

# State of Iowa Juvenile Court Services



April 22, 2025

Responses to Questions received regarding Aftercare Services RFP JUV-26-TS-01-002:

1. Question: A. Page 20: Respondent will accept all Reentry Aftercare referrals from JCS for youth residing in out-of-home placement and make contact with youth and family/caregivers within 10 days of the referral.

Would the agency agree that there may be instances where a referral cannot be accepted due to safety concerns or capacity limitations, and that such situations would be addressed collaboratively on a case-by-case basis between the agency and the contractor?

**Answer:** Referral acceptance exceptions due to safety concerns or capacity limitations will be discussed during contract negotiations with the successful Respondent, and may be further clarified within the resulting contract.

2. Question: E. Pages 22-23: Respondents will supervise and assist youth and families/caregivers in managing the daily challenges of community reentry and/or independent living including but not limited to.

Would the agency permit the contractor to implement their own evidence-based program (e.g., On the Way Home) and its recommended dosage for this contract, with the understanding that the JCO and provider will work together to adjust the dosage as necessary while maintaining fidelity to program standards?

**Answer:** Programming and dosage requirements will be discussed during contract negotiations with the successful Respondent; JCS may consider equivalent, evidence-based models with proper supporting documentation to be provided and negotiated with the successful Respondent.

3. Question: E.b. Page 23 and E. h. Page 23: b. Providing individualized assistance to youth and family in consideration of their unique strengths, needs, challenges and resources for a minimum of six months post discharge from residential care to include but not limited to activities such as: attending appointments, intervening in crisis, practicing/role-playing scenarios, finding resources, self-advocating, exploring and engaging in positive pro-social and protective activities. h. Meeting with family/caregivers twice per month pre-discharge and post-discharge for up to six months following the date of youth's discharge.

In E.b. it is stated minimum of six months post discharge; in E.h. it is stated up to six months following the date of youth's discharge. Would the agency agree to being more consistent with a minimum of six months?

**Answer:** RFP JUV-26-TS-01-002 Section E.h. has been amended. Please see Amendment No. 2 for this clarification.

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4. Question: E. d. Page 23: d. Conducting a minimum of two weekly face-to-face visits with youth in youth's home, school, or community setting to ensure safety and monitory program compliance.

Would the agency consider maintaining greater consistency in applying the monthly measure to youth contacts, aligning it with the approach used for parent contacts? This would accommodate typical family availability challenges, such as illness, a death in the family out of state, or instances of youth being on the run.

**Answer:** Weekly or monthly visit minimum requirements will be discussed during contract negotiations with the successful Respondent, and may be further clarified within the resulting contract.

5. Question: F. b. Page 23: Respondent will provide case-aid services directly to JCS including but not limited to: b. Providing JCO with at least one verbal update per week for each client.

Would the agency consider utilizing multiple forms of communication—such as emails, texts, Microsoft Teams Chat, and phone calls—for updates to JCO instead of relying solely on verbal updates?

Would the agency agree to establishing a set monthly standard of 4–6 contacts, rather than weekly contacts, unless adjustments are made by JCO and the contractor on a case-by-case basis? This approach accommodates typical availability challenges, including vacations, emergencies, sick leave, and FMLA, for youth, parents, and staff.

**Answer:** Communication alternatives for updates, and weekly or monthly contact requirements will be discussed during contract negotiations with the successful Respondent, and may be further clarified within the resulting contract.