



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

[\[Email Me\]](#)
Double click!

1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.
The County of Fresno, Department of Behavioral Health has executed a Master Agreement for Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital for person with high acuity needs and require immediate inpatient services.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.
See Attached Exhibit A
3. What is the total cost of the acquisition? If an agreement, state the total cost of the initial term and the amounts for potential renewal terms.
Term Maximum \$140,000,000.00
FY 25-26 \$28,00,000.00
FY 26-27 \$28,000,000.00
FY 27-28 \$28,000,00.00
FY 28-29 (Optional one-year renewal) \$28,000,00.00
FY 29-30 (Optional one-year renewal) \$28,000,000.00
4. Identify the unique qualities and/or capabilities of the service(s) and/or product(s) that qualify this as a Suspension of Competition acquisition.
Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals provide a unique level of care for mental health services. These facilities provide inpatient care effective for stabilizing acute psychiatric conditions with the safety, time, and space needed for recovery. Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital Services are mandated by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) which requires the County of Fresno to pay for all services provided to Medi-Cal eligible Fresno County residents. Fresno County DBH will contract with any hospital that persons served are referred to that can accommodate the needed level of care. Fresno County persons served are referred to Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities by emergency departments and other crisis mental health facilities. Fresno County is automatically invoiced for these services and will contract with any hospital that can provide this acute level of care for Fresno County persons served to meet this mandate. Fresno County has one Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital in the county and must rely on Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals throughout the State of California to provide services to its Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
5. Identify from Administrative Policy #34 what circumstances constitute a Suspension of Competition.
☐ In an emergency when goods or services are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, welfare, or safety, or for the protection of County property.
☐ When the contract is with a federal, state, or local governmental agency.
☐ When the department head, with the concurrence of the Purchasing Agent, finds that the cost of preparing and administering a competitive bidding process in a particular case will equal or exceed the estimated contract amount or \$5,000 whichever is more.
☐ When a contract provides only for payment of per diem and travel expenses and there is to be no payment for services rendered.
☐ When obtaining the services of expert witnesses for litigation or special counsel to assist the County.
☒ When in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Supervisors or the Purchasing Agent/Purchasing Manager determines that the best interests of the County would be served by not securing competitive bids or issuing a request for proposal.
6. Explain why the unique qualities and/or capabilities described above are essential to your department.
Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital services are essential to the care of Fresno County persons served with high acuity mental health needs. Fresno County residents benefit from the Department having this Master Agreement with Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals to ensure there are beds available in the event of a crisis and the need for high acuity mental health support arises.
7. Provide a comprehensive explanation of the research done to verify that the recommended vendor is the only vendor with the unique qualities and/or capabilities stated above. Include a list of all other vendors contacted, what they were asked, and their responses.
The County is authorized under Welfare Institution Code (W&IC), Section 14700 et seq. and 14712 et seq. to contract for the provision of inpatient psychiatric hospital services to Fresno County persons served. The vendors in Exhibit A are hospitals that Fresno County emergency departments and crisis mental health services facilities refer persons served to, when those persons served are in need of this specialized level of care. The need for this level of care is crucial for the recovery and well-being of Fresno County residents.
Referring facilities do not consult with the Department when they send persons served to an inpatient psychiatric hospital. This decision is based on the availability of inpatient psychiatric beds, not whether Fresno County has a

current contract in place with the inpatient psychiatric facility. Fresno County is often notified after a person served has been admitted and after services have already been rendered to a Fresno County person served. Therefore, it is crucial that the Department established and maintains contracts with local inpatient psychiatric facilities in order to be able to pay them for services rendered to DBH persons served. The Department is willing to contract with any other local inpatient psychiatric facilities that serve Fresno County Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Annually the need for these services has increase exponentially, causing the Department to continue to add new providers to one to one or a master agreement to continue to meet the regulatory requirement of providing this services to Medi-Cal eligible Fresno County residents.

Throughout the history of this Master Agreement, the Department has continually added any hospital who serves Fresno County persons served. The Department maintains this Master Agreement for Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital services in order to add any hospital in which Fresno County persons served are referred during the contract term.

arojas 6/12/2025 1:27:14 PM

Requested By:

Division Manager

Title

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

I approve this request to suspend competition for the service(s) and/or product(s) identified herein.

sholt 6/13/2025 9:35:57 AM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

rblackburn 6/16/2025 4:14:56 PM

Purchasing Manager Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

MASTER AGREEMENT
INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
Exhibit A

PROVIDER	ADDRESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
Aurora Behavioral Healthcare – Santa Rosa, LLC Notices to: CFO	1400 Expo Parkway, Sacramento, CA 95815 P	Wade Sturgeon Ph. 877 978-4848, wade.sturgeon@aurorabehaviroal.com

May 8, 2025