



October 28, 2020

Interim Director Trombino:

The Department of Administrative Services requests a waiver under DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.16 (8A) of the application of DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.11(3) concerning the duration of service contracts. The latter rule states that "A service contract, including all optional renewals, shall not exceed a term of six years...unless the state agency obtains a waiver of this provision pursuant to rule 11-118.16 (8A)." DAS requests this waiver with respect to the following agreement:


1. Quest Diagnostics-DAS MA #4908D and associated documents for provision of Diagnostic Lab Services - SIGNED 11-18-19 for period of 12-1-19 – 11-30-20.

Background


The current contract between the State of Iowa and Quest Diagnostics originally went into effect on 12-1-14 as MA #4908-15 as the result of the award of RFP0614005039 to Quest Diagnostics. The contract provides important and critical diagnostic lab services to State of Iowa Department of Corrections facilities and other State of Iowa facilities throughout the state. The contract is scheduled to reach the end of its' allowed six-year period on 11-30-20. Due to the current coronavirus pandemic the State was unable to begin work on a new RFP until September 2020. The new RFP, #RFP1221005003, was put on the street via the Bid Opportunities web site on 10-1-20 and vendor proposals are due on 11-2-20. Since the time period between receipt of proposals and the end of the current six-year contract period is less than one month, the State would risk the loss of these critical lab services should the contract lapse on 11-30-20 without a new contract and resulting diagnostic lab services in place effective 12-1-20.

Consequently, it is requested that an extension for up to three (3) months be granted through Feb. 28, 2021 at the State's discretion. This extension would allow for the State to satisfactorily evaluate the vendor RFP proposals, award the RFP, negotiate a new contract, and assure that the required services are in place. Should the State determine that it is able to establish the new contract at any time prior to the end of the three-month period the State would plan to exercise the option to end the extension early and establish the new contract at that time.

Respectfully submitted by:

 November 4, 2020
DAS-Central Procurement Chief Operating Officer, Allen L. Meyer

Waiver Approval:


DAS Interim Director, Paul Trombino III

Date