



January 21, 2025

To: All Potential Respondents
From: Katelyn Howells, Purchasing Agent
Subject: 005-RFP-1477-2025 Evidentiary Breath Testing Devices

Addendum One

Please amend the subject RFP to include answers to the following timely received questions:

- Q1. Section 5.1.12 states – “The instrument shall determine test results by infrared absorption or a combination of infrared absorption and electrochemical oxidation.” Does the combinations of infrared and electrochemical oxidation allow for the use of infrared to determine just the qualitative aspects of the sample, while the electrochemical systems provides the only measurement result?
- A1. We have not officially decided how to proceed should we elect to go with dual technology. My first thought is to report both the IR and EC and use the lower of the 2 results to report. Iowa has always been just an IR state, and may continue that, but we did not wish to exclude any vendors who don't have IR specific models.
- Q2. Does the State currently utilize any type of loaner program to ensure instrument location usage availability while primary equipment is out of service?
- A2. We do. We have 4-5 instruments that are certified but not in permanent locations that are used as loaners when an instrument is down for an extended time or when requested by an agency while theirs is being certified.
- Q3. The bid document states "For the evaluation process, a sample agreement of 0.02 g/210L shall be utilized." Since each vendor will be able to configure this setting as required upon award, will the State permit the submitted sample equipment to utilize different tolerance requirement settings for the evaluation phase?
- A3. In order to be consistent during the evaluation of the devices, I would like to stick to the 0.02 sample agreement. It is used in many jurisdictions so it is common code. I personally do not like the 0.02 sample agreement and doubt we will use that in our software once deployed, but it is easier to evaluate with that parameter.
- Q4. Will the State please indicate the fitting configuration of their Guth 12V500 wet bath simulators?
- A4. We use surelocks or quick-connects on them. A male and female that corresponds to the correct flow into/out of the simulator to prevent flooding the cell with fluid.
- Q5. Will the State permit the vendor to provide a brief technical training to State staff conducting the test and evaluation portion of the evaluation process on equipment that may be unfamiliar to them?
- A5. If needed, sure. We obviously do not want to damage anyone's equipment.
- Q6. Will be State alter the Technical Proposal requirement from "Letters of reference from three..." to "Contact information for three..."?
- A6. I can agree to that.

- Q7. What is the projected timeframe for the State to select the awarded vendor following the bid due date?
A7. Funds have been allocated to the breath program and we can start purchasing at any time. It all depends on the platform chosen and what modifications/changes are necessary for the vendor to meet our needs. The hope is to begin replacement of existing models in 2026.
- Q8. Once deployment of the selected device begins, what is the anticipated timeframe until deployment is complete?
A8. Up to 3 years to fully replace the current fleet.
- Q9. What is the current number of instruments deployed for field evidential use in the State of Iowa?
A9. 164, however, I do anticipate a slight drop in that number.
- Q10. Does the State of Iowa anticipate acting as a single procurer of its selected instruments to distribute to each user entity within the State of Iowa or will each entity procure instruments only for its own needs?
A10. The state will procure most of the instruments. We have some agencies that have multiple EBT instruments in their agency. In 2008, and probably the same with this roll out, we may give them 1 and make them purchase the 2nd unit with their own funds. If instruments are purchased by an independent agency, the unit will still need to be tested by the DCI prior to deployment. The Iowa DCI reserves the right to deny an agency within the State of Iowa from purchasing a unit without prior approval.
- Q11. "Computer Interface (TraCS)" - Will the evidential instrument be required to interface with TraCS? Or is the State open to exploring other database options? What file types are acceptable for import into the TraCS software?
A11. TraCS is what the Iowa DOT and Iowa State Patrol uses so therefore it must be compatible with TraCS. I am not 100% familiar with the current file transfer method, but whomever is selected will be given time to work with the DOT on setup prior to deployment. TraCS capability will not be part of the evaluation process, but if your instrument cannot interface with a computer in such a way as to permit data sharing, you should not submit an instrument for proposal.
- Q12. How many "State of Iowa staff" are to be trained by the EBT manufacturer? What is meant by training on "programming"?
A12. We have 1 dedicated staff member and a couple who help with the program. We would just require some basic maintenance knowledge on instrument repair and the meaning behind status/error messages and what triggers them so that we can testify in court on the safeguards of the instrument.
- Q13. Please define what is meant by "double blowing".
A13. We want to ensure a deep lung sample is provided. Our current software requires a continuously delivered breath for 1.3 Liters of air at a minimum flow rate of 3 L/min. The key is continuous breath to be measured, not a total volume measured over the course of blowing twice or more.
- Q14. "Respondent shall provide the following items upon request:" Please clarify/elaborate regarding what is meant by "upon request". Does this mean during the evaluation period? If not, when would the request be made?
A14. Yes, as part of the evaluation process. We will need basic items in order to evaluate the device.
- Q15. "Proposals shall not contain promotional or display materials." Please clarify this statement. Does the statement include the instrument brochure?

A15. We want all vendors to be on equal playing ground. An instrument brochure is fine, but we are just evaluating the instrument.

Q16. What is the State's anticipated timeline for purchase? Will the instrument purchase be one purchase for the entire fleet? Or will the purchase be spread over many purchases over a period?

A16. Funds are available now. Instruments will be purchased over the course of a few years, probably 3.

Q17. Can the State provide the number of DMTs used evidentially within the State? The number of DMTs dedicated for training purposes or any other uses (e.g. spare instruments)? Is it the State's intent to purchase approximately the same number of instruments?

A17. 164 are in the field. 4-5 units are certified and used as spares. 7 units are dedicated training. We keep another 9-10 on hand for spares/parts. I anticipate similar numbers going forward, maybe a few less.

Please acknowledge receipt of this addendum by signing in the space provided below, and return this letter with your proposal (do not send back separately).

I hereby acknowledge receipt of this addendum.

Signature

Date

Typed or Printed Name