

## **NASWA UI Integrity Center Responses to Questions on Request for Proposal Contractor Support for Evaluation Services of the State Intensive Services Initiative**

1. On page 4 of the RFP it says that the Center intends to have Behavioral Insights vendors develop strategic messaging interventions and strategies as part of the IPRP and independently evaluate the impact of the interventions on claimant and employer behaviors. Will these vendors be prohibited from bidding on the evaluation of the SIS Initiative due to potential conflict of interest as NASWA is interested in identifying the contribution of each IPRP component to the overall impact on a state's improper payments rate or other integrity outcomes?

**Response:** *The Behavioral Insights vendors selected for the State Intensive Services (SIS) project will not be eligible to bid on the RFP for Evaluation Services of the State Intensive Services initiative.*

2. In Figure 1, there is reference to R1, R2, and R3. Please confirm that these represent three "rounds" of state visits, three in R1, four in R2, and three in R3, based on the scheduling of the Center team with the states.

**Response:** *The references to R1, R2, and R3 do represent the planned rounds of site visits occurring during the project period for those states involved in the SIS initiative.*

3. Under "Basis for Award of Contract" on page 18, if our company engages a minority and women-owned business as a subcontractor, do we receive the full 5 bonus points?

**Response:** *Yes.*

4. Under "Previous project experience and references" on page 23, will past project experience of the project team, rather than company references, satisfy the three project summaries requirement? Will NASWA accept references from a subcontractor?

**Response:** *As described on page 23, the Center requests three project summary citations that outline the organization's experience in conducting evaluations of similar content, size, and scope. In its review of vendor proposals, the Center will consider the organization's prior experience and that of the individual team members proposed. NASWA will accept references from a subcontractor.*

5. Is there an incumbent who provides evaluation services for NASWA UI Integrity Center?

**Response:** *No.*

6. In last paragraph on page 3, will the evaluation contractor have access to the evaluation data of the Behavioral Insights vendors?

**Response:** *As described on page 3, the Center will be responsible for ensuring any necessary coordination between the Behavioral Insights vendors and the prospective evaluation*

*vendor to this RFP. This includes sharing evaluation data between each entity that the Center deems necessary to successfully execute the scope of work outline in the RFP.*

7. Under section “Activity 3.1 – Conduct Outcomes Study Evaluation” on page 12, will the UI performance outcome data (such as state quarterly BAM estimates and case-level BAM microdata for each state) available for non-participating states (i.e. states other than the 10 participating states)?

**Response:** *It is uncertain at this time whether the Center will have access to state quarterly BAM estimates and case-level BAM microdata for those states not involved in the State Intensive Services initiative. However, if it is necessary to have this data to successfully execute the evaluation, the Center will work with the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Unemployment Insurance to see if this data can be made available.*

8. On page 13, second paragraph, NASWA is interested in understanding how each component of the IPRP impacts the state’s improper payment rates. What are some examples of the components?

**Response:** *As described on pages 3 and 4, the Center envisions the following improper payment reduction strategies as potential components of each state’s IPRP: 1) procedures and skill development analysis, 2) policy analysis, 3) strategic messaging analysis, 4) technology analysis, and 5) organizational and business process analysis.*

9. What is the Center’s preference for line spacing of response submissions?

**Response:** *The Center requests all responses have line spacing no smaller than single-space.*

10. Do charts, graphics, or other exhibits count toward the page limits?

**Response:** *Yes.*

11. Will the contractor in their analysis of state improper payment rates include underpayments in addition to overpayments?

**Response:** *Yes.*

12. What proofs or certifications are needed to demonstrate that a prime or subcontractor is a minority or women-owned small business? Will proof of state registration suffice?

**Response:** *Bidders should submit state or federal documents that provide proof or certification that a prime or subcontractor is a minority or women-owned small business.*