



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program

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Questions and CCDF Responses on RFQ FY2023-MRS

1. How long will the selected vendor have to complete the scope of work?

CCDF Response: Anticipating that the Notice to Proceed (NTP) is provided by August, 2023; About 8 months

2. When does CCDF expect all tasks completed and the final report submitted.

CCDF Response: Page 1. I of the Scope of Work indicates that all tasks and subtasks including a final report must be completed no later than April 30, 2023.

3. Subtask III.a.ii, on page 3 of 6, refers to the calculation of “market alternatives” as a method to compensate for a “wide variation in child care rates”. Please elaborate on or define what is meant by the term “market alternatives” and what CCDF intends the calculation to demonstrate.

CCDF Response: “Market alternatives” will be addressed as part of a Narrow Cost Analysis or NCA that CCDF will conduct or is conducting. Proposers need not address this portion of the Scope of Work (SOW).

4. Subtasks II.b.i.3.a and II.b.I.3.b (page 2 of 6) require data on providers’ rate categories and schedule of care categories. Subtask II.b.i.3.c then asks for “providers typical rate categories and schedule of care categories.” What is meant by “typical” rate categories and schedule of care categories? In what ways would the rates and schedules of care under subtask “c” be different than the data reported under subtasks “a” and “b”?

CCDF Response: These sections simply bring to the proposers’ attention to look into what providers may identify as the usual or “typical” rate categories. It may or may not be different from what is listed in the SOW. It is the proposers’ responsibility to ensure that typical rate categories or schedule of care as providers understand them to be are included.

5. The cost of child care quality is impacted by many factors, including physical improvements to facilities, staff educational and professional development standards, and programming changes. Do CCDF and/or CCLP have data from prior surveys or reporting, for purposes of measuring change(s) to the cost of quality over time. Copies of the survey instrument(s) or reporting tools would also be helpful to understand the data.

CCDF Response: The CCDF program currently does not have available data (survey instruments or reporting tools) at the moment to measure cost of quality.

6. With respect to task III.a.i, can you confirm that the subsidized vs. unsubsidized weighting in analysis of the data is intended to overcome any imbalance between subsidized and unsubsidized rates, e.g., to create a deemed rate per “slot” that reflects the average cost of care per slot?

CCDF Response: Yes. This is correct.

7. The RFQ states that responses must be submitted and received by CCDF no later than July 3rd, 2023. Can you confirm that the CCDF office will in fact be open on Monday July 3rd to receive hard copy proposals, since it is the day before a federal holiday on July 4th? Also, if there is a government decision to close Monday July 3rd, will CCDF notify us of a new due date for submission of hard copies of the proposal?

CCDF Response: The CCDF Office is expected to be open on Monday, July 3, 2023. However, should there be changes CCDF will notify proposers via email and the submission will be immediately the next business day.