

Following are questions submitted to NIMI in regard to RFB 2011-002, along with the response from NIMI.

Question	Answer
Is the intent to select one vendor or multiple vendors to staff the required positions?	NIMI will select the vendor(s) to fill project and staffing needs over time, in part through price sheets and resource availability.
Will all positions be full time throughout the duration of the project? If not, what is the process for staffing requests?	This will be dependent on the project. Currently seeking resources that will be full time for course of project to which they are assigned.
Are there specific technologies required of the Technical Resources, such as .NET, JAVA, etc.?	Familiarity with HIT and HIE, including the evolving standards from ONC. Familiarity with health care preferred.
What types of roles are required of the Technical Resources (Technical Analysts, Business Analysts, Developers, Database Administrators)?	Skills and resources will be project specific. These will tend toward more technical activities such as database reporting analyst, interface development/support, technical support services.
How many Technical Resources will be required?	Resource demand will be project specific.
Will this initiative include components of custom development or will the vendor work strictly with packaged software solutions?	Only packaged solutions are anticipated, noting that some work may evolve around development related to accepting, routing and processing transactions at the HIE.
Are there specific software products that will be used to implement a solution?	Procurement which is in process will determine the products.
Can you provide more detail regarding the role of the Office Manager?	Not at this time. Seeking price range for generic resource, please provide capabilities for price range you provide.
Is the Office Manager role a full time requirement?	To be determined.
Can you provide more detail regarding the Clerical Support role?	Not at this time. Seeking price range for generic resource, please provide capabilities for price range you provide.
Is the Clerical Support role a full time requirement?	To be determined.
Is subcontracting of resources allowed?	Would be considered, however direct contracting preferred.
Can you provide more information on the types of projects these individuals would be working on?	Health Information Exchange initial pilot projects such as care coordination, gateway to NwHIN, document and image sharing.
Will travel be required outside of the Milwaukee area?	Yes, some travel within Wisconsin may be required. Position may be located in Madison, or require regular travel to Madison.
Will work be performed onsite or offsite?	Onsite work in Milwaukee, Madison, and potentially at stakeholder sites around Wisconsin.
Does NIMI have adequate facilities to support	Office facilities will be available for hired resources.

the required resources for this initiative?	
Will NIMI provide the necessary hardware and software for the required resources	Yes, workstations will be available for contracted resources.
In the calendar of events there is a statement that "This will be an ongoing procurement for period December 2011-January 2014, for resources as needed during this time period." Does this mean that you are looking for multiple project managers, technical resources and support specialists? Or, will you fill the current openings and no longer be recruiting.	There are immediate needs for multiple resources and other demands during the course of time indicated may arise.
When is the closing date for submission of responses? This question is asked because Section 3.2 seems to contradict the statement in the calendar of events that this is an ongoing procurement.	Resources will be hired on the basis of need during the time indicated. Given that resource demands may not be met by just one organization, this procurement will be ongoing based on project needs.
Will the contract term be for a year or longer?	Resource needs will be project demand driven. Current resource requests are anticipated for one year term, potentially longer.
Section 5.1 states that "All resources provided under this RFB will be assigned solely to this project during the term of the contract." Does this mean that all resources must be in Madison Wisconsin at all times? Will any resources be allowed to work remotely during the contract?	Preference is for resources located on site in Wisconsin. There is recognition for some off site work.
Is NIMI looking for one firm to provide all of the resources, or will NIMI contract with multiple firms for the resources sought?	Depends on the available resources and price sheets. Multiple firms are anticipated.
If a vendor is awarded the contract for this RFB, will they be precluded from being awarded the Wisconsin Statewide Health Information Network (WISHIN) Phase 2 Health Information/Health Information Exchange?	No.
The Calendar of Events states the proposal will begin to be accepted "as of December 14 and ongoing" - Would the National Institute for Medical Informatics (NIMI) provide definite dates for the deadline of proposal submission/acceptance and the anticipated notification date?	Proposals will be accepted ongoing. Initial awards are anticipated in early 2012, pending review of submitted price lists and available resources.

What has been accomplished to date on the Phase 2 Direct Secure Messaging Project?	Direct is Phase 1, not Phase 2. Phase 2 is for full query/response, push/pull HIE services. A procurement for Phase 2 is in process, with RFP anticipated to be released mid January 2012.
What still needs to be accomplished on Direct?	There are several demonstration projects that are underway. Some of the anticipated resources will assist in these projects.
What are the deliverables for Direct?	Provide Direct services and support roll out of services and advancement of use cases for Direct.
What are the other Phase 2 projects, their scope, and deliverables?	Please reference the WI Strategic and Operational Plan for HIE at http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ehealth/SOP01.25.11Posted.pdf
What is the time frame for the projects?	As stated in the RFB, anticipated for the period December 2011 – January 2014.
What other resources are available such as subject matter experts or task forces?	NIMI, WISHIN and WI DHS have a strong team of subject matter experts relative to the HIE activities.
What is the specific project and deliverables?	Will vary over the time period stated previously. Primarily focusing on planning and implementation of various use cases and scenarios for HIE.
What is the time frame for the positions?	See previous response.
What is the scope for the project you are staffing?	Statewide Health Information Network in Wisconsin.
Do responses need to be submitted by December 14, 2011?	No.