Services
 Central Procurement Office
 Tennessee Tower, 3rd Floor
 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, Nashville, TN 37243
 615-532-0110

The State will convey all official responses and communications related to this RFQ to the potential respondents from whom the State has received a Notice of Intent to Respond (refer to RFQ Section 1.3.).

- 4.1.2. Potential respondents with a handicap or disability may receive accommodation relating to the communication of this RFQ and participating in the RFQ process. Potential respondents may contact the RFQ Coordinator to request such reasonable accommodation no later than the Disability Accommodation Request Deadline detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.
- 4.1.3. **Unauthorized contact about this RFQ with other employees or officials of the State of Tennessee may result in disqualification from contract award consideration.**
- 4.1.4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, potential Respondents may also contact the following as appropriate:
- 4.1.4.1. Staff of the Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise may be contacted for assistance with respect to available minority-owned, woman-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned, businesses owned by persons with disabilities and small business enterprises as well as general public information relating to this request; or
- 4.1.4.2. The following individual designated by the State to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements of the State of Tennessee, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and associated federal regulations:

Helen Crowley, Compliance Team Lead
 Division of General Services
 Central Procurement Office
 WRS Tennessee Tower, 3rd Floor
 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue
 Nashville, TN 37243-1102
 (615) 741-3836
helen.crowley@tn.gov

4.2. Nondiscrimination

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of a contract pursuant to this solicitation or in the employment practices of the Contractor on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, creed, color, religion (subject to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-21-401 and 405), sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by federal, Tennessee state constitutional, or statutory law. The Contractor pursuant to this solicitation shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.

4.3. Conflict of Interest

- 4.3.1. The State may not consider a proposal from an individual who is, or within the past six (6) months has been, a State employee. For these purposes,
 - 4.3.1.1. An individual shall be deemed a State employee until such time as all compensation for salary, termination pay, and annual leave has been paid;
 - 4.3.1.2. A contract with or a proposal from a company, corporation, or any other contracting entity in which a controlling interest is held by any State employee shall be considered to be a contract with or proposal from the employee; and
 - 4.3.1.3. A contract with or a proposal from a company, corporation, or any other contracting entity that employs an individual who is, or within the past six months has been, a State employee shall not be considered a contract with or a proposal from the employee and shall not constitute a prohibited conflict of interest.
- 4.3.2. This RFQ is also subject to Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-4-101—105.

4.4. **Respondent Required Review & Waiver of Objections**

- 4.4.1. Each potential respondent must carefully review this RFQ, including but not limited to, attachments, the RFQ Attachment G, *pro forma* Contract, and any amendments for questions, comments, defects, objections, or any other matter requiring clarification or correction (collectively called “questions and comments”).
- 4.4.2. Any potential respondent having questions and comments concerning this RFQ must provide such in writing to the State no later than the written “Questions & Comments Deadline” detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.
- 4.4.3. Protests based on any objection shall be considered waived and invalid if the objection has not been brought to the attention of the State, in writing, by the written “Questions & Comments Deadline.”

4.5. **Disclosure of Response Contents**

- 4.5.1. All materials submitted to the State in response to this solicitation become property of the State of Tennessee. Respondents are cautioned not to provide any materials in response to this RFP that are trade secrets, as defined under Tenn. Code Ann. § 47-25-1702 and applicable law. By submitting a response to this RFP, the respondent acknowledges and agrees that the State shall have no liability whatsoever for disclosure of a trade secret under the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, as provided at Tenn. Code Ann. § 47-25-1701-1709, or under any other applicable law. Selection for award does not affect this right. By submitting a response, a Respondent acknowledges and accepts that the full contents and associated documents submitted in response to this request will become open to public inspection in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee. Refer to RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.
- 4.5.2. The RFQ responses will be available for public inspection only after the completion of evaluation of the RFQ or any resulting solicitation which this RFQ becomes a part of, whichever is later.

4.6. **Notice of Professional Licensure, Insurance, and Department of Revenue Registration Requirements**

- 4.6.1. All persons, agencies, firms or other entities that provide legal or financial opinions, which a Respondent provides for consideration and evaluation by the State as part of a response to this RFQ, shall be properly licensed to render such opinions.
- 4.6.2. Before the Contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the apparent successful Respondent (and Respondent employees and subcontractors, as applicable) must hold all necessary, appropriate business and professional licenses to provide service as required. The State may require any Respondent to submit evidence of proper licensure.
- 4.6.3. Before the Contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the apparent successful Respondent must provide a valid, Certificate of Insurance indicating current insurance coverage meeting minimum requirements as may be specified by the RFQ.

- 4.6.4. Before the Contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the apparent successful Respondent must be registered with the Department of Revenue for the collection of Tennessee sales and use tax. The State shall not approve a contract unless the Respondent provides proof of such registration or provides documentation from the Department of Revenue that the Contractor is exempt from this registration requirement. The foregoing is a mandatory requirement of an award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation. To register, please visit the Department of Revenue's Tennessee Taxpayer Access Point (TNTAP) website for Online Registration and the Vendor Contract Questionnaire. These resources are available at the following:
<https://tntap.tn.gov/eservices/> /#1

4.7. **RFQ Amendments & Cancellation**

- 4.7.1. The State reserves the right to amend this RFQ at any time, provided that it is amended in writing. However, prior to any such amendment, the State will consider whether it would negatively impact the ability of potential respondents to meet the deadlines and revise the RFQ Schedule of Events if deemed appropriate. If a RFQ amendment is issued, the State will convey it to potential respondents who submitted a Notice of Intent to Respond (refer to RFQ § 1.3). A response must address the final RFQ (including its attachments) as may be amended.
- 4.7.2. The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel or to cancel and reissue this RFQ in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

4.8. **State Right of Rejection**

- 4.8.1. Subject to applicable laws and regulations, the State reserves the right to reject, at its sole discretion, any and all proposals.
- 4.8.2. The State may deem as nonresponsive and reject any proposal that does not comply with all terms, conditions, and performance requirements of this RFQ. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State reserves the right to seek clarifications or to waive, at its sole discretion, a response's minor variances from full compliance with this RFQ. If the State waives variances in a response, such waiver shall not modify the RFQ requirements or excuse the Respondent from full compliance with such, and the State may hold any resulting vendor to strict compliance with this RFQ.
- 4.8.3. The State will review the response evaluation record and any other available information pertinent to whether or not each respondent is responsive and responsible. If the Solicitation Coordinator identifies any respondent that appears not to meet the responsive and responsible thresholds such that the team would not recommend the respondent for potential contract award, this determination will be fully documented for the record. ("Responsive" is defined as submitting a response that conforms in all material respects to the RFQ. "Responsible" is defined as having the capacity in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements, and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance.)

4.9. **Assignment & Subcontracting**

- 4.9.1. The vendor may not subcontract, transfer, or assign any portion of the Contract awarded as a result of this RFQ without prior approval of the State. The State reserves the right to refuse approval, at its sole discretion, of any subcontract, transfer, or assignment.
- 4.9.2. If a Respondent intends to use subcontractors, the response to this RFQ must specifically identify the scope and portions of the work each subcontractor will perform (refer to RFQ Attachment B, Item B.14.).
- 4.9.3. Subcontractors identified within a response to this RFQ will be deemed as approved by the State unless the State expressly disapproves one or more of the proposed subcontractors prior to signing the Contract.

4.9.4. The Contractor resulting from this RFQ may only substitute another subcontractor for a proposed subcontractor at the discretion of the State and with the State's prior, written approval.

4.9.5. Notwithstanding any State approval relating to subcontracts, the Contractor resulting from this RFQ will be the prime contractor and will be responsible for all work under the Contract.

4.10. **Next Ranked Respondent**

The State reserves the right to initiate negotiations with the next ranked respondent should the State cease doing business with any respondent selected via this RFQ process.

5. **PROCUREMENT PROCESS & CONTRACT AWARD**

- 5.1. The complete vendor selection will be a two-part process: (1) Qualification of Technical Responses; and (2) Review of Cost Proposals.
- 5.2. Qualification of Technical Responses: Technical Responses will be short-listed for further evaluation, analysis or negotiation if they are apparently responsive, responsible, and within the competitive range ("Competitive Range"). A Technical Response will be deemed within the Competitive Range based on the following criterion:

Technical responses, that have been evaluated in Phases I and II below and have been found to be the top three (3) ranked Respondents, will have technical scores totaled and put in ordinal ranking. The top ranked Respondent's cost proposal materials will be opened upon completion of ordinal rankings. Please see RFQ Section 5.3. for further instructions on the negotiation process.

Phase I: The State will evaluate the Mandatory Requirements set forth in RFQ Attachment A on a pass/fail basis.

Phase II: Following the Phase I evaluation, the State will apply a standard equitable evaluation model, which will represent a qualitative assessment of each response. Each response will be scored by Evaluation Team members according to the Technical Response & Evaluation Guides (See RFQ Attachments B & C).

The Solicitation Coordinator will total the average score from the evaluation team for each responsive and responsible Respondent's Technical Response Points for RFQ Attachments B & C to determine which of the Respondents are considered Qualified and within the Competitive Range.

5.2.1. The Solicitation Coordinator will invite the top three (3) ranked apparently responsive and responsible Respondents who passed the Phase 1 evaluation to make an Oral Presentation.

5.2.1.1. The Oral Presentations are mandatory. The Solicitation Coordinator will schedule Respondent Presentations during the period indicated by the RFQ Section 2, Schedule of Events. The Solicitation Coordinator will make every effort to accommodate each Respondent's schedules. When the Respondent Presentation schedule has been determined, the Solicitation Coordinator will contact Respondents with the relevant information as indicated by RFQ Section 2, Schedule of Events.

5.2.1.2. Respondent Presentations are only open to the invited Respondent, Proposal Evaluation Team members, the Solicitation Coordinator, and any technical consultants who are selected by the State to provide assistance to the Proposal Evaluation Team.

5.2.1.3. Oral Presentations provide an opportunity for Respondents to explain and clarify their responses and for the State to test to better understand the practical application of the good or service as applicable. Respondents must not materially alter their responses and Presentations will be limited to addressing the items detailed in RFQ Technical Response & Evaluation Guide. Respondent pricing shall not be discussed or provided during Oral Presentations.

- 5.2.1.4. The State will maintain an accurate record of each Respondent's Oral Presentation session. The record of the Respondent's Oral Presentation shall be available for review when the State opens the procurement files for public inspection.
 - 5.2.1.5.5. Proposal Evaluation Team members will independently evaluate each Oral Presentation in accordance with the RFQ Attachment C., Technical Response & Evaluation Guide.
 - 5.2.1.5.6. The Solicitation Coordinator will calculate and document the average of the Proposal Evaluation Team member scores for RFQ Attachment C., Technical Response & Evaluation Guide, and record that number as the score for Respondent's Technical Response section.
- 5.3. Cost Proposals: If cost is included for this solicitation, then Cost Proposals will be opened for the highest evaluated Respondent. If the Cost Proposal is not acceptable to the State and the Respondent, then the State will open the Cost Proposal for the next apparent highest evaluated Respondent. See RFQ Attachment D, Cost Proposal.
- 5.4. Clarifications and Negotiations: The State reserves the right to award a contract on the basis of initial responses received; therefore, each response should contain the respondent's best terms from a technical and cost standpoint. However, the State reserves the right to conduct clarifications or negotiations with respondents. All communications, clarifications, and negotiations shall be conducted in a manner that supports fairness in response improvement.
- 5.4.1. Clarifications: The State may identify areas of a response that may require further clarification or areas in which it is apparent that there may have been miscommunications or misunderstandings as to the State's specifications or requirements. The State may seek to clarify those issues identified during one or multiple clarification round(s). Each clarification sought by the State may be unique to an individual respondent.
 - 5.4.2. Negotiations: The State may elect to negotiate with Qualified Respondents, within the competitive range, by requesting revised responses, negotiating costs, or finalizing contract terms and conditions. The State reserves the right to conduct multiple negotiation rounds.
 - 5.4.2.1. Cost Negotiations: All responsive respondents within the competitive range will be given equivalent information with respect to cost negotiations. All cost negotiations will be documented for the procurement file. Additionally, the State may conduct target pricing and other goods or services level negotiations. Target pricing may be based on considerations such as current pricing, market considerations, benchmarks, budget availability, or other methods that do not reveal individual respondent pricing. During target price negotiations, respondents are not obligated to meet or beat target prices, but will not be allowed to increase prices.
 - 5.4.2.2. If the State determines costs and contract finalization discussions and negotiations are not productive, the State reserves the right to bypass the apparent best evaluated Respondent and enter into contract negotiations with the next apparent best evaluated Respondent.
- 5.5. Evaluation Guide
- The State will consider qualifications, experience, technical approach, and cost (if applicable) in the evaluation of responses and award points in each of the categories detailed below. The maximum evaluation points possible for each category are detailed below.

Evaluation Category	Maximum Points Possible
Mandatory Requirements (refer to RFQ Attachment A)	Pass/Fail
General Qualifications, Experience, Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach (refer to RFQ Attachment B)	40
Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach (refer to RFQ Attachment C)	50
Oral Presentations (refer to RFQ Attachment C)	10

5.6. Contract Award

5.6.1. The Solicitation Coordinator, will determine the apparent best-evaluated response using the scoring provided by the Proposal Evaluation Team. (To effect a contract award to a Respondent other than the one receiving the highest evaluation score, the Solicitation Coordinator must provide written justification and obtain written approval of the Chief Procurement Officer and the Comptroller of the Treasury.)

5.6.2. The State reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of any response.

5.6.3. The State will issue an Evaluation Notice and make the RFQ files available for public inspection at the time and date specified in the RFQ §2, Schedule of Events.

NOTICE: The Evaluation Notice shall not create rights, interests, or claims of entitlement in either the Respondent identified as the apparent best evaluated or any other Respondent.

5.6.4. The Respondent identified as offering the apparent best-evaluated must sign a contract drawn by the State pursuant to this RFQ. The contract shall be substantially the same as the RFQ Attachment G, *pro forma* contract. The Respondent must sign said contract no later than the Respondent Contract Signature Deadline detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events. If the Respondent fails to provide the signed contract by the deadline, the State may determine the Respondent is non-responsive to this RFQ and reject the response.

5.6.5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State may, at its sole discretion, entertain limited negotiation prior to contract signing and, as a result, revise the *pro forma* contract terms and conditions or performance requirements in the State's best interests, PROVIDED THAT such revision of terms and conditions or performance requirements shall **NOT** materially affect the basis of response evaluation or negatively impact the competitive nature of the RFQ and contractor selection process.

5.6.6. If the State determines that a response is nonresponsive and rejects it, the Solicitation Coordinator will re-calculate scores to determine (or re-determine) the apparent best-evaluated response.

ATTACHMENT A**TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE**

All Respondents must address all items detailed below and provide, in sequence, the information and documentation as required (referenced with the associated item references). All Respondents must also detail the response page number for each item in the appropriate space below.

The Solicitation Coordinator will review all responses to determine if the Mandatory Requirement Items are addressed as required and mark each with pass or fail. For each item that is not addressed as required, the Solicitation Coordinator must review the responses and attach a written determination. In addition to the Mandatory Requirement Items, the Solicitation Coordinator will review each response for compliance with all RFQ requirements.

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:			
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section A— Mandatory Requirement Items	Pass/Fail
		The Technical Response must be delivered to the State no later than the Technical Response Deadline specified in the RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.	
		The Technical Response must not contain cost or pricing information of any type.	
		The Technical Response must not contain any restrictions of the rights of the State or other qualification of the response.	
		A Respondent must not submit alternate responses.	
		A Respondent must not submit multiple responses in different forms (as a prime and a subcontractor).	
	A.1.	Provide the Statement of Certifications and Assurances (RFQ Attachment E) completed and signed by an individual empowered to bind the Respondent to the provisions of this RFQ and any resulting contract. The document must be signed without exception or qualification.	
	A.2.	Provide a statement, based upon reasonable inquiry, of whether the Respondent or any individual who shall perform work under the contract has a possible conflict of interest (e.g., employment by the State of Tennessee) and, if so, the nature of that conflict. NOTE: Any questions of conflict of interest shall be solely within the discretion of the State, and the State reserves the right to cancel any award.	
	A.3.	Provide a current bank reference indicating that the Respondent's business relationship with the financial institution is in positive standing. Such reference must be in written form of a standard business letter, signed and dated within the last three months.	
	A.4.	Provide an example of a completed electronic consultation document used to follow up with the provider in response to an e-consult request. At minimum include the following items:	

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:			
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section A— Mandatory Requirement Items	Pass/Fail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation of diagnosis and/or comprehensive understanding of patient condition • Recommendation or confirmation of treatment plan applicable to patient's diagnosis/condition • Recommendation of treatment plan based on patient's social determinants of health and/or barrier to access resources for care 	
<i>State Use – RFQ Coordinator Signature, Printed Name & Date:</i>			

ATTACHMENT B**TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE**

SECTION B: GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE. The Respondent must address all items detailed below and provide, in sequence, the information and documentation as required (referenced with the associated item references). The Respondent must also detail the response page number for each item in the appropriate space below. Evaluation Team members will independently evaluate and assign one score for all responses to Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items.

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:		
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items
	B.1.	Detail the name, e-mail address, mailing address, telephone number, and facsimile number, if applicable, of the person the State should contact regarding the response.
	B.2.	Describe the Respondent's form of business (<i>i.e.</i> , individual, sole proprietor, corporation, non-profit corporation, partnership, limited liability company) and business location (physical location or domicile).
	B.3.	Detail the number of years the Respondent has been in business.
	B.4.	Briefly describe how long the Respondent has been performing the goods or services required by this RFQ.
	B.5.	Describe the Respondent's number of employees, client base, and location of offices.
	B.6.	Provide a statement of whether there have been any mergers, acquisitions, or sales of the Respondent within the last ten (10) years. If so, include an explanation providing relevant details.
	B.7.	Provide a statement of whether the Respondent or, to the Respondent's knowledge, any of the Respondent's employees, agents, independent contractors, or subcontractors, proposed to provide work on a contract pursuant to this RFQ, have been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled <i>nolo contendere</i> to any felony. If so, include an explanation providing relevant details.
	B.8.	Provide a statement of whether, in the last ten (10) years, the Respondent has filed (or had filed against it) any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding, whether voluntary or involuntary, or undergone the appointment of a receiver, trustee, or assignee for the benefit of creditors. If so, include an explanation providing relevant details.
	B.9.	<p>Provide a statement of whether there is any material, pending litigation against the Respondent that the Respondent should reasonably believe could adversely affect its ability to meet contract requirements pursuant to this RFQ or is likely to have a material adverse effect on the Respondent's financial condition. If such exists, list each separately, explain the relevant details, and attach the opinion of counsel addressing whether and to what extent it would impair the Respondent's performance in a contract pursuant to this RFQ.</p> <p>NOTE: All persons, agencies, firms, or other entities that provide legal opinions regarding the Respondent must be properly licensed to render such opinions. The State may require the Respondent to submit proof of such licensure detailing the state of licensure and licensure number for each person or entity that renders such opinions.</p>
		Provide a statement of whether there is any pending or in progress Securities Exchange Commission investigations involving the Respondent. If such exists, list each separately,

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:		
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items
	B.10.	<p>explain the relevant details, and attach the opinion of counsel addressing whether and to what extent it will impair the Respondent's performance in a contract pursuant to this RFQ.</p> <p>NOTE: All persons, agencies, firms, or other entities that provide legal opinions regarding the Respondent must be properly licensed to render such opinions. The State may require the Respondent to submit proof of such licensure detailing the state of licensure and licensure number for each person or entity that renders such opinions.</p>
	B.11.	Provide a brief, descriptive statement detailing evidence of the Respondent's ability to deliver the goods or services sought under this RFQ (e.g., prior experience, training, certifications, resources, program and quality management systems, etc.).
	B.12.	Provide a narrative description of the proposed contract team, its members, and organizational structure along with an organizational chart identifying the key people who will be assigned to provide the goods or services required by this RFQ, illustrating the lines of authority, and designating the individual responsible for the completion of each task and deliverable of the RFQ.
	B.13.	Provide a personnel roster listing the names of key people who the Respondent will assign to perform tasks required by this RFQ along with the estimated number of hours that each individual will devote to the required tasks. Follow the personnel roster with a resume for each of the people listed. The resumes must detail the individual's title, education, current position with the Respondent, and employment history.
	B.14.	<p>Provide a statement of whether the Respondent intends to use subcontractors to accomplish the work required by this RFQ, and if so, detail:</p> <p>(a) the names of the subcontractors along with the contact person, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address for each;</p> <p>(b) a description of the scope and portions of the work each subcontractor will perform; <u>and</u></p> <p>(c) a statement specifying that each proposed subcontractor has expressly assented to being proposed as a subcontractor in the Respondent's response to this RFQ.</p>
	B.15.	<p>Provide documentation of the Respondent's commitment to diversity as represented by the following:</p> <p>(a) <u>Business Strategy</u>. Provide a description of the Respondent's existing programs and procedures designed to encourage and foster commerce with business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises. Please also include a list of the Respondent's certifications as a diversity business, if applicable.</p> <p>(b) <u>Business Relationships</u>. Provide a listing of the Respondent's current contracts with business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises. Please include the following information:</p> <p>(i) contract description;</p> <p>(ii) contractor name and ownership characteristics (i.e., ethnicity, gender, service-disabled, disability); and</p> <p>(iii) contractor contact name and telephone number.</p> <p>(c) <u>Estimated Participation</u>. Provide an estimated level of participation by business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises if a contract is</p>

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:		
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items
		<p>awarded to the Respondent pursuant to this RFQ. Please include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a percentage (%) indicating the participation estimate. (Express the estimated participation number as a percentage of the total estimated contract value that will be dedicated to business with subcontractors and supply contractors having such ownership characteristics only and DO NOT INCLUDE DOLLAR AMOUNTS); (ii) anticipated goods or services contract descriptions; (iii) names and ownership characteristics (i.e., ethnicity, gender, service-disabled veterans, disability) of anticipated subcontractors and supply contractors. <p>NOTE: In order to claim status as a Diversity Business Enterprise under this contract, businesses must be certified by the Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise (Go-DBE). Please visit the Go-DBE website at https://tn.diversitysoftware.com/FrontEnd/StartCertification.asp?TN=tn&XID=9810 for more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) <u>Workforce</u>. Provide the percentage of the Respondent's total current employees by ethnicity and gender. <p>NOTE: Respondents that demonstrate a commitment to diversity will advance State efforts to expand opportunity to do business with the State as contractors and subcontractors. Response evaluations will recognize the positive qualifications and experience of a Respondent that does business with enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises and who offer a diverse workforce.</p>
	B.16.	<p>Provide a statement of whether or not the Respondent has any current contracts with the State of Tennessee or has completed any contracts with the State of Tennessee within the previous five-year period. If so, provide the following information for all current and completed contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the name, title, telephone number and e-mail address of the State contact responsible for the contract at issue; (b) the name of the procuring State agency; (c) a brief description of the contract's specification for goods or scope of services; (d) the contract term; and (e) the contract number.
	B.17.	<p>Provide a statement and any relevant details addressing whether the Respondent is any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal or state department or agency; (b) has within the past three (3) years, been convicted of, or had a civil judgment rendered against the contracting party from commission of fraud, or a criminal offence in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or grant under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:		
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items
		<p>(c) is presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses detailed above; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ has within a three (3) year period preceding the contract had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.
SCORE (for <i>all</i> Section B— Qualifications & Experience Items above): <i>(maximum possible score = 40)</i>		
<i>State Use – Evaluator Identification:</i>		

ATTACHMENT C**TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE**

SECTION C: TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE & APPROACH. The Respondent should explain its approach to providing goods or services to the State. The items listed below represent specific questions the State would request you answer in your response. For ease of review, please annotate your explanation so that it contains references to the items listed below where they are addressed. Respondent should not feel constrained to answer only the specific questions listed below in its explanation and should feel free to provide attachments if necessary in an effort to provide a more thorough response.

The Evaluation Team, made up of three (3) or more State employees, will independently evaluate and score the response to each item. Each evaluator will use the following whole number, raw point scale for scoring each item:

0 = little value 1 = poor 2 = fair 3 = satisfactory 4 = good 5 = excellent

The Solicitation Coordinator will multiply the Item Score by the associated Evaluation Factor (indicating the relative emphasis of the item in the overall evaluation). The resulting product will be the item's raw, weighted score for purposes of calculating the section scores as indicated.

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:					
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section C— Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach Items	Item Score	Evaluation Factor	Raw Weighted Score
	C.1.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's understanding of the State's requirements and project schedule.		10	
	C.2.	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent will complete the delivery of goods or scope of services, accomplish required objectives, and meet the State's project schedule.		10	
	C.3.	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent will manage the project, ensure delivery of specified goods or completion of the scope of services, and accomplish required objectives within the State's project schedule.		10	
	C.4.	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent's eConsult platform is HIPAA compliant.		20	
	C.5.	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent's response to the eConsult request is initiated within 24 hours.		20	
	C.6.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's follow up inquiries from the eConsult will be addressed by the original specialist who provided the initial assessment.		15	
	C.7.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's familiarity with the Rural Health population.		15	
	C.8.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's Web-Based platform and how the security is managed.		20	
	C.9.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's qualifying professional credentials and Specialty Care Providers available for consultation.		20	

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:					
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section C— Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach Items	Item Score	Evaluation Factor	Raw Weighted Score
	C.10.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's reporting feature providing insight into referral patterns, key metrics, and trends.		10	
	C.11.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's platform data transfer features including uploaded pictures, Electrocardiography's (ECG), and other images.		20	
	C.12.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's patient documentation practices. The Respondent's narrative should demonstrate a process where a patient's information should only have to be entered once by the state.		20	
	C.13.	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent's list of required Specialties.		20	
	C.14.	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent will meet the training requirements and how it is incorporated into the platform.		10	
	C.15.	Provide a narrative illustrating the Respondent's technical support.		15	
	C.16.	Provide a narrative illustrating the Respondent's privacy policy and agreement to agree to the client's privacy policy.		15	
<i>The Solicitation Coordinator will use this sum and the formula below to calculate the section score. All calculations will use and result in numbers rounded to two (2) places to the right of the decimal point.</i>			Total Raw Weighted Score: <i>(sum of Raw Weighted Scores above)</i>		
<div style="text-align: center;"> Total Raw Weighted Score <hr/> Maximum Possible Raw Weighted Score <i>(i.e., 5 x the sum of item weights above)</i> </div>			<div style="text-align: center;"> X 50 <i>(maximum possible score)</i> </div>		= SCORE: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
<i>State Use – Evaluator Identification:</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>					
<i>State Use – Solicitation Coordinator Signature, Printed Name & Date:</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>					

ATTACHMENT C Continued

TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE

SECTION C: ORAL PRESENTATION. The Respondent must address ALL Oral Presentation Items (below).

A Proposal Evaluation Team, made up of three or more State employees, will independently evaluate and score the oral presentation or field test response to each item. Each evaluator will use the following whole-number, raw point scale for scoring each item:

0 = little value 1 = poor 2 = fair 3 = satisfactory 4 = good 5 = excellent

The Solicitation Coordinator will multiply the Item Score by the associated Evaluation Factor (indicating the relative emphasis of the item in the overall evaluation). The resulting product will be the item's raw, weighted score for purposes of calculating the section score as indicated.

RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:				
Oral Presentation Items		Item Score	Evaluation Factor	Raw Weighted Score
D.1.	Explain how your specialists approach providing clinical advice on management regarding patients who are uninsured?		30	
D.2.	What specialist in your network are most often consulted? How often does the requesting provider reach back out to the specialist for clarification or additional information?		25	
D.3.	Do you have redundancy in your commonly consulted specialists to assure a short turnaround time? What is your average turnaround time?		30	
D.4.	Do you follow client provider satisfaction scores? If yes, what is your overall satisfaction scores? What are some ways in which you have tried to improve satisfaction scores?		20	
D.5.	What is your quality assurance process?		20	
Total Raw Weighted Score (<i>sum of Raw Weighted Scores above</i>): The Solicitation Coordinator will use this sum and the formula below to calculate the score. Numbers rounded to two (2) places to the right of the decimal point will be standard for calculations.				
$\frac{\text{total raw weighted score}}{\text{maximum possible raw weighted score}} \times 10 = \text{SCORE:}$ <i>(i.e., 5 x the sum of item weights above)</i> <i>(maximum section score)</i>				
State Use – Evaluator Identification:				
State Use – Solicitation Coordinator Signature, Printed Name & Date:				

ATTACHMENT D

Cost Proposal & Evaluation Guide

For Qualified Respondents Only

NOTICE: THIS COST PROPOSAL MUST BE COMPLETED EXACTLY AS REQUIRED

COST PROPOSAL SCHEDULE— The Cost Proposal, detailed below, shall indicate the proposed price for the delivery of specified goods for the entire scope of services including all services defined in the Scope of Services of the RFQ Attachment G, *pro forma* Contract and for the entire contract period. The Cost Proposal shall remain valid for at least 120 days subsequent to the date of the Cost Proposal opening and thereafter in accordance with any contract resulting from this RFQ. All monetary amounts shall be in U.S. currency and limited to two (2) places to the right of the decimal point. The State will open the Cost Proposal for the highest evaluated Respondent.

NOTICE: Notwithstanding the line item of costs herein, pursuant to the second paragraph of the *pro forma* contract section C.1. (refer to RFQ Attachment G), “The State is under no obligation to request work from the Contractor in any specific dollar amounts or to request any work at all from the Contractor during any period of this Contract.”

This Cost Proposal must be signed, in the space below, by an individual empowered to bind the entity responding to the provisions of this RFQ and any contract awarded pursuant thereto. If said individual is not responding in an individual capacity or is the *President or Chief Executive Officer*, this document must attach evidence showing the individual’s authority to legally bind the entity responding to this RFQ.

RESPONDENT SIGNATURE:	
PRINTED NAME & TITLE:	
DATE:	
RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:	
Line item of cost Description	Proposed Cost
Provider Consultation	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> \$ <div style="flex-grow: 1; text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">Per consultation</div> </div>
<i>State Use – RFQ Coordinator Signature, Printed Name & Date:</i>	

ATTACHMENT E**STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES**

An individual responding in his or her individual capacity or legally empowered to contractually bind the Respondent must complete and sign the Statement of Certifications and Assurances below as required, and this signed statement must be included with the response as required by the Request for Qualifications.

The Respondent does, hereby, expressly affirm, declare, confirm, certify, and assure ALL of the following:

1. The Respondent will comply with all of the provisions and requirements of the RFQ.
2. The Respondent will provide all specified goods or services as required by the contract awarded pursuant to this RFQ.
3. The Respondent accepts and agrees to all terms and conditions set out in the contract awarded pursuant to this RFQ.
4. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that a contract resulting from the RFQ shall incorporate, by reference, all Response responses as a part of the contract.
5. The Respondent will comply, as applicable, with:
 - (a) the laws of the State of Tennessee;
 - (b) Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
 - (c) Title IX of the federal Education Amendments Act of 1972;
 - (d) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued there under by the federal government; and,
 - (e) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued there under by the federal government.
6. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information or belief, the information detailed within the Response to the RFQ is accurate.
7. The Response submitted to the RFQ was independently prepared, without collusion, and under penalty of perjury.
8. No amount shall be paid directly or indirectly to an employee or official of the State of Tennessee as wages, compensation, or gifts in exchange for acting as an officer, agent, employee, subcontractor, or consultant to the Respondent in connection with the request or any potential resulting contract.
9. The Response submitted in response to the RFQ shall remain valid for at least 120 days subsequent to the date of the Response opening and thereafter in accordance with any contract pursuant to the RFQ.
10. The Respondent affirms the following statement, as required by the Iran Divestment Act Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-111: "By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each bidder is not on the list created pursuant to § 12-12-106." For reference purposes, the list is currently available online at:
<https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/procurement/central-procurement-office--cpo-/library-public-information-library.html>.

By signature below, the signatory certifies legal authority to bind the responding entity to the provisions of this request and any contract awarded pursuant to it. The State may, at its sole discretion and at any time, require evidence documenting the signatory's authority to be personally bound or to legally bind the responding entity.

DO NOT SIGN THIS DOCUMENT IF YOU ARE NOT LEGALLY AUTHORIZED TO DO SO BY THE ENTITY RESPONDING TO THIS RFQ.

SIGNATURE & DATE:

PRINTED NAME & TITLE:

LEGAL ENTITY NAME:

ATTACHMENT F**REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

The standard reference questionnaire provided on the following pages of this attachment MUST be completed by all individuals offering a reference for the Respondent.

The Respondent will be responsible for obtaining completed reference questionnaires as detailed below.

Provide references from individuals who are not current State employees of the procuring State Agency for projects similar to the goods or services sought under this RFQ and which represent:

- two (2) contracts Respondent currently services that are similar in size and scope to the services required by this RFQ; and
- three (3) completed contracts that are similar in size and scope to the services required by this RFQ.

References from at least three (3) different individuals are required to satisfy the requirements above, e.g., an individual may provide a reference about a completed project and another reference about a currently serviced account. The individual contact reference provided for each contract or project shall not be a current State employee of the procuring State agency. Procuring State agencies that accept references from another State agency shall document, in writing, a plan to ensure that no contact is made between the procuring State agency and a referring State agency. The standard reference questionnaire, should be used and completed, and is provided on the next page at RFQ Attachment F.

In order to obtain and submit the completed reference questionnaires following one of the two processes below.

Written:

- (a) Add the Respondent's name to the standard reference questionnaire at RFQ Attachment F and make a copy for each reference.
- (b) Send a reference questionnaire and new, standard #10 envelope to each reference.
- (c) Instruct the reference to:
 - (i) complete the reference questionnaire;
 - (ii) sign and date the completed reference questionnaire;
 - (iii) seal the completed, signed, and dated reference questionnaire within the envelope provided;
 - (iv) sign his or her name in ink across the sealed portion of the envelope; and
 - (v) return the sealed envelope directly to the Respondent (the Respondent may wish to give each reference a deadline, such that the Respondent will be able to collect all required references in time to include them within the sealed Technical Response).
- (d) Do NOT open the sealed references upon receipt.
- (e) Enclose all sealed reference envelopes within a larger, labeled envelope for inclusion in the Technical Response as required.

Email:

- (a) Add the Respondent's name to the standard reference questionnaire at RFQ Attachment F and make a copy for each reference.
- (b) E-mail a reference questionnaire to each reference.
- (c) Instruct the reference to:
 - (i) complete the reference questionnaire;
 - (ii) sign and date the completed reference questionnaire;
 - (iii) E-mail the reference directly to the Solicitation Coordinator by the RFQ Technical Response Deadline with the Subject line of the e-mail as "[Respondent's Name] Reference for RFQ # **34360-07925**."

NOTES:

- The State will not accept late references or references submitted by any means other than the two which are described above, and each reference questionnaire submitted must be completed as required.
- The State will not review more than the number of required references indicated above.
- While the State will base its reference check on the contents of the reference e-mails or sealed reference envelopes included in the Technical Response package, the State reserves the right to confirm and clarify information detailed in the completed reference questionnaires, and may consider clarification responses in the evaluation of references.
- The State is under no obligation to clarify any reference information.

RFQ #34360-07925 REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**RESPONDENT NAME:** RESPONDENT NAME (completed by respondent before reference is requested)

The "respondent name" specified above, intends to submit a response to the State of Tennessee in response to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) indicated. As a part of such response, the respondent must include a number of completed and sealed reference questionnaires (using this form).

Each individual responding to this reference questionnaire is asked to follow these instructions:

- complete this questionnaire (either using the form provided or an exact duplicate of this document);
- sign and date the completed questionnaire and follow either process outlined below;

Physical:

- seal the completed, signed, and dated questionnaire in a new standard #10 envelope;
- sign in ink across the sealed portion of the envelope; and
- return the sealed envelope containing the completed questionnaire directly to the reference subject.

E-Mail:

- e-mail the completed questionnaire to:
Simeon Ayton; Simeon.Ayton@tn.gov

(1) **What is the name of the individual, company, organization, or entity responding to this reference questionnaire?**

(2) **Please provide the following information about the individual completing this reference questionnaire on behalf of the above-named individual, company, organization, or entity.**

NAME:	
TITLE:	
TELEPHONE #	
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	

(3) **What goods or services do/did the vendor provide to your company or organization?**

(4) **If the goods or services that the vendor provided to your company or organization are completed, were the goods or services completed in compliance with the terms of the contract, on time, and within budget? If not, please explain.**

- (5) If the vendor is still providing goods or services to your company or organization, are these goods or services being provided in compliance with the terms of the contract, on time, and within budget? If not, please explain.**

- (6) How satisfied are you with the vendor's ability to perform based on your expectations and according to the contractual arrangements?**

ATTACHMENT G

**CONTRACT
BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE,
STATE AGENCY NAME
AND
CONTRACTOR NAME**

This Contract, by and between the State of Tennessee, **State Agency Name** ("State") and **Contractor Legal Entity Name** ("Contractor"), is for the provision of **Scope of Goods or Services Caption**, as further defined in the "SCOPE." State and Contractor may be referred to individually as a "Party" or collectively as the "Parties" to this Contract.

The Contractor is **a/an Individual, For-Profit Corporation, Non-Profit Corporation, Special Purpose Corporation Or Association, Partnership, Joint Venture, Or Limited Liability Company.**

Contractor Place of Incorporation or Organization: **Location**

Contractor Edison Registration ID # **Number**

A. SCOPE:

- A.1. The Contractor shall provide all goods or services and deliverables as required, described, and detailed below and shall meet all service and delivery timelines as specified by this Contract.
- A.2. Definitions. For purposes of this Contract, definitions shall be as follows and as set forth in the Contract:
- a. "Board Certified" shall mean the process by which a physician or practitioner demonstrates a mastery of basic knowledge and skills through written, practical, or simulator-based testing.
 - b. "Cardiology" shall mean a medical specialty and branch of internal medicine concerned with disorders of the heart.
 - c. "Dermatology" shall mean the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of skin disorders.
 - d. "Electrocardiography (ECG)" shall mean the process of producing an electrocardiogram.
 - e. "Electronic Consultation (eConsult)" shall mean communication between health care providers used to consult specialists.
 - f. "Endocrinology" is a branch of biology and medicine dealing with the endocrine system, its diseases, and its specific secretions known as hormones.
 - g. "Gastroenterology" shall mean a branch of medicine focused on the digestive system and disorders.
 - h. "General Surgery" shall mean a discipline that requires knowledge of and responsibility for the preoperative, operative, and postoperative management of patients with a broad spectrum of diseases, including those which may require nonoperative, elective, or emergency surgical treatment.
 - i. "Gynecology" shall mean the medical practice dealing with the health of the female reproductive system.

- j. "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)" shall mean a federal law that required creation of national standards to protect sensitive patient health information from being disclosed without the patients consent or knowledge.
 - k. "Otolaryngology" shall mean the study of diseases of the eat and throat. The branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and management, including surgical interventions, of the ear, nose, and throat.
 - l. "Otorhinolaryngology" shall mean the surgical subspecialty within medicine that deals with the surgical and medical management of conditions of the head and neck.
 - m. "Pain management" shall mean an aspect of [medicine](#) and [health care](#) involving relief of [pain](#) in various dimensions, from [acute](#) and simple to [chronic](#) and challenging.
 - n. "Pediatrics" shall mean the branch of medicine that involves the medical care of infants, children, and adolescents. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends people seek pediatric care through the age of 21.
 - o. "Pulmonary" shall mean the branch of medicine pertaining to the pulmonary system.
 - p. "Rheumatology" shall means branch of medicine devoted to the diagnosis and treatment of rheumatic diseases.
 - q. "Rural Health" shall mean the health of people living in rural areas, who are generally located farther from health care facilities and other services than people living in urban areas.
 - r. "Wound Care Specialist" shall mean health care professionals who have been trained in the care and treatment of all types of wounds, [acute](#) and [chronic](#).
- A.3. Service Goal: This Contractor shall provide medical specialist consultation services for the Tennessee Department of Health providers and other employees through an Electronic Consultation (eConsult) web-based format.
- A.4. The Contractor shall provide medical specialty consultation services via a web-based platform that allows for the following:
- 1. Provider is able to complete requests for consultation through the web-based platform.
 - 2. Provision to the consultant of pertinent patient information such as history, medications, labs and tests via the web-based platform.
 - 3. confirmation within 24 hours of receipt of the request, excluding State holidays and weekends.
 - 4. Specialist ability to complete consultation and provide recommendations to the referring provider via the platform within 72 hours of request submission, excluding state holidays and weekends.
 - 5. Ability for the referring provider to submit questions regarding the consultant's recommendations to the consulting specialist and receive response within 24 hours, excluding state holidays and weekends.
 - 6. Ability for the same specialist who provided the initial consultation to address future follow-up inquiries on a previous patient from the Contractor (Referring provider) The platform shall further provide that if the previous specialist is unavailable, the inquiry shall be routed to a specialist in the same field who can access the patient information without re-entry on the State's part.

- A.5. The Contractor shall provide a web-based secure platform to manage communications. Consultations can be viewed online and available for download.
- a. The following email notifications shall be sent to the requestor after submitting a request
 - 1. Receipt of consultation request
 - 2. Notification of assignment of eConsult specialist including name and specialty
 - 3. Notification of completed consultation. Secure website must be HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) compliant in all specifications.
 - b. The platform shall include a reporting feature to gain insight into referral patterns, key metrics, and trends.
 - 1. Key metrics include but are not limited to:
 - a) Time to completion of consultation
 - b) Provider satisfaction with consultations
 - c) Total number per provider and per type of consultation
 - d) Number of technical issues encountered and time to resolution
 - c. Contractor platform shall readily accept uploaded documents and images, including but not limited to Electrocardiography's (ECG), Spirometry and photos using DICOM medical imaging standards, or other method as approved by the State.
 - d. Patient documentation shall only have to be entered once by the State. If multiple specialty consultations are required for a single patient, documentation should only be entered once by TDH staff and remain in the Contractor's system.
 - i. At the State's request, Contractor shall provide training to the State on the Contractor's platform and be available to all providers including access to an electronic manual.
 - 1. Contractor shall provide training super users
 - 2. Contractor shall provide at least five (5) refresher session trainings
 - ii. Technical support shall be provided by the Contractor during normal business hours of Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time, excluding state holidays. Technical Support shall be available through use of online chat and phone toll-free phone number.
 - iii.

- A.6 All Contractor provided specialty providers shall be Board Certified in the United States. Contractor shall provide proof of Board Certification at the State's request.

The Contractor shall be familiar with serving medically underserved populations with limited resources and have the capability to recommend treatments options based on social determinants of health.

- a. Contractor shall contain the following specialties at a minimum, with ability to add additional specialties at no additional cost:
 - 1. Cardiology
 - 2. Dermatology
 - 3. Endocrinology
 - 4. Gastroenterology
 - 5. General surgery
 - 6. Gynecology
 - 7. Otolaryngology
 - 8. Pain management

- 9. Pediatrics
- 10. Pulmonary
- 11. Rheumatology
- 12. Wound Care Specialist

- A.7. Privacy. Contractor shall comply with all State privacy specifications defined in the Business Associate Agreement (Attachment 1).
- A.8. Warranty. Contractor represents and warrants that the term of the warranty ("Warranty Period") shall be the greater of the Term of this Contract or any other warranty generally offered by Contractor, its suppliers, or manufacturers to customers of its goods or services. The goods or services provided under this Contract shall conform to the terms and conditions of this Contract throughout the Warranty Period. Any nonconformance of the goods or services to the terms and conditions of this Contract shall constitute a "Defect" and shall be considered "Defective." If Contractor receives notice of a Defect during the Warranty Period, then Contractor shall correct the Defect, at no additional charge.

Contractor represents and warrants that the State is authorized to possess and use all equipment, materials, software, and deliverables provided under this Contract.

Contractor represents and warrants that all goods or services provided under this Contract shall be provided in a timely and professional manner, by qualified and skilled individuals, and in conformity with standards generally accepted in Contractor's industry.

If Contractor fails to provide the goods or services as warranted, then Contractor will re-provide the goods or services at no additional charge. If Contractor is unable or unwilling to re-provide the goods or services as warranted, then the State shall be entitled to recover the fees paid to Contractor for the Defective goods or services. Any exercise of the State's rights under this Section shall not prejudice the State's rights to seek any other remedies available under this Contract or applicable law.

- A.9. Inspection and Acceptance. The State shall have the right to inspect all goods or services provided by Contractor under this Contract. If, upon inspection, the State determines that the goods or services are Defective, the State shall notify Contractor, and Contractor shall re-deliver the goods or provide the services at no additional cost to the State. If after a period of thirty (30) days following delivery of goods or performance of services the State does not provide a notice of any Defects, the goods or services shall be deemed to have been accepted by the State.

B. TERM OF CONTRACT:

- B.1. This Contract shall be effective on **DATE** ("Effective Date") and extend for a period of twelve (12) months after the Effective Date ("Term"). The State shall have no obligation for goods or services provided by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date.
- B.2. Renewal Options. This Contract may be renewed upon satisfactory completion of the Term. The State reserves the right to execute up to four (4) renewal options under the same terms and conditions for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months each by the State, at the State's sole option. In no event, however, shall the maximum Term, including all renewals or extensions, exceed a total of sixty (60) months.

C. PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- C.1. Maximum Liability. In no event shall the maximum liability of the State under this Contract exceed **Written Dollar Amount (\$Number)** ("Maximum Liability"). This Contract does not grant the

Contractor any exclusive rights. The State does not guarantee that it will buy any minimum quantity of goods or services under this Contract. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Contract, the Contractor will only be paid for goods or services provided under this Contract after a purchase order is issued to Contractor by the State or as otherwise specified by this Contract.

- C.2. Compensation Firm. The payment methodology in Section C.3. of this Contract shall constitute the entire compensation due the Contractor for all goods or services provided under this Contract regardless of the difficulty, materials or equipment required. The payment methodology includes all applicable taxes, fees, overhead, and all other direct and indirect costs incurred or to be incurred by the Contractor.
- C.3. Payment Methodology. The Contractor shall be compensated based on the payment methodology for goods or services authorized by the State in a total amount as set forth in Section C.1.
- a. The Contractor's compensation shall be contingent upon the satisfactory provision of goods or services as set forth in Section A.
 - b. The Contractor shall be compensated based upon the following payment methodology:

Goods or Services Description	Amount (per compensable increment)
Provider Consultation	\$ Number per consultation

- C.4. Travel Compensation. The Contractor shall not be compensated or reimbursed for travel time, travel expenses, meals, or lodging.
- C.5. Invoice Requirements. The Contractor shall invoice the State only for goods delivered and accepted by the State or services satisfactorily provided at the amounts stipulated in Section C.3., above. Contractor shall submit invoices and necessary supporting documentation, no more frequently than once a month, and no later than thirty (30) days after goods or services have been provided to the following address:

Jenny Crane
 Department of Health
 710 James Robertson Pkwy.
 7th Floor, CHS
 Nashville, TN 37243
 jenny.crane@tn.gov

- a. Each invoice, on Contractor's letterhead, shall clearly and accurately detail all of the following information (calculations must be extended and totaled correctly):
 - (1) Invoice number (assigned by the Contractor);
 - (2) Invoice date;
 - (3) Contract number (assigned by the State);
 - (4) Customer account name: Department of Health; Community Health Services;
 - (5) Customer account number (assigned by the Contractor to the above-referenced Customer);
 - (6) Contractor name;
 - (7) Contractor Tennessee Edison registration ID number;
 - (8) Contractor contact for invoice questions (name, phone, or email);
 - (9) Contractor remittance address;
 - (10) Description of delivered goods or services provided and invoiced, including identifying information as applicable;
 - (11) Number of delivered or completed units, increments, hours, or days as applicable, of each good or service invoiced;

- (12) Applicable payment methodology (as stipulated in Section C.3.) of each good or service invoiced;
- (13) Amount due for each compensable unit of good or service; and
- (14) Total amount due for the invoice period.

b. Contractor's invoices shall:

- (1) Only include charges for goods delivered or services provided as described in Section A and in accordance with payment terms and conditions set forth in Section C;
- (2) Only be submitted for goods delivered or services completed and shall not include any charge for future goods to be delivered or services to be performed;
- (3) Not include Contractor's taxes, which includes without limitation Contractor's sales and use tax, excise taxes, franchise taxes, real or personal property taxes, or income taxes; and
- (4) Include shipping or delivery charges only as authorized in this Contract.

c. The timeframe for payment (or any discounts) begins only when the State is in receipt of an invoice that meets the minimum requirements of this Section C.5.

C.6. Payment of Invoice. A payment by the State shall not prejudice the State's right to object to or question any payment, invoice, or other matter. A payment by the State shall not be construed as acceptance of goods delivered, any part of the services provided, or as approval of any amount invoiced.

C.7. Invoice Reductions. The Contractor's invoice shall be subject to reduction for amounts included in any invoice or payment that is determined by the State, on the basis of audits conducted in accordance with the terms of this Contract, to not constitute proper compensation for goods delivered or services provided.

C.8. Deductions. The State reserves the right to deduct from amounts, which are or shall become due and payable to the Contractor under this or any contract between the Contractor and the State of Tennessee, any amounts that are or shall become due and payable to the State of Tennessee by the Contractor.

C.9. Prerequisite Documentation. The Contractor shall not invoice the State under this Contract until the State has received the following, properly completed documentation.

- a. The Contractor shall complete, sign, and present to the State the "Authorization Agreement for Automatic Deposit Form" provided by the State. By doing so, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, once this form is received by the State, payments to the Contractor, under this or any other contract the Contractor has with the State of Tennessee, may be made by ACH; and
- b. The Contractor shall complete, sign, and return to the State the State-provided W-9 form. The taxpayer identification number on the W-9 form must be the same as the Contractor's Federal Employer Identification Number or Social Security Number referenced in the Contractor's Edison registration information.

D. MANDATORY TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

D.1. Required Approvals. The State is not bound by this Contract until it is duly approved by the Parties and all appropriate State officials in accordance with applicable Tennessee laws and regulations. Depending upon the specifics of this Contract, this may include approvals by the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, the Commissioner of Human Resources, the Comptroller of the Treasury, and the Chief Procurement Officer. Approvals shall be evidenced by a signature or electronic approval.

- D.2. Communications and Contacts. All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications required or contemplated by this Contract shall be in writing and shall be made by certified, first class mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, by overnight courier service with an asset tracking system, or by email or facsimile transmission with recipient confirmation. All communications, regardless of method of transmission, shall be addressed to the respective Party at the appropriate mailing address, facsimile number, or email address as stated below or any other address provided in writing by a Party.

The State:
 Don Gibson, MD, MBA
 Community Health Services
 Department of Health
 710 James Robertson Parkway
 Nashville, TN 37243
 jill.obremskey@tn.gov
 Telephone # (615) 741-0393
 FAX # N/A

The Contractor:

Contractor Contact Name & Title
 Contractor Name
 Address
 Email Address
 Telephone # Number
 FAX # Number

All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications shall be considered effective upon receipt or recipient confirmation as may be required.

- D.3. Modification and Amendment. This Contract may be modified only by a written amendment signed by all Parties and approved by all applicable State officials.
- D.4. Subject to Funds Availability. The Contract is subject to the appropriation and availability of State or federal funds. In the event that the funds are not appropriated or are otherwise unavailable, the State reserves the right to terminate this Contract upon written notice to the Contractor. The State's exercise of its right to terminate this Contract shall not constitute a breach of Contract by the State. Upon receipt of the written notice, the Contractor shall cease all work associated with the Contract. If the State terminates this Contract due to lack of funds availability, the Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for all conforming goods requested and accepted by the State and for all satisfactory and authorized services completed as of the termination date. Should the State exercise its right to terminate this Contract due to unavailability of funds, the Contractor shall have no right to recover from the State any actual, general, special, incidental, consequential, or any other damages of any description or amount.
- D.5. Termination for Convenience. The State may terminate this Contract for convenience without cause and for any reason. The State shall give the Contractor at least thirty (30) days written notice before the termination date. The Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for all conforming goods delivered and accepted by the State or for satisfactory, authorized services completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the State be liable to the Contractor for compensation for any goods neither requested nor accepted by the State or for any services neither requested by the State nor satisfactorily performed by the Contractor. In no event shall the State's exercise of its right to terminate this Contract for convenience relieve the Contractor of any liability to the State for any damages or claims arising under this Contract.
- D.6. Termination for Cause. If the Contractor fails to properly perform its obligations under this Contract in a timely or proper manner, or if the Contractor materially violates any terms of this

Contract ("Breach Condition"), the State shall have the right to immediately terminate the Contract and withhold payments in excess of compensation for completed services or provided goods. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the State for damages sustained by virtue of any Breach Condition and the State may seek other remedies allowed at law or in equity for breach of this Contract.

- D.7. Assignment and Subcontracting. The Contractor shall not assign this Contract or enter into a subcontract for any of the goods or services provided under this Contract without the prior written approval of the State. Notwithstanding any use of the approved subcontractors, the Contractor shall be the prime contractor and responsible for compliance with all terms and conditions of this Contract. The State reserves the right to request additional information or impose additional terms and conditions before approving an assignment of this Contract in whole or in part or the use of subcontractors in fulfilling the Contractor's obligations under this Contract.
- D.8. Conflicts of Interest. The Contractor warrants that no part of the Contractor's compensation shall be paid directly or indirectly to an employee or official of the State of Tennessee as wages, compensation, or gifts in exchange for acting as an officer, agent, employee, subcontractor, or consultant to the Contractor in connection with any work contemplated or performed under this Contract.

The Contractor acknowledges, understands, and agrees that this Contract shall be null and void if the Contractor is, or within the past six (6) months has been, an employee of the State of Tennessee or if the Contractor is an entity in which a controlling interest is held by an individual who is, or within the past six (6) months has been, an employee of the State of Tennessee.

- D.9. Nondiscrimination. The Contractor hereby agrees, warrants, and assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of this Contract or in the employment practices of the Contractor on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by federal or state law. The Contractor shall, upon request, show proof of nondiscrimination and shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.
- D.10. Prohibition of Illegal Immigrants. The requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-309 addressing the use of illegal immigrants in the performance of any contract to supply goods or services to the state of Tennessee, shall be a material provision of this Contract, a breach of which shall be grounds for monetary and other penalties, up to and including termination of this Contract.
- a. The Contractor agrees that the Contractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall reaffirm this attestation by submitting to the State a completed Attestation (accessible through the Edison Supplier Portal) and included at Attachment 2, semi-annually during the Term. If the Contractor is a party to more than one contract with the State, the Contractor may submit one attestation that applies to all contracts with the State. All Contractor attestations shall be maintained by the Contractor and made available to State officials upon request.
 - b. Prior to the use of any subcontractor in the performance of this Contract, and semi-annually thereafter, during the Term, the Contractor shall obtain and retain a current, written attestation that the subcontractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant to perform work under this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant to perform work under this Contract. Attestations obtained from subcontractors shall be maintained by the Contractor and made available to State officials upon request.
 - c. The Contractor shall maintain records for all personnel used in the performance of this Contract. Contractor's records shall be subject to review and random inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice by the State.

- d. The Contractor understands and agrees that failure to comply with this section will be subject to the sanctions of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-309 for acts or omissions occurring after its effective date.
 - e. For purposes of this Contract, "illegal immigrant" shall be defined as any person who is not: (i) a United States citizen; (ii) a Lawful Permanent Resident; (iii) a person whose physical presence in the United States is authorized; (iv) allowed by the federal Department of Homeland Security and who, under federal immigration laws or regulations, is authorized to be employed in the U.S.; or (v) is otherwise authorized to provide services under the Contract.
- D.11. Records. The Contractor shall maintain documentation for all charges under this Contract. The books, records, and documents of the Contractor, for work performed or money received under this Contract, shall be maintained for a period of five (5) full years from the date of the final payment and shall be subject to audit at any reasonable time and upon reasonable notice by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives. The financial statements shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- D.12. Monitoring. The Contractor's activities conducted and records maintained pursuant to this Contract shall be subject to monitoring and evaluation by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives.
- D.13. Progress Reports. The Contractor shall submit brief, periodic, progress reports to the State as requested.
- D.14. Strict Performance. Failure by any Party to this Contract to require, in any one or more cases, the strict performance of any of the terms, covenants, conditions, or provisions of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any term, covenant, condition, or provision. No term or condition of this Contract shall be held to be waived, modified, or deleted except by a written amendment signed by the Parties.
- D.15. Independent Contractor. The Parties shall not act as employees, partners, joint venturers, or associates of one another. The Parties are independent contracting entities. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship or to allow either Party to exercise control or direction over the manner or method by which the other transacts its business affairs or provides its usual services. The employees or agents of one Party are not employees or agents of the other Party.
- D.16. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Contractor agrees that it will be responsible for compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA") with respect to itself and its employees, including any obligation to report health insurance coverage, provide health insurance coverage, or pay any financial assessment, tax, or penalty for not providing health insurance. The Contractor shall indemnify the State and hold it harmless from any costs to the State arising from Contractor's failure to fulfill its PPACA responsibilities for itself or its employees.
- D.17. Limitation of State's Liability. The State shall have no liability except as specifically provided in this Contract. In no event will the State be liable to the Contractor or any other party for any lost revenues, lost profits, loss of business, decrease in the value of any securities or cash position, time, goodwill, or any indirect, special, incidental, punitive, exemplary or consequential damages of any nature, whether based on warranty, contract, statute, regulation, tort (including but not limited to negligence), or any other legal theory that may arise under this Contract or otherwise. The State's total liability under this Contract (including any exhibits, schedules, amendments or other attachments to the Contract) or otherwise shall under no circumstances exceed the Maximum Liability. This limitation of liability is cumulative and not per incident.
- D.18. Limitation of Contractor's Liability. In accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-701, the Contractor's liability for all claims arising under this Contract shall be limited to an amount equal

to two (2) times the Maximum Liability amount detailed in Section C.1. and as may be amended, PROVIDED THAT in no event shall this Section limit the liability of the Contractor for: (i) intellectual property or any Contractor indemnity obligations for infringement for third-party intellectual property rights; (ii) any claims covered by any specific provision in the Contract providing for liquidated damages; or (iii) any claims for intentional torts, criminal acts, fraudulent conduct, or acts or omissions that result in personal injuries or death. For clarity, except as otherwise expressly set forth in this Section, Contractor's indemnification obligations and other remedies available under this Contract are subject to the limitations on liability set forth in this Section.

- D.19. Hold Harmless. The Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Tennessee as well as its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, and causes of action which may arise, accrue, or result to any person, firm, corporation, or other entity which may be injured or damaged as a result of acts, omissions, or negligence on the part of the Contractor, its employees, or any person acting for or on its or their behalf relating to this Contract. The Contractor further agrees it shall be liable for the reasonable cost of attorneys' fees, court costs, expert witness fees, and other litigation expenses for the State to enforce the terms of this Contract.

In the event of any suit or claim, the Parties shall give each other immediate notice and provide all necessary assistance to respond. The failure of the State to give notice shall only relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent that the Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State in any legal matter, as the right to represent the State is governed by Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

- D.20. HIPAA Compliance. As applicable, the State and Contractor shall comply with obligations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"), Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health ("HITECH") Act and any other relevant laws and regulations regarding privacy (collectively the "Privacy Rules"). The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

- a. Contractor warrants to the State that it is familiar with the requirements of the Privacy Rules, and will comply with all applicable requirements in the course of this Contract.
- b. Contractor warrants that it will cooperate with the State, including cooperation and coordination with State privacy officials and other compliance officers required by the Privacy Rules, in the course of performance of the Contract so that both parties will be in compliance with the Privacy Rules.
- c. The State and the Contractor will sign documents, including but not limited to business associate agreements, as required by the Privacy Rules and that are reasonably necessary to keep the State and Contractor in compliance with the Privacy Rules. This provision shall not apply if information received or delivered by the parties under this Contract is NOT "protected health information" as defined by the Privacy Rules, or if the Privacy Rules permit the parties to receive or deliver the information without entering into a business associate agreement or signing another document.
- d. The Contractor will indemnify the State and hold it harmless for any violation by the Contractor or its subcontractors of the Privacy Rules. This includes the costs of responding to a breach of protected health information, the costs of responding to a government enforcement action related to the breach, and any fines, penalties, or damages paid by the State because of the violation.

- D.21. Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System. Subject to statutory exceptions contained in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 8-36-801, *et seq.*, the law governing the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System ("TCRS"), provides that if a retired member of TCRS, or of any superseded system administered by TCRS, or of any local retirement fund established under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 8-

35-101, *et seq.*, accepts State employment, the member's retirement allowance is suspended during the period of the employment. Accordingly and notwithstanding any provision of this Contract to the contrary, the Contractor agrees that if it is later determined that the true nature of the working relationship between the Contractor and the State under this Contract is that of "employee/employer" and not that of an independent contractor, the Contractor, if a retired member of TCRS, may be required to repay to TCRS the amount of retirement benefits the Contractor received from TCRS during the Term.

- D.22. Tennessee Department of Revenue Registration. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable registration requirements contained in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 67-6-601 – 608. Compliance with applicable registration requirements is a material requirement of this Contract.
- D.23. Debarment and Suspension. The Contractor certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it, its current and future principals, its current and future subcontractors and their principals:
- a. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal or state department or agency;
 - b. have not within a three (3) year period preceding this Contract been convicted of, or had a civil judgment rendered against them from commission of fraud, or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or grant under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - c. are not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses detailed in section b. of this certification; and
 - d. have not within a three (3) year period preceding this Contract had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State if at any time it learns that there was an earlier failure to disclose information or that due to changed circumstances, its principals or the principals of its subcontractors are excluded, disqualified, or presently fall under any of the prohibitions of sections a-d.

- D.24. Force Majeure. "Force Majeure Event" means fire, flood, earthquake, elements of nature or acts of God, wars, riots, civil disorders, rebellions or revolutions, acts of terrorism or any other similar cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party except to the extent that the non-performing Party is at fault in failing to prevent or causing the default or delay, and provided that the default or delay cannot reasonably be circumvented by the non-performing Party through the use of alternate sources, workaround plans or other means. A strike, lockout or labor dispute shall not excuse either Party from its obligations under this Contract. Except as set forth in this Section, any failure or delay by a Party in the performance of its obligations under this Contract arising from a Force Majeure Event is not a default under this Contract or grounds for termination. The non-performing Party will be excused from performing those obligations directly affected by the Force Majeure Event, and only for as long as the Force Majeure Event continues, provided that the Party continues to use diligent, good faith efforts to resume performance without delay. The occurrence of a Force Majeure Event affecting Contractor's representatives, suppliers, subcontractors, customers or business apart from this Contract is not a Force Majeure Event under this Contract. Contractor will promptly notify the State of any delay caused by a Force Majeure Event (to be confirmed in a written notice to the State within one (1) day of the inception of the delay) that a Force Majeure Event has occurred, and will describe in reasonable detail the nature of the Force Majeure Event. If any Force Majeure Event results in a delay in Contractor's performance longer than forty-eight (48) hours, the State may, upon notice to Contractor: (a) cease payment of the fees for the affected obligations until Contractor resumes performance of the affected obligations; or (b) immediately terminate this Contract or any purchase order, in

whole or in part, without further payment except for fees then due and payable. Contractor will not increase its charges under this Contract or charge the State any fees other than those provided for in this Contract as the result of a Force Majeure Event.

- D.25. State and Federal Compliance. The Contractor shall comply with all State and federal laws and regulations applicable to Contractor in the Contractor's performance of this Contract.
- D.26. Governing Law. This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee, without regard to its conflict or choice of law rules. The Tennessee Claims Commission or the state or federal courts in Tennessee shall be the venue for all claims, disputes, or disagreements arising under this Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any rights, claims, or remedies against the State of Tennessee or its employees arising under this Contract shall be subject to and limited to those rights and remedies available under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 9-8-101 - 408.
- D.27. Entire Agreement. This Contract is complete and contains the entire understanding between the Parties relating to its subject matter, including all the terms and conditions of the Parties' agreement. This Contract supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, negotiations, and agreements between the Parties, whether written or oral.
- D.28. Severability. If any terms and conditions of this Contract are held to be invalid or unenforceable as a matter of law, the other terms and conditions of this Contract shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. The terms and conditions of this Contract are severable.
- D.29. Headings. Section headings of this Contract are for reference purposes only and shall not be construed as part of this Contract.
- D.30. Incorporation of Additional Documents. Each of the following documents is included as a part of this Contract by reference. In the event of a discrepancy or ambiguity regarding the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, and performance under this Contract, these items shall govern in order of precedence below:
- a. any amendment to this Contract, with the latter in time controlling over any earlier amendments;
 - b. this Contract with any attachments or exhibits (excluding the items listed at subsections c. through f., below), which includes attachments 1 and 2;
 - c. any clarifications of or addenda to the Contractor's proposal seeking this Contract;
 - d. the State solicitation, as may be amended, requesting responses in competition for this Contract;
 - e. any technical specifications provided to proposers during the procurement process to award this Contract; and
 - f. the Contractor's response seeking this Contract.
- D.31. Iran Divestment Act. The requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-101, *et seq.*, addressing contracting with persons as defined at Tenn. Code Ann. §12-12-103(5) that engage in investment activities in Iran, shall be a material provision of this Contract. The Contractor certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that it is not on the list created pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-106.
- D.32. Insurance. Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage as specified in this Section. The State reserves the right to amend or require additional insurance coverage, coverage amounts, and endorsements required under this Contract. Contractor's failure to maintain or submit evidence of insurance coverage, as required, is a material breach of this Contract. If Contractor loses insurance coverage, fails to renew coverage, or for any reason becomes uninsured during the Term, Contractor shall immediately notify the State. All insurance companies providing coverage must be: (a) acceptable to the State; (b) authorized by the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance ("TDCI"); and (c) rated A- / VII or better by A.M. Best. All coverage must be on a primary basis and noncontributory with any other insurance or self-

insurance carried by the State. Contractor agrees to name the State as an additional insured on any insurance policy with the exception of workers' compensation (employer liability) and professional liability (errors and omissions) insurance. All policies must contain an endorsement for a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State. To the extent that Contractor is unable to obtain insurance coverage containing such a waiver, Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State as well as its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all subrogation claims, liabilities, losses, and causes of action which may arise, accrue, or result to any insurer who provides insurance coverage carried by Contractor, regardless of negligence. In any such claim or action brought against the State, the Contractor shall satisfy and indemnify the State for the amount of any settlement or final judgment, and the Contractor shall be responsible for all legal or other fees or expenses incurred by the State arising from any such claim. The State shall give the Contractor notice of any such claim or suit; however, the failure of the State to give such notice shall only relieve Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the State's failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State of Tennessee in any legal matter, as provided in Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106. Any deductible or self insured retention ("SIR") over fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) must be approved by the State. The deductible or SIR and any premiums are the Contractor's sole responsibility. The Contractor agrees that the insurance requirements specified in this Section do not reduce any liability the Contractor has assumed under this Contract including any indemnification or hold harmless requirements.

To achieve the required coverage amounts, a combination of an otherwise deficient specific policy and an umbrella policy with an aggregate meeting or exceeding the required coverage amounts is acceptable. For example: If the required policy limit under this Contract is for two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in coverage, acceptable coverage would include a specific policy covering one million dollars (\$1,000,000) combined with an umbrella policy for an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000). If the deficient underlying policy is for a coverage area without aggregate limits (generally Automobile Liability and Employers' Liability Accident), Contractor shall provide a copy of the umbrella insurance policy documents to ensure that no aggregate limit applies to the umbrella policy for that coverage area. In the event that an umbrella policy is being provided to achieve any required coverage amounts, the umbrella policy shall be accompanied by an endorsement at least as broad as the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (also known as "ISO") "Noncontributory—Other Insurance Condition" endorsement or shall be written on a policy form that addresses both the primary and noncontributory basis of the umbrella policy if the State is otherwise named as an additional insured.

Contractor shall provide the State a certificate of insurance ("COI") evidencing the coverages and amounts specified in this Section. The COI must be on a form approved by the TDCI (standard ACORD form preferred). The COI must list each insurer's National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) number and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer. The COI must list the State of Tennessee – CPO Risk Manager, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., 3rd floor Central Procurement Office, Nashville, TN 37243 as the certificate holder. Contractor shall provide the COI ten (10) business days prior to the Effective Date and again thirty (30) calendar days before renewal or replacement of coverage. Contractor shall provide the State evidence that all subcontractors maintain the required insurance or that subcontractors are included under the Contractor's policy. At any time, the State may require Contractor to provide a valid COI. The Parties agree that failure to provide evidence of insurance coverage as required is a material breach of this Contract. If Contractor self-insures, then a COI will not be required to prove coverage. Instead Contractor shall provide a certificate of self-insurance or a letter, on Contractor's letterhead, detailing its coverage, policy amounts, and proof of funds to reasonably cover such expenses. The State reserves the right to require complete copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.

The State agrees that it shall give written notice to the Contractor as soon as practicable after the State becomes aware of any claim asserted or made against the State, but in no event later than thirty (30) calendar days after the State becomes aware of such claim. The failure of the State to give notice shall only relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent that the Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the failure to give notice. This

Section shall not grant the Contractor or its insurer, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State in any legal matter, as the right to represent the State is governed by Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

The insurance obligations under this Contract shall be: (1)—all the insurance coverage and policy limits carried by the Contractor; or (2)—the minimum insurance coverage requirements and policy limits shown in this Contract; whichever is greater. Any insurance proceeds in excess of or broader than the minimum required coverage and minimum required policy limits, which are applicable to a given loss, shall be available to the State. No representation is made that the minimum insurance requirements of the Contract are sufficient to cover the obligations of the Contractor arising under this Contract. The Contractor shall obtain and maintain, at a minimum, the following insurance coverages and policy limits.

a. Commercial General Liability (“CGL”) Insurance

- 1) The Contractor shall maintain CGL, which shall be written on an ISO Form CG 00 01 occurrence form (or a substitute form providing equivalent coverage) and shall cover liability arising from property damage, premises and operations products and completed operations, bodily injury, personal and advertising injury, and liability assumed under an insured contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a business contract).
The Contractor shall maintain single limits not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this policy or location of occurrence or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.

b. Workers’ Compensation and Employer Liability Insurance

- 1) For Contractors statutorily required to carry workers’ compensation and employer liability insurance, the Contractor shall maintain:
 - i. Workers’ compensation in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) including employer liability of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident for bodily injury by accident, one million dollars (\$1,000,000) policy limit by disease, and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per employee for bodily injury by disease.
- 2) If the Contractor certifies that it is exempt from the requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 50-6-101 – 103, then the Contractor shall furnish written proof of such exemption for one or more of the following reasons:
 - i. The Contractor employs fewer than five (5) employees;
 - ii. The Contractor is a sole proprietor;
 - iii. The Contractor is in the construction business or trades with no employees;
 - iv. The Contractor is in the coal mining industry with no employees;
 - v. The Contractor is a state or local government; or
 - vi. The Contractor self-insures its workers’ compensation and is in compliance with the TDCI rules and Tenn. Code Ann. § 50-6-405.

c. Automobile Liability Insurance

- 1) The Contractor shall maintain automobile liability insurance which shall cover liability arising out of any automobile (including owned, leased, hired, and non-owned automobiles).
- 2) The Contractor shall maintain bodily injury/property damage with a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence or combined single limit.

d. Cyber Liability Insurance

- 1) The Contractor shall maintain cyber liability insurance in an amount not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) per occurrence or claim and ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) annual aggregate, covering all acts, claims, errors, omissions, negligence, infringement of intellectual property (including copyright, patent and trade secret); network security and privacy risks, including but not limited to unauthorized access, failure of security, information theft, damage to destruction of or alteration of electronic information, breach of privacy perils, wrongful disclosure and release of private information, collection, or other negligence in the handling of confidential information, and including coverage for related regulatory fines, defenses, and penalties.
- 2) Such coverage shall include data breach response expenses, in an amount not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) and payable whether incurred by the State or Contractor, including but not limited to consumer notification, whether or not required by law, computer forensic investigations, public relations and crisis management firm fees, credit file or identity monitoring or remediation services and expenses in the performance of services for the State or on behalf of the State hereunder.

e. Professional Liability Insurance

- 1) Professional liability insurance shall be written on an occurrence basis or on a claims-made basis. If this coverage is written on a claims-made basis, then:
 - i. The retroactive date must be shown, and must be on or before the earlier of the Effective Date of the Contract or the beginning of Contract work or provision of goods and services;
 - ii. Insurance must be maintained and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least five (5) full years from the date of the final Contract payment; and
 - iii. If coverage is canceled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another claims-made policy form with a retroactive date on or prior to the Contract Effective Date, the Contractor must purchase "extended reporting" or "tail coverage" for a minimum of five (5) full years from the date of the final Contract payment.
- 2) Any professional liability insurance policy shall have a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per claim and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in the aggregate; and
- 3) If the Contract involves the provision of services by medical professionals, a policy limit not less than three million (\$3,000,000) per claim and three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the aggregate for medical malpractice insurance.

D.33. Major Procurement Contract Sales and Use Tax. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-39-102 and to the extent applicable, the Contractor and the Contractor's subcontractors shall remit sales and

use taxes on the sales of goods or services that are made by the Contractor or the Contractor's subcontractors and that are subject to tax.

- D.34. Confidentiality of Records. Strict standards of confidentiality of records and information shall be maintained in accordance with applicable state and federal law. All material and information, regardless of form, medium or method of communication, provided to the Contractor by the State or acquired by the Contractor on behalf of the State that is regarded as confidential under state or federal law shall be regarded as "Confidential Information." Nothing in this Section shall permit Contractor to disclose any Confidential Information, regardless of whether it has been disclosed or made available to the Contractor due to intentional or negligent actions or inactions of agents of the State or third parties. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed except as required or permitted under state or federal law. Contractor shall take all necessary steps to safeguard the confidentiality of such material or information in conformance with applicable state and federal law.

The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

- D.35. Boycott of Israel. The Contractor certifies that it is not currently engaged in, and covenants that it will not, for the duration of the Contract, engage in a Boycott of Israel, as that term is defined in Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-4-119.
- D.36. Prohibited Contract Terms. The prohibited contract terms and conditions enumerated in Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-515, shall be a material provision of this Contract. The Contractor acknowledges, understands, and agrees that the inclusion of a term or condition prohibited by Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-515, shall be null and void and the Contract shall be enforceable as if the Contract did not contain such term or condition.

E. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- E.1. Conflicting Terms and Conditions. Should any of these special terms and conditions conflict with any other terms and conditions of this Contract, the special terms and conditions shall be subordinate to the Contract's other terms and conditions.
- E.2. Contractor Commitment to Diversity. The Contractor shall comply with and make reasonable business efforts to exceed the commitment to diversity represented by the Contractor's Response to 34360-07925 (RFQ Attachment B-B.15.) and resulting in this Contract.

The Contractor shall assist the State in monitoring the Contractor's performance of this commitment by providing, as requested, a monthly report of participation in the performance of this Contract by small business enterprises and businesses owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, and persons with disabilities. Such reports shall be provided to the State of Tennessee Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise in the TN Diversity Software available online at:

<https://tn.diversitysoftware.com/FrontEnd/StartCertification.asp?TN=tn&XID=9810>.

- E.3. Intellectual Property Indemnity. The Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Tennessee as well as its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims or suits which may be brought against the State concerning or arising out of any claim of an alleged patent, copyright, trade secret or other intellectual property infringement. In any such claim or action brought against the State, the Contractor shall satisfy and indemnify the State for the amount of any settlement or final judgment, and the Contractor shall be responsible for all legal or other fees or expenses incurred by the State arising from any such claim. The State shall give the Contractor notice of any such claim or suit, however, the failure of the State to give such notice shall only relieve Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the State's failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State of Tennessee in any legal matter, as provided in Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

- E.4. Extraneous Terms and Conditions. Contractor shall fill all orders submitted by the State under this Contract. No purchase order, invoice, or other documents associated with any sales, orders, or supply of any good or service under this Contract shall contain any terms or conditions other than as set forth in the Contract. Any such extraneous terms and conditions shall be void, invalid and unenforceable against the State. Any refusal by Contractor to supply any goods or services under this Contract conditioned upon the State submitting to any extraneous terms and conditions shall be a material breach of the Contract and constitute an act of bad faith by Contractor.
- E.5. Software License Warranty. Contractor grants a license to the State to use all software provided under this Contract in the course of the State's business and purposes.
- E.6. Software Support and Maintenance Warranty. Contractor shall provide to the State all software upgrades, modifications, bug fixes, or other improvements in its software that it makes generally available to its customers.
- E.7. Information Technology Security Requirements (State Data, Audit, and Other Requirements).
- a. The Contractor shall protect State Data as follows:
 - (1) The Contractor shall ensure that all State Data is housed in the continental United States, inclusive of backup data. All State data must remain in the United States, regardless of whether the data is processed, stored, in-transit, or at rest. Access to State data shall be limited to US-based (onshore) resources only.

All system and application administration must be performed in the continental United States. Configuration or development of software and code is permitted outside of the United States. However, software applications designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned or controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of, a foreign adversary, which the U.S. Secretary of Commerce acting pursuant to 15 CFR 7 has defined to include the People's Republic of China, among others are prohibited. Any testing of code outside of the United States must use fake data. A copy of production data may not be transmitted or used outside the United States.
 - (2) The Contractor shall encrypt Confidential State Data at rest and in transit using the current version of Federal Information Processing Standard ("FIPS") 140-2 or 140-3 (or current applicable version) validated encryption technologies. The State shall control all access to encryption keys. The Contractor shall provide installation and maintenance support at no cost to the State.
 - (3) The Contractor and any Subcontractor used by the Contractor to host State data, including data center vendors, shall be subject to an annual engagement by a licensed CPA firm in accordance with the standards of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") for a System and Organization Controls for service organizations ("SOC") 2 Type 2 examination. The scope of the SOC 2 Type 2 examination engagement must include the Security, Availability, Confidentiality, and Processing Integrity Trust Services Criteria. In addition, the Contractor services that are part of this Contract, including any processing or storage services, must be included in the scope of the SOC 2 Type 2 examination engagement(s).
 - (4) The Contractor must annually review its SOC 2 Type 2 examination reports. Within 30 days of receipt of the examination report, or upon request from the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Contractor must provide the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury a non-redacted copy of the Contractor's SOC 2 Type 2 examination report(s). The Contractor must review the annual SOC 2 Type 2 examination reports for each of its Subcontractors and must also assist the State or Comptroller of the Treasury with obtaining a non-redacted copy of any SOC examination reports for each of its Subcontractors, including data centers used by the Contractor to host or process State data.

If the Contractor's SOC 2 Type 2 examination report includes a modified opinion, meaning that the opinion is qualified, adverse, or disclaimed, the Contractor must share the SOC report and the Contractor's plan to address the modified opinion with the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury within 30 days of the Contractor's receipt of the SOC report or upon request from the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury. If any Subcontractor(s) SOC 2 Type 2 examination report includes a modified opinion, the Contractor must assist the State or Comptroller of the Treasury with obtaining the Subcontractor(s) SOC report and the Subcontractor(s) plan to address the modified opinion.

The Contractor must have a process for correcting control deficiencies that were identified in the SOC 2 Type 2 examination, including follow-up documentation providing evidence of such corrections. Within 30 days of receipt of the examination report, or upon request from the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Contractor must provide the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury with a corrective action plan and evidence of correcting the control deficiencies. The Contractor must require each of its Subcontractors, including data centers used by the Contractor to host State data, to have a process for correcting control deficiencies identified in their SOC examination reports and must assist the State or Comptroller of the Treasury with obtaining a corrective action plan and obtaining evidence of correcting control deficiencies identified in Subcontractor(s) SOC reports.

No additional funding shall be allocated for these examinations as they are included in the Maximum Liability of this Contract.

- (5) The Contractor must annually perform Penetration Tests and Vulnerability Assessments against its Processing Environment per the NIST 800-115 definition. "Processing Environment" shall mean the combination of software and hardware on which the Application runs. "Application" shall mean the computer code that supports and accomplishes the State's requirements as set forth in this Contract. "Penetration Tests" shall be in the form of attacks on the Contractor's computer system, with the purpose of discovering security weaknesses which have the potential to gain access to the Processing Environment's features and data. The "Vulnerability Assessment" shall be designed and executed to define, identify, and classify the security holes (vulnerabilities) in the Processing Environment. The Contractor shall allow the State, at its option, to perform Penetration Tests and Vulnerability Assessments on the Processing Environment. The Contractor shall provide a letter of attestation on its processing environment that penetration tests and vulnerability assessments has been performed on an annual basis and taken corrective action to evaluate and address any findings.

In the event of an unauthorized disclosure or unauthorized access to State data, the State Strategic Technology Solutions (STS) Security Incident Response Team (SIRT) must be notified and engaged by calling the State Customer Care Center (CCC) at 615-741-1001. Any such event must be reported by the Contractor within twenty-four (24) hours after the unauthorized disclosure has come to the attention of the Contractor.

- (6) If a breach has been confirmed a fully un-modified third-party forensics report must be supplied to the State and through the STS SIRT. This report must include indicators of compromise (IOCs) as well as plan of actions for remediation and restoration. Contractor shall take all necessary measures to halt any further Unauthorized Disclosures.
- (7) Upon State request, the Contractor shall provide a copy of all Confidential State Data it holds. The Contractor shall provide such data on media and in a format determined by the State
- (8) Upon termination of this Contract and in consultation with the State, the Contractor shall destroy, and ensure all subcontractors shall destroy, all Confidential State Data it holds (including any copies such as backups) in accordance with the current version of National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST") Special Publication 800-88. The Contractor shall provide a written confirmation of destruction to the State within ten (10) business days after destruction.

b. Minimum Requirements

- (1) The Contractor and all data centers used by the Contractor to host State data, including those of all Subcontractors, must comply with the State's Enterprise Information Security Policies as amended periodically. The State's Enterprise Information Security Policies document is found at the following URL: <https://www.tn.gov/finance/strategic-technology-solutions/strategic-technology-solutions/sts-security-policies.html>.
- (2) The Contractor agrees to maintain the Application so that it will run on a current, manufacturer-supported Operating System. "Operating System" shall mean the software that supports a computer's basic functions, such as scheduling tasks, executing applications, and controlling peripherals.
- (3) If the Application requires middleware or database software, Contractor shall maintain middleware and database software versions that are always fully compatible with current versions of the Operating System and Application to ensure that security vulnerabilities are not introduced.
- (4) In the event of drive/media failure, if the drive/media is replaced, it remains with the State and it is the State's responsibility to destroy the drive/media, or the Contractor shall provide written confirmation of the sanitization/destruction of data according to NIST 800-88.

c. Business Continuity Requirements. The Contractor shall maintain set(s) of documents, instructions, and procedures which enable the Contractor to respond to accidents, disasters, emergencies, or threats without any stoppage or hindrance in its key operations ("Business Continuity Requirements"). Business Continuity Requirements shall include:

- (1) "Disaster Recovery Capabilities" refer to the actions the Contractor takes to meet the Recovery Point and Recovery Time Objectives defined below. Disaster Recovery Capabilities shall meet the following objectives:
 - i. Recovery Point Objective ("RPO"). The RPO is defined as the maximum targeted period in which data might be lost from an IT service due to a major incident: 1 hour
 - ii. Recovery Time Objective ("RTO"). The RTO is defined as the targeted duration of time and a service level within which a business process must be restored after a disaster (or disruption) in order to avoid unacceptable consequences associated with a break in business continuity: 24 hours
- (2) The Contractor and the Subcontractor(s) shall maintain a documented Disaster Recovery plan and shall share this document with the State when requested. The Contractor and the Subcontractor(s) shall perform at least one Disaster Recovery Test every three hundred sixty-five (365) days. A "Disaster Recovery Test" shall mean the process of verifying the success of the restoration procedures that are executed after a critical IT failure or disruption occurs. The Disaster Recovery Test shall use actual State Data Sets that mirror production data, and success shall be defined as the Contractor verifying that the Contractor can meet the State's RPO and RTO requirements. A "Data Set" is defined as a collection of related sets of information that is composed of separate elements but can be manipulated as a unit by a computer. The Contractor shall provide written confirmation to the State after each Disaster Recovery Test that its Disaster Recovery Capabilities meet the RPO and RTO requirements.

E.8. Comptroller Audit Requirements.

When requested by the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Contractor must provide the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury with a detailed written description of

the Contractor's information technology control environment, including a description of general controls and application controls. The Contractor must also assist the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury with obtaining a detailed written description of the information technology control environment for any third or fourth parties, or Subcontractors, used by the Contractor to process State data and/or provide services under this Contract.

Contractor will maintain and cause its Subcontractors to maintain a complete audit trail of all transactions and activities in connection with this Contract, including all information technology logging and scanning conducted within the Contractor's and Subcontractor's information technology control environment. Upon reasonable notice and at any reasonable time, the Contractor grants the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury with the right to audit the Contractor's information technology control environment, including general controls and application controls. The audit may include testing the general and application controls within the Contractor's information technology control environment and may also include testing general and application controls for any third or fourth parties, or Subcontractors, used by the Contractor to process State data and/or provide services under this Contract. The audit may include the Contractor's and Subcontractor's compliance with the State's Enterprise Information Security Policy and all applicable requirements, laws, regulations, or policies.

Upon reasonable notice and at any reasonable time, the Contractor and Subcontractor(s) agree to allow the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives to perform information technology control audits of the Contractor and all Subcontractors used by the Contractor. Contractor will provide to the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives access to Contractor and Subcontractor(s) personnel for the purpose of performing the information technology control audit. The audit may include interviews with technical and management personnel, physical or virtual inspection of controls, and review of paper or electronic documentation.

The Contractor must have a process for correcting control deficiencies that were identified in the State's or Comptroller of the Treasury's information technology audit. For any audit issues identified, the Contractor and Subcontractor(s) shall submit a corrective action plan to the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury which addresses the actions taken, or to be taken, and the anticipated completion date in response to each of the audit issues and related recommendations of the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury. The corrective action plan shall be provided to the State or the Comptroller of the Treasury upon request from the State or Comptroller of the Treasury and within 30 days from the issuance of the audit report or communication of the audit issues and recommendations. Upon request from the State or Comptroller of the Treasury, the Contractor and Subcontractor(s) shall provide documentation and evidence that the audit issues were corrected.

Each party shall bear its own expenses incurred while conducting the information technology controls audit.

- E.9. Prohibited Advertising or Marketing. The Contractor shall not suggest or imply in advertising or marketing materials that Contractor's goods or services are endorsed by the State. The restrictions on Contractor advertising or marketing materials under this Section shall survive the termination of this contract.
- E.10. Personally Identifiable Information. While performing its obligations under this Contract, Contractor may have access to Personally Identifiable Information held by the State ("PII"). For the purposes of this Contract, "PII" includes "Nonpublic Personal Information" as that term is defined in Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations thereunder, all as may be amended or supplemented from time to time ("GLBA") and personally identifiable information and other data protected under any other applicable laws, rule or regulation of any jurisdiction relating to disclosure or use of personal information ("Privacy Laws"). Contractor agrees it shall not do or omit to do anything which

would cause the State to be in breach of any Privacy Laws. Contractor shall, and shall cause its employees, agents and representatives to: (i) keep PII confidential and may use and disclose PII only as necessary to carry out those specific aspects of the purpose for which the PII was disclosed to Contractor and in accordance with this Contract, GLBA and Privacy Laws; and (ii) implement and maintain appropriate technical and organizational measures regarding information security to: (A) ensure the security and confidentiality of PII; (B) protect against any threats or hazards to the security or integrity of PII; and (C) prevent unauthorized access to or use of PII. Contractor shall immediately notify the State: (1) of any disclosure or use of any PII by Contractor or any of its employees, agents and representatives in breach of this Contract; and (2) of any disclosure of any PII to Contractor or its employees, agents and representatives where the purpose of such disclosure is not known to Contractor or its employees, agents and representatives. The State reserves the right to review Contractor's policies and procedures used to maintain the security and confidentiality of PII and Contractor shall, and cause its employees, agents and representatives to, comply with all reasonable requests or directions from the State to enable the State to verify or ensure that Contractor is in full compliance with its obligations under this Contract in relation to PII. Upon termination or expiration of the Contract or at the State's direction at any time in its sole discretion, whichever is earlier, Contractor shall immediately return to the State any and all PII which it has received under this Contract and shall destroy all records of such PII.

The Contractor shall report to the State any instances of unauthorized access to or potential disclosure of PII in the custody or control of Contractor ("Unauthorized Disclosure") that come to the Contractor's attention. Any such report shall be made by the Contractor within twenty-four (24) hours after the Unauthorized Disclosure has come to the attention of the Contractor. Contractor shall take all necessary measures to halt any further Unauthorized Disclosures. The Contractor, at the sole discretion of the State, shall provide no cost credit monitoring services for individuals whose PII was affected by the Unauthorized Disclosure. The Contractor shall bear the cost of notification to all individuals affected by the Unauthorized Disclosure, including individual letters and public notice. The remedies set forth in this Section are not exclusive and are in addition to any claims or remedies available to the State under this Contract or otherwise available at law. The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

The Contractor shall report to the State any instances of unauthorized access to or potential disclosure of PII in the custody or control of Contractor ("Unauthorized Disclosure") that come to the Contractor's attention. Any such report shall be made by the Contractor within twenty-four (24) hours after the Unauthorized Disclosure has come to the attention of the Contractor. Contractor shall take all necessary measures to halt any further Unauthorized Disclosures. The Contractor, at the sole discretion of the State, shall provide no cost credit monitoring services for individuals whose PII was affected by the Unauthorized Disclosure. The Contractor shall bear the cost of notification to all individuals affected by the Unauthorized Disclosure, including individual letters and public notice. The remedies set forth in this Section are not exclusive and are in addition to any claims or remedies available to the State under this Contract or otherwise available at law. The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

CONTRACTOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME:

CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTOR SIGNATORY (above)

STATE AGENCY NAME:

NAME & TITLE

DATE

ATTACHMENT 1**BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT**

THIS BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (hereinafter Agreement) is between Tennessee Department of Health (hereinafter Covered Entity) and _____ (hereinafter Business Associate). Covered Entity and Business Associate may be referred to herein individually as "Party" or collectively as "Parties."

BACKGROUND

Covered Entity acknowledges that it is subject to the Privacy Rule (45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E) promulgated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Pub. L. 104-191.

Business Associate acknowledges that effective February 17, 2010, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5), pursuant to Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B, entitled the "Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health" (HITECH) Act, which modifies the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules, subjects and obligates the Business Associate to protect patient health information to the same extent and manner as the Covered Entity under the Privacy Rule. 45 C.F.R. §§ 164.308, 164.310, 164.312, and 164.316 shall apply to a business associate of a covered entity in the same manner that these sections apply to a covered entity.

In the course of executing Service Contracts, Business Associate may come into contact with, use, or disclose Protected Health Information (PHI) (defined in Section 1.13 below). Said Service Contracts are hereby incorporated by reference and shall be taken and considered as a part of this document the same as if fully set out herein. In accordance with the Privacy Rule, which requires Covered Entity to have a written contract with each of its business associates, the Parties wish to establish satisfactory assurances that Business Associate will appropriately safeguard PHI and, therefore, execute this Agreement.

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1. Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as those terms in 45 C.F.R. §§ 160.103, 164.304, 164.501, and 164.504.

1.2. "Breach" shall mean the unauthorized acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of PHI which compromises the security or privacy of the PHI except where an unauthorized person to whom such information is disclosed would not reasonably have been able to retain such information. 42 U.S.C.A. § 17921.

1.3. "Breach of system security" under T.C.A. § 47-18-2107 means unauthorized acquisition of unencrypted computerized data or encrypted computerized data and the encryption key that materially compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of Personal Information maintained by the information holder.

1.4. "Designated Record Set" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.

1.5. "Electronic Health Record" shall have the same meaning as set forth in the HITECH Act.

1.6. "Electronic Protected Health Information (EPHI)" shall have the same meaning as set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to the information that the Business Associate creates, receives, maintains, or transmits for or on behalf of the Covered Entity.

1.7. "Health Care Operations" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.

1.8. "Individual" shall have the same meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(g).

1.9. "Information Holder" means any person or business that conducts business in this state, or any agency of the state of Tennessee or any of its political subdivisions, that owns or licenses computerized Personal Information of Tennessee residents. T.C.A. § 47-18-2107(a)(3).

1.10. "Personal Information" means an individual's first name or first initial and last name, in combination with any one (1) or more of the following data elements: social security number; driver's license number; or account

number, 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. T.C.A. § 47-18-2107(a)(4)(A).

1.11. "Privacy Official" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.530(a)(1).

1.12. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the standards for privacy for Protected Health Information at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E.

1.13. "Protected Health Information (PHI)" shall have the same meaning as the term "protected health information" in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.

1.14. "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or his/her designee.

1.15. "Security Event" shall mean an immediately reportable subset of Security Incidents which would include:

- a) a suspected penetration of Business Associate's information system of which the Business Associate becomes aware but for which it is not able to verify within FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS (of the time the Business Associate became aware of the suspected incident) that PHI or other confidential data was not accessed, stolen, used, disclosed, modified, or destroyed;
- b) any indication, evidence, or other security documentation that the Business Associate's network resources, including, but not limited to, software, network routers, firewalls, database and application servers, intrusion detection systems, or other security appliances, may have been damaged, modified, taken over by proxy, or otherwise compromised, for which Business Associate cannot refute the indication within FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS of the time the Business Associate became aware of such indication;
- c) a Breach of the security of the Business Associate's information system(s) (see definition 1.3 above) by unauthorized acquisition, including, but not limited to, access to or use, disclosure, modification, or destruction, of unencrypted computerized data and which incident materially compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of PHI;
- d) the unauthorized acquisition, including, but not limited to, access to or use, disclosure, modification, or destruction, of unencrypted PHI or other confidential information of the Covered Entity by an employee or authorized user of Business Associate's system(s) which materially compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of PHI or other confidential information of the Covered Entity; and/or
- e) a Security Incident involving 500 or more patients (see definition 1.16).

If data acquired (including, but not limited, to access to or use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of such data) is in encrypted format, but the decryption key which would allow the decoding of the data is also taken, the Parties shall treat the acquisition as a Breach for purposes of determining appropriate response.

1.16. "Security Incident" shall have the meaning set out in 45 C.F.R. § 164.304, that is, the attempt or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with system operations in an information system. A Security Incident involving 500 or more patients shall be reported to HHS immediately, and a Security Incident involving less than 500 patients shall be reported to HHS annually.

1.17. "Security Rule" shall mean the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and C.

1.18. "Service Contract" shall mean any present or future agreements, either written or oral, between Covered Entity and Business Associate, under which Business Associate provides services to Covered Entity which involve the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information. All Services Contracts are amended by and incorporate the terms of this Agreement.

1.19. "Unsecured Protected Health Information" is 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 42 U.S.C.A. § 17932(h)(2). If decoding of the data is also taken, the Parties shall treat the acquisition as a Breach for purposes of determining appropriate response.

2. OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE (Privacy Rule)

2.1. Business Associate agrees to fully comply with the requirements under the Privacy Rule applicable to "business associates," as that term is defined in the Privacy Rule and not use or further disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by this Agreement, Service Contracts, or as required by law. In case of any conflict between this Agreement and Service Contracts, this Agreement shall govern.

2.2. Business Associate agrees to implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards, including policies, that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of any PHI, including EPHI, that it creates, receives, maintains, or that it transmits on behalf of Covered Entity, to prevent the use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided for by this Agreement. Said safeguards shall include, but are not limited to, requiring employees to agree to use or disclose PHI only as permitted or required by this Agreement and taking related disciplinary actions for inappropriate use or disclosure of PHI, as necessary.

2.3. Business Associate shall, following a Breach of Unsecured Protected Health Information, as defined in the HITECH Act, immediately notify the Covered Entity pursuant to the terms of 45 C.F.R. § 164.410 and cooperate in the Covered Entity's analysis procedures, including risk assessment, if requested. A Breach shall be treated as discovered by the Business Associate as of the first day on which such Breach is known, or should have been known, or, by exercising reasonable diligence, would have been known to Business Associate. Business Associate will provide notification to the Covered Entity without unreasonable delay and in no event later than five (5) business days of any suspected or actual Breach of security, intrusion, or unauthorized use or disclosure. Such notification will contain the elements required in 45 C.F.R. § 164.410.

2.4. Business Associate shall, pursuant to the HITECH Act and its implementing regulations, comply with all additional applicable requirements of the Privacy Rule, including those contained in 45 C.F.R. §§ 164.502(e) and 164.504(e)(1)(ii), at such time as the requirements become applicable to business associates. Business Associate will not accept payment in exchange for PHI, subject to the exceptions contained in the HITECH Act, without a valid authorization from the applicable patient/Individual. Business Associate shall not engage in any communication which might be considered marketing under the HITECH Act. Further, Business Associate shall, pursuant to the HITECH Act and its implementing regulations, comply with applicable requirements of the Security Rule, contained in 45 C.F.R. §§ 164.308, 164.310, 164.312, and 164.316, at such time as the requirements are applicable to business associates.

2.5. Business Associate shall within ten (10) business days of a written request from the Covered Entity and its agents or subcontractors allow the Covered Entity to conduct a reasonable inspection of the facility, systems, books, records agreements, policies, and procedures relating to the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information pursuant to this Agreement for the purpose of monitoring compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

2.6. Business Associate shall require any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides PHI received from, created, or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity or that carries out any duties for the Business Associate involving the use, custody, disclosure, creation of, or access to PHI, to agree, by written contract with Business Associate, to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information.

2.7. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement. Business Associate agrees to require its employees, agents, and subcontractors to immediately report, to Business Associate, any use or disclosure of Protected Health Information in violation of this Agreement, and to report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of PHI not provided by or agreed upon in this Agreement.

2.8. If Business Associate receives PHI from Covered Entity in a Designated Record Set, then Business Associate agrees to provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, to PHI in a Designated Record Set to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 C.F.R. § 164.524, provided that Business Associate shall have at least thirty (30) days from Covered Entity's notice to provide access to or deliver such information.

2.9. If Business Associate receives Protected Health Information from Covered Entity in a Designated Record Set, then Business Associate agrees to make any amendments to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.526 at the request of Covered Entity or an Individual, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, provided that Business Associate shall have at least thirty (30) days from Covered Entity notice to make an amendment.

2.10. Business Associate agrees to make its internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures and Protected Health Information, relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, created by, or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, available to the Covered Entity or to the Secretary, in a time and manner designated by the Covered Entity or the Secretary, for purposes of determining Covered Entity's or Business Associate's compliance with the Privacy Rule.

2.11. Business Associate agrees to document disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosure of PHI in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528.

2.12. Business Associate agrees to provide Covered Entity or an Individual, in time and manner designated by Covered Entity, information collected in accordance with this Agreement, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for and accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528, provided that Business Associate shall have at least thirty (30) days from Covered Entity notice to provide access to, or deliver such information which shall include, at minimum, (a) date of the disclosure; (b) name of the third party to whom the Protected Health Information was disclosed and, if known, the address of the third party; (c) a brief description of the disclosed information; and (d) a brief explanation of the purpose and basis for such disclosure.

2.13. Business Associate agrees it must use reasonable efforts to limit any use, disclosure, or request for use or disclosure of PHI to the minimum amount necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure, or request in accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Rule.

2.14. Covered Entity may, pursuant to the Privacy Rule, reasonably rely on any requested disclosure as the minimum necessary for the stated purpose when the information is requested by Business Associate.

2.15. Business Associate acknowledges that if Business Associate is also a covered entity, as defined by the Privacy Rule, Business Associate is required, independent of Business Associate's obligations under this Agreement, to comply with the Privacy Rule's minimum necessary requirements when making any request for PHI from Covered Entity.

2.16. Business Associate agrees to adequately and properly maintain all Protected Health Information received from, or created or received on behalf of, Covered Entity, document subsequent uses and disclosures of such information by Business Associate, and upon request, provide Covered Entity with reasonable access to examine and copy such records and documents during normal business hours of Business Associate.

2.17. Business Associate agrees that Covered Entity may at any time review Business Associate's privacy policies and procedures to determine whether they are consistent with Covered Entity's policies, procedures, and privacy practices, and shall promptly notify Business Associate in writing regarding any modifications Covered Entity may reasonably believe are needed in order to meet Covered Entity's requirements.

2.18. If Business Associate receives a request from an Individual for a copy of the Individual's Protected Health Information, and the Protected Health Information is in the sole possession of the Business Associate, Business Associate will provide the requested copies to the Individual and notify the Covered Entity of such action. If Business Associate receives a request for PHI in the possession of the Covered Entity, or receives a request to exercise other Individual rights as set forth in the Privacy Rule, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity of such request and forward the request to Covered Entity. Business Associate shall then assist Covered Entity in responding to the request.

2.19. Business Associate agrees to fully cooperate in good faith with and to assist Covered Entity in complying with the requirements of the Privacy Rule

3. OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE (Security Rule)

3.1. Business Associate agrees to fully comply with the requirements under the Security Rule applicable to "business associates" as that term is defined in the Security Rule. In case of any conflict between this Agreement and Service Contracts, this Agreement shall govern.

3.2. Business Associate agrees to implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the EPHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity as required by the Security Rule. The Business Associate understands that it has an affirmative duty to perform a regular review or assessment of security risks, conduct active risk management, and supply best efforts to assure that only authorized persons and devices access its computing systems and information storage and that only authorized transactions are allowed. The Business Associate will maintain appropriate documentation of its compliance with the Security Rule.

3.3. Business Associate shall ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides EPHI received from, maintained by, or created for Covered Entity, or that carries out any duties for the Business Associate involving the use, custody, disclosure, creation of, or access to PHI supplied by Covered Entity, shall execute a bilateral contract (or the appropriate equivalent if the agent is a government entity) with Business Associate, incorporating the same restrictions and conditions in this Agreement with Business Associate regarding PHI.

3.4. Tennessee Consumer Notice of System Breach. Business Associate understands that the Covered Entity is an Information Holder (as Business Associate may be as well) under the terms of T.C.A. § 47-18-2107 and that in the event of a Breach of the Business Associate's system security, as defined by that statute and Definition 1.3 of this Agreement, the Business Associate shall indemnify and hold Covered Entity harmless for expenses and/or damages related to the Breach. Such obligations shall include, but are not limited to, notifications to any Tennessee resident whose Personal Information is reasonably believed to have been acquired by an unauthorized individual. In the event that the Business Associate discovers circumstances requiring notification of more than a thousand (1,000) persons at one time, all consumer reporting agencies and credit bureaus that compile and maintain files on consumers on a nationwide basis, as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1681a, shall also be notified on each person's behalf without unreasonable delay of the timing, distribution, and content of the notices. Substitute notice, as defined in T.C.A. § 47-18-2107(e) (3), shall not be permitted except as approved in writing in advance by the Covered Entity.

3.5. Reporting of Security Incidents. The Business Associate shall track all Security Incidents. The Business Associate shall reasonably use its own vulnerability assessment of damage potential and monitoring to define levels of Security Incidents and responses for Business Associate's operations. However, the Business Associate shall expediently notify the Covered Entity's Privacy Official of any Security Incident, which would constitute a Security Event as defined by this Agreement, including any Breach of system security under T.C.A. § 47-18-2107, in a preliminary report within five (5) business days of any unauthorized acquisition including, but not limited to, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of PHI by an employee or otherwise authorized user of its system of which it becomes aware with a full report of the incident within ten (10) business days of the time Business Associate became aware of the incident.

3.5.1. Business Associate shall identify in writing key contact persons for administration, data processing, marketing, information systems, and audit reporting. Upon request, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity of any reduction of in-house staff persons during the term of this Agreement in writing within ten (10) business days.

3.6. Contact for Security Event Notice. Notification for the purposes of Sections 2.7, 3.4, and 3.5 shall be in writing and made by certified mail or overnight parcel, with supplemental notification by facsimile and/or telephone as soon as practicable, to the designated Privacy Official of the Covered Entity in accordance with Section 8.5, Notices and Communications.

3.7. Security Compliance Review upon Request. Business Associate agrees to make its internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures relating to the security of EPHI received from, created by, or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, available to the Covered Entity or to the Secretary, in a time and manner designated by the requester, for purposes of determining Covered Entity's or Business Associate's compliance with the Security Rule.

3.8. Cooperation in Security Compliance. Business Associate agrees to fully cooperate in good faith and to assist Covered Entity in complying with the requirements of the Security Rule.

4. PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES BY BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

4.1. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use or disclose PHI to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in Service Contracts, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity.

4.2. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information as required for Business Associate's proper management and administration or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate. In the event a Party to this Agreement receives a subpoena, court order, or other demand for the information in this Agreement, the receiving Party shall immediately inform the other Party in writing concerning the demand.

4.3. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may disclose Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate, provided that disclosures are required by law or provided that, if Business Associate discloses any Protected Health Information to a third party for such a purpose, Business Associate shall enter into a written agreement with such third party requiring the third party to: (a) maintain the confidentiality of Protected Health Information and not to use or further disclose such information except as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed, and (b) notify Business Associate of any instances in which the third party becomes aware that the confidentiality of the Protected Health Information is Breached.

4.4. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information to provide Data Aggregation services to Covered Entity as permitted by 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B).

5. OBLIGATIONS OF COVERED ENTITY

5.1. Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with the notice of privacy practices that Covered Entity produces in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.520, as well as any changes to such notice.

5.2. Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission by an Individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information if such changes affect Business Associate's permitted or required uses.

5.3. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use of Protected Health Information.

6. PERMISSIBLE REQUESTS BY COVERED ENTITY

6.1. Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity.

7. TERM AND TERMINATION

7.1. Term. This Agreement shall be effective as of the date on which it is signed by both Parties and shall terminate when all of the Protected Health Information provided by Covered Entity to Business Associate, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, is destroyed or returned to Covered Entity, or, if it is infeasible to return or destroy Protected Health Information, Section 7.3 below shall apply.

7.2. Termination for Cause.

7.2.1. This Agreement authorizes and Business Associate acknowledges and agrees that Covered Entity shall have the right to immediately terminate this Agreement and Service Contracts in the event Business Associate fails to comply with, or violates a material provision of, requirements of the Privacy Rule or this Agreement.

7.2.2. Upon Covered Entity's knowledge of a material breach by Business Associate,

7.2.2.1. Covered Entity shall, whenever practicable, provide a reasonable opportunity for Business Associate to remedy the breach or end the violation.

7.2.2.2. If Business Associate has breached a material term of this Agreement and remedy is not possible or if Business Associate does not remedy a curable breach or end the violation within a reasonable time as specified by, and at the sole discretion of, Covered Entity, Covered Entity may immediately terminate this Agreement and Service Contracts.

7.2.2.3. If neither remedy nor termination is feasible, Covered Entity shall report the violation to the Secretary.

7.3. Effect of Termination.

7.3.1. Except as provided in Section 7.3.2 below, upon termination of this Agreement, for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from Covered Entity or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information. This Section shall also apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate.

7.3.2. In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the Protected Health Information is not feasible, Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notification of the conditions that make return or destruction unfeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties that the return or destruction of Protected Health Information is unfeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Agreement to such Protected Health Information and limit further uses and disclosures of such Protected Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction unfeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such Protected Health Information.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

8.1. Regulatory Reference. A reference in this Agreement to a section in the Privacy Rule means the section as in effect or as amended.

8.2. Amendment. The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule and HIPAA. Business Associate and Covered Entity shall comply with any amendment to the Privacy Rule, HIPAA, and related regulations upon the effective date of such amendment, regardless of whether this Agreement has been formally amended.

8.3. Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section 7.3. of this Agreement shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

8.4. Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits the Covered Entity to comply with the Privacy Rule.

8.5. Notices and Communications. All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered by hand, by facsimile transmission, by overnight courier service, or by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the respective Party at the appropriate facsimile number or address as set forth below, or to such other Party, facsimile number, or address as may be hereafter specified by written notice.

COVERED ENTITY:

Tennessee Department of Health
Sara C. Warner
Privacy Officer
710 James Robertson Parkway
5th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
Telephone: 615-253-2637 or 877-280-3926
Fax: 615-253-3926

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

Tennessee Department of Health
William F. Holt
Security Officer
710 James Robertson Parkway
6th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
Telephone: 615-532-8191
Fax: 615-532-9031

All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications shall be considered effectively given as of the date of hand delivery, as of the date specified for overnight courier service delivery, as of three (3) business days after the date of mailing, or on the day the facsimile transmission is received mechanically by the facsimile machine at the receiving location and receipt is verbally confirmed by the sender.

8.6. Strict Compliance. No failure by any Party to insist upon strict compliance with any term or provision of this Agreement, to exercise any option, to enforce any right, or to seek any remedy upon any default of any other Party shall affect, or constitute a waiver of, any Party's right to insist upon such strict compliance, exercise that option, enforce that right, or seek that remedy with respect to that default or any prior, contemporaneous, or subsequent default. No custom or practice of the Parties at variance with any provision of this Agreement shall affect, or constitute a waiver of, any Party's right to demand strict compliance with all provisions of this Agreement.

8.7. Severability. With respect to any provision of this Agreement finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, such court shall have jurisdiction to reform such provision so that it is enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and the Parties shall abide by such court's determination. In the even that any provision of this Agreement cannot be reformed, such provision shall be deemed to be severed from this Agreement, but every other provision of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

8.8. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee.

8.9. Compensation. There shall be no remuneration for performance under this Agreement except as specifically provided by, in, and through, contractual relationships referenced herein.

IN WITNESS THEREOF,

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

RALPH ALVARADO, MD, FACP, COMMISSIONER

DATE

[Business Associate]:

NAME AND TITLE

DATE

ATTACHMENT 2**ATTESTATION RE PERSONNEL USED IN CONTRACT PERFORMANCE**

SUBJECT CONTRACT NUMBER:	
CONTRACTOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME:	
EDISON VENDOR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	

The Contractor, identified above, does hereby attest, certify, warrant, and assure that the Contractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract.

CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE

NOTICE: This attestation MUST be signed by an individual empowered to contractually bind the Contractor. Attach evidence documenting the individual's authority to contractually bind the Contractor, unless the signatory is the Contractor's chief executive or president.

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNATORY

DATE OF ATTESTATION