

Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform Request for Proposals for an Independent Consulting Firm to Conduct Technical Assessments of Health Care Reform Proposals Released March 6, 2007; Responses due to Commission April 3, 2007

On March 6, 2007, The Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform ('the Commission') released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Independent Consulting Firm to Conduct Technical Assessments of Health Care Reform Proposals. As required by Senate Bill 06-208, the Commission must conduct a "technical comparative analysis of cost impacts, utilization, design, and other areas." The RFP provides detailed instructions to consulting firms interested in submitting a response to the Commission. Responses will be due to the Commission by 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, 2007.

Purpose of RFP

The purpose of this RFP is to request responses from interested consulting firms or individuals to conduct a detailed technical analysis of health reform proposals selected by the Commission. This detailed technical analysis will be used to inform the Commission's recommendations in its report to the Colorado General Assembly. The Commission may also use the results of the detailed technical analysis to develop a preferred health care reform proposal for inclusion in its recommendations to the General Assembly.

RFP Evaluation Process

The Commission will review all submitted responses that meet the requirements of this RFP. The evaluation of responses will result in a recommendation for an award of a contract under this RFP. The Commission intends to use staff and a committee process to screen and score the responses. The full Commission will make the final selection of the Independent Consulting Firm at its April 27, 2007 meeting.

Minimum Requirements of Health Care Reform Proposals

The Commission has prepared a formal Solicitation for Health Care Reform Proposals as a means to obtain comprehensive health care reform proposals. The solicitation was released on February 22, 2007 and is available on the Commission's website at www.colorado.gov/208commission.

The Solicitation provides detailed instructions to individuals and organizations wishing to submit a Health Reform Proposal to the Commission. As required by Senate Bill 06-208, proposals considered by the Commission must ensure access to affordable coverage for Colorado residents.

The Commission seeks a variety of health care reform proposals that will further its Goals and Guiding Principles. The Commission will consider for detailed technical analysis any proposal that is comprehensive. Proposals that do not propose a comprehensive reform will not be considered for detailed technical analysis, but may ultimately be considered for inclusion in the Commission's recommendations to the General Assembly.

RFP Questions

Unless otherwise noted, prospective RFP respondents may make written or e-mail inquiries concerning this RFP to obtain clarification of requirements. E-mail is the preferred method for vendors to submit inquiries. No inquiries will be accepted after March 14, 2007, as indicated in the Schedule of Activities in the RFP document. Phone and fax inquiries will not be accepted.

E-mail or mail all inquiries to:

Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform
c/o Colorado Foundation for Families and Children
303 E. 17th Ave., Suite 400
Denver, CO 80203
Attn: Tracy Johnson, Ph.D.
E-mail: TLJ6805@aol.com

Commission Background

According to the authorizing legislation (SB06-208), the purpose of the Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform is to 'study and establish health care reform models to expand health care coverage and to decrease health care costs for Colorado residents.' The Commission must:

- 'Work in a nonpartisan manner to examine health care coverage and reform models designed to ensure access to affordable coverage for all Colorado residents; '
- 'Solicit reform concept papers and detailed proposals from interested parties; '
- 'Select the top proposals for detailed technical analysis by an independent consulting firm;'
- 'Hold statewide informational meetings at least once in each congressional district for the purpose of receiving public comments;'
- 'Present a final report to the General Assembly on or before November 30, 2007, including an unbiased economic analysis, feasibility, and technical assessment of the favorable and unfavorable considerations and of the various reform options'

Given its overarching goal to increase coverage and reduce cost, the Commission has adopted the following guiding principles for its work:

- Protect and improve the health status of all Coloradans.
- Expand coverage of essential health care services for all Coloradans, with an emphasis on the uninsured and underinsured.
- Align incentives to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and coordinated care.
- Support a system that is financially viable, sustainable, and fair.
- Provide opportunities for meaningful choice and encourage personal responsibility.
- Emphasize wellness, prevention, health education, and consumer empowerment.

The Commission has 24 members, including eight consumers, eight health insurance purchasers, and eight experts and business leaders. Appointments were made by five appointing authorities: Governor Owens, Senate President FitzGerald, Speaker Romanoff, Senate Minority Leader McElhany and House Minority Leader May.

For any questions regarding this RFP announcement, please contact Tracy Johnson, Ph.D., Technical Advisor to the Commission, at TLJ6805@aol.com.