

Questions for Traditional Child Placing Agency RFP# GB2025-100-29

Question #	RFP Section	RFP Heading	Question	Answer
1	3.3	Responsibilities of the Program	<p>Medication Monitoring & Oversight “Provide medication monitoring and administration. Use of psychotropic medications shall follow the Oversight of Psychotropic Medication for Children in Foster Care; Title IV-B Health Care Oversight & Coordination Plan (http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/im1203.pdf).”</p> <p>The provided link appears to be broken. Is there an updated link or an alternative way for us to view this document?</p>	An Amendment will be issued to remove the link.
2	4.2.5.2	Vendor Financial Stability	<p>The RFP states that vendors must submit a financial audit for the last two years and letters from the auditor(s) who performed the audits. For newly formed organizations, quarterly financial statements may be submitted. Could you please clarify whether submission of 990s, prepared and reviewed by an external accounting firm, would be acceptable in lieu of full audits?</p>	Yes
3	1.2	Required Licensure/ Certification/ Credential	<p>“Vendors must be licensed by the Department of Human Resources. Vendors must obtain a Residential Child Care Facility License and must include a copy of their license with their proposals. Unlicensed vendors must include a copy of their application for licensure with their proposals.”</p> <p>We are currently in the process of completing our Child Care Facility (CCF) application. Does the application for licensure need to be submitted with this proposal, or is it acceptable to submit the proposal now and have the CCF application completed and filed with DHR by the operational deadline for this RFP on December 1, 2025?</p>	An Amendment will be issued. The Residential Child Care Facility License will not be required. The Child Placing Agency License is a requirement.
4	4.0	Proposal Format and Instructions	Regarding the format of the proposal submitted for this RFP, can you confirm that only the Attestations and Declarations for Provision of Services (pages 26-32) need to be submitted with a cover page? All of these pages make up the entirety of what needs to be submitted, there is no requirement for a	Please refer to Vendor’s Document Checklist on page 6 of the RFP. All items listed are required.

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			<p>narrative response to each section? Will the proposal submission be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cover page b. Attestations (pages 26-32) c. Appendices A, B, C, D, E d. E-Verify? <p>Are there any other documents that need to be submitted (licenses, job descriptions, etc)?</p>	
5	3.0	Scope of Project	How will ADHR ensure that the ISP process operates as ADHR has designed it so that the vendor can work within the parameters of the RFP?	County department staff continues to receive training around compliance with child welfare policies. Vendor should follow up with management in the specific county, if there are issues. If county management is unresponsive, contact should be made with SDHR office Resource Management
6	3.0	Scope of Project	On page 17 of the RFP, the requirement to provide all case notes and treatment notes for all DHR placed children is overly burdensome. Can this section be removed?	This expectation ensures transparency and supports both case planning and audit readiness. ADHR is open to exploring streamlined approaches that reduce duplication while maintaining compliance.
7	3.0	Scope of Project	On page 17, the requirement to provide all local transportation is not reasonable. The RFP states that county DHRs will only be responsible for out of county transportation. This being a \$0 contract means the entire burden would be placed on us as the vendor. We see this as a shared responsibility of DHR and us (the vendor) and ask can this statement be removed?	Vendor should provide local transportation unless there are circumstances beyond control at which time communication should be had with specific county. Placements will be accepted from all counties; therefore, it may not

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				be feasible for a county four hours away to provide “local transportation.”
8	3.0	Scope of Project	On page 18, we ask for a clarification of wording on the statement, “Support flexible visitation.”	Flexible visitation is supported to promote accessibility and maintain family connections, allowing visits to occur outside of rigid or traditional schedules. Visitation should be addressed in the ISP. This should be a collaborative effort.
9	4.2.5.4.3	Charitable Choice	On page 24 (4.2.5.4.3 Charitable Choice), can this entire clause be eliminated from the contract as there is no money exchanged between the vendor and ADHR.? The statement refers to the vendor not using funds for religious purposes, but there are no funds involved.	Section 4.2.5.4.3 on Charitable Choice applies specifically to faith-based organizations and affirms federal requirements that funds received under this procurement will not be used for sectarian instruction, worship, or proselytizing. While this is a \$0 contract, the clause remains in place to ensure compliance with federal law and policy governing procurement and partnerships with faith-based providers. Its inclusion does not imply misuse of funds but ensures that all vendors, including those faith-affiliated, maintain adherence to federal guidelines.

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10	Appendix F	Cost Attestation	What are the current board payment rates for traditional foster homes?	Board payments vary according to the age of a child and the core rate does not include difficulty-of-care payments.
11	Appendix F	Cost Attestation	Will vendors be allowed to bill provided services through Medicaid?	No
12	Appendix F	Cost Attestation	How will providers be paid if no payment is made to the vendor for traditional level foster home placements?	Traditional level foster homes will receive a board payment from the State of Alabama.
13	Appendix F	Cost Attestation	Can you clarify what Medicaid services can be billed by vendor?	N/A
14	Appendix F	Cost Attestation	If a younger child or a child with no diagnosis is placed in a traditional home and vendor is unable to bill Medicaid, how will vendor be paid for services to the child?	Services for children must be determined by the ISP team. Vendors that will provide a service and payment for the services will also be discussed with the ISP team.
15	3.0	Scope of Project	If a TFC program is able to place a traditional foster care sibling with a TFC sibling in a TFC foster home, will this agency need to apply for slots in this RFP in order to place them?	Yes
16	3.0	Scope of Project	What is the number of traditional foster care children that may be placed in one home?	Please refer to Minimum Standards for Foster Homes
17	3.0	Scope of Project	If a county DHR places a traditional foster care child in a home that is licensed as TFC with an agency, will the agency need to apply for slots in this RFP in order to allow this placement?	Yes
18	1.0	Project Overview	Can DHR clarify whether all licensed Child Placing Agencies seeking to place children in foster homes for temporary care in the State of Alabama are required to submit a proposal in response to RFP#GB2025-100-29, and to be awarded a contract by DHR in response to such	Yes

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			proposal, in order to be eligible to place foster children in foster homes?	
19	2.2	Nondiscrimination	<p>Can DHR clarify that faith-based CPAs who enter into contracts with the Department will not be “required to show proof” of or to otherwise affirm compliance with certain “nondiscrimination” laws and regulations that are inapplicable to religious organizations per the religious employer exemption in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (<i>See</i> 42 U.S.C.A. § 2000e-1), or to otherwise agree to forfeit their religious liberties under the United States Constitution, the Alabama Constitution (The Alabama Religious Freedom Amendment, Ala. Const., §3.01), and Alabama’s Child Placing Agency Inclusion Act (Ala. Code § 26-10D-1 <i>et seq.</i>)?</p> <p>Further, will DHR modify the language in the RFP to make allowances for contractors who are religious organizations and to account for such religious liberty protections?</p>	No
20	6.0	Definitions: Standard Terms & Conditions – Compliance with Laws	<p>As written, this section appears to prohibit the contractor from considering religion or creed in its hiring decisions. Can DHR clarify that faith-based CPAs that are religious organizations are not required to forfeit their constitutional and statutory rights to make hiring decisions consistent with their religious purpose, mission, and sincerely held religious beliefs as a condition for being awarded a contract under this RFP? <i>See, e.g.,</i> 42 U.S.C.A. § 2000e-1, Ala. Const., § 3.01.</p> <p>Will DHR modify the language in the RFP to recognize and make allowances for such rights and religious liberty protections?</p>	Statement simply reminds vendor to consider all applicants and make an informed decision based on the organizational needs and pool of candidates.
21	6.0	Definitions: Standard Terms & Conditions –	As written, this provision appears to prohibit the contractor from considering “political ideas” and “marital status” in its hiring decisions. Can DHR clarify what this means, and its	Statement simply reminds vendor to consider all applicants and make an informed decision based

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		Compliance with Laws	<p>basis (federal, state, or local law) for including “political ideas” and “marital status” in the list of protected classes?</p> <p>Will DHR amend the RFP to remove these classes from the list of protected classes or to otherwise recognize that such restrictions are not applicable where they conflict with a religious organization’s constitutional or statutory rights? <i>See, e.g., 42 U.S.C.A. § 2000e-1 and Alabama’s Child Placing Agency Inclusion Act (Ala. Code § 26-10D-1 et seq.).</i></p>	on the organizational needs and pool of candidates.
22	4.2.5.4.3	Charitable Choice	This provision requires the vendor to “agree to serve all eligible members of the public without regard to their religious beliefs” and “must not require clients’ active participation in religious practice.” Can DHR clarify that the terms “eligible members of the public” and “clients” in this paragraph are referring exclusively to foster children in the custody of the state (<i>see</i> Section 1.0)?	Members of the public that meet the criteria for services offered.
23	Vendor’s RFP Checklist	#3	The third item on the list requires attendance at a pre-proposal conference if one is offered. Can DHR clarify if there is going to be pre-proposal conference? If so, can DHR provide what such conference will entail, who should attend, the date and location of the conference, and how and when vendors will learn if such conference will occur?	No
24	Vendor’s RFP Checklist	#12	Can DHR clarify what constitutes a “start-up”?	Refer to page 23 of the RFP, section, 4.2.5.3.4
25	1.2	Required Licensure/ Certification/ Credential	Are child placing agencies that only place foster children with licensed foster parents (and who do not operate a group home or residential care facility) also required to have a separate Residential Care license alongside the CPA license?	An Amendment will be issued. The Residential Child Care Facility License will not be required. The Child Placing Agency License is required.
26	1.2	Required Licensure/ Certification/ Credential	<p>Are DHR-licensed CPAs who do not hold a Residential License included in this RFP?</p> <p>For instance, if a vendor holds a Child Placing Agency license (which covers our Foster Care and Adoption</p>	An Amendment will be issued. The Residential Child Care Facility License will not be

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			programs), but we do not hold a Residential license since we have neither a residential program nor residential facility.	required. The Child Placing Agency License is required.
27	Vendor's RFP Checklist	#3	Was there a pre-proposal conference held? If yes, was it recorded and available for review?	No
28	1.2	Required Licensure/ Certification/ Credential	If we have a Child Placing Agency License and not operating as a group home, must the Residential Child-Care Facility License also be obtained?	An Amendment will be issued. The Residential Child Care Facility License will not be required. The Child Placing Agency License is required.
29	1.3	Contract Terms	In regard to 1.3, given that our agency holds a Child Placing Agency License and is fully operational, we would like to confirm whether we are permitted to accept placements before the RFP contract officially begins on December 1, 2025.	The initial contract period for this procurement is for three years beginning December 01, 2025. Selected vendors must be fully operational on December 01, 2025.
30	1.7.3	Primary Vendor/ Subcontractors	Do you have to give actual names of subcontractors, or can you just list potential services that may be contracted out? If actual names of subcontractors are required for the proposal, can subcontractors be added post award or is the list submitted considered complete for the three-year cycle?	Refer to RFP page 10 section 1.7.3
31	4.2.5.1.2	Past and Present Contractual Relationships with the Department	If current employees have previously held positions with the State of Alabama (Colleges, School System...) with some having a private contract with the vendor does that have any impact on the proposal?	Unsure of the intent of this question.