



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.
Master Agreement for Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Professional services for Medi-Cal recipients who have high acuity needs and require immediate inpatient services and care.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.
At this time, we have two vendors but more may be added who meet the service provision requirements via a Board amendment.
Bio Behavioral Health, 1060 W. Sierra Ave, Suite 105, Fresno, CA 93711, Monica Muro, 559-437-1111 ,
mmuro@bbmc-inc.com
Precision Psychiatric Services Inc., 7850 White Lane E301, Bakersfield CA 93309, Minty Dillon, (559) 429-2267, CEO@precisionpsych.com
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.
The contract maximum compensation per fiscal year is \$2,400,000. The contract maximum for the initial term which is from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2028, is \$7,200,000. If the agreement is renewed for one optional term (FY 2028-29, the total contract compensation maximum is \$9,600,000. If the second optional term is renewed (FY 2029-2030), the total contract compensation maximum is \$12,000,000.
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 the highest level of care for individuals with severe mental health illness. These facilities provide acute care services to stabilize an individual who may be a danger to self, danger to others or gravely disabled due to a behavioral health condition. California State Department of Health Care Services has designated counties as the Mental Health Plan (MHP) and requires MHPs to provide specialty mental health services including outpatient and inpatient services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, pursuant to Sections 14700 et seq. and 14712 et seq. of the California Welfare and Institutions Code.
Persons served are referred to the inpatient psychiatric hospitals by local emergency rooms, hospitals and crisis stabilization units. Due the emergency nature of the services, they are bound to locate care for the person served. MHPs are required to pay for medically necessary inpatient psychiatric care, even when that care is provided outside of our contracted network of care. Within the inpatient psychiatric hospitals, professional services, under some circumstances, may be claimable to Medi-Cal and help offset the cost to Fresno County DBH.
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Professional Services are specialty mental health services provided to a person served by a licensed mental health professional with hospital admitting privileges while the person served is in a hospital receiving psychiatric inpatient hospital services. These Professional Services are subject to the limitations set forth in the statewide Medi-Cal Program, which is in accordance with Title 9, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 11, Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services.
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 level of care is essential to the care of Fresno County persons served with high acuity mental health needs. Services including Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Professional services which Fresno County residents benefit from DBH having this agreement with providers to ensure services are 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.

Fresno County DBH contracts with inpatient psychiatric hospitals for inpatient psychiatric professional services provided by physicians; however, those physicians are not employed by those inpatient psychiatric hospitals. The State generally prohibits hospitals from directly employing physicians due to the Corporate Practice of Medicine (CPOM) doctrine (with limited exceptions). For this reason, psychiatric hospitals contract with select physician groups to be the psychiatric Professional Services provider for their inpatient facility. Furthermore, only the hospital can grant medical privileges within their facilities. DBH cannot separately provide or contract with alternative providers.

Thus, Fresno County DBH is required to provide and reimburse the inpatient psychiatric hospitals, and physician groups, directly for the inpatient psychiatric services including the psychiatric inpatient hospital professional services and due to the Corporate Practice of Medicine doctrine, DBH cannot select vendors hospitals utilize.

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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 3/24/2025 5:35:05 PM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

rblackburn 3/25/2025 11:38:35 AM

Purchasing Manager Signature

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