Request for Proposal
For Network Equipment
RFP 01

Funded by the FCC’s Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP) and Administered by the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI)
Table of Contents

1. Introduction ............................................................................................................... 5
  1.1. Purpose of RFP ................................................................................................. 5
  1.2. Procuring and Contracting Agency ................................................................. 5
  1.3. RFP Contacts ..................................................................................................... 5
  1.4. Proposal Due Date ............................................................................................ 5
  1.5. Acronyms and Definitions ................................................................................ 6
  1.6. Background ....................................................................................................... 6
    1.6.1. FCC’s Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP) ................................ 6
    1.6.2. Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) ....................... 7
    1.6.3. Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) ............................................. 7
    1.6.4. Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN) ................................ 7
    1.6.5. Current Environment – Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN) ........ 8

2. Description of Infrastructure, Products, and Services Sought ........................... 10
  2.1. Overview ........................................................................................................... 10
  2.2. Equipment Technical Requirements / Specifications .................................... 10
    2.2.1. General Requirements .......................................................................... 10
    2.2.2. Summary of Equipment and Hardware Required ................................ 11
    2.2.3. Equipment Detail .................................................................................... 12
      2.2.3.1. Layer 3 Ethernet Switch ................................................................. 12
      2.2.3.2. “Small” Router ............................................................................. 13
      2.2.3.3. “Large” Router ............................................................................ 14
      2.2.3.4. Long-Range PTP Wireless Network Kit ...................................... 15
      2.2.3.5. 500VA UPS ............................................................................... 15
      2.2.3.6. 1500VA UPS ............................................................................. 16
      2.2.3.7. 8U Wall-mounted Rack Enclosure ............................................. 17
      2.2.3.8. 42U Rack Enclosure ...................................................................... 17
      2.2.3.9. Lightening Surge Suppressor ....................................................... 18
      2.2.3.10. Network Monitoring Server ....................................................... 18
      2.2.3.11. Network Monitoring Software .................................................... 18
      2.2.3.12. Network Management Software ............................................... 19
      2.2.3.13. Additional Items .......................................................................... 20
    2.2.4. Delivery/Shipping ....................................................................................... 20

3. Additional Requirements ....................................................................................... 21
  3.1. Ownership of Equipment .................................................................................. 21
  3.2. Vendor Invoicing and Payment Processes ...................................................... 21
    3.2.1. Mandated Process .................................................................................... 21
    3.2.2. Invoice Incurred Costs on a Monthly Basis .......................................... 21
    3.2.3. Identification of HCP Sites ..................................................................... 21
    3.2.4. Allocation of Costs ................................................................................ 21
    3.2.5. Whom the Vendor Will Invoice for Which Costs ............................... 21
    3.2.6. Network Cost Worksheet (NCW) ......................................................... 21
    3.2.7. Five-Step Invoicing Process ................................................................ 22
    3.2.8. Invoice Requirements ............................................................................. 22
    3.2.9. Questions Regarding the Invoicing Process ......................................... 23
  3.3. Vendor Insurance Coverage ............................................................................. 23
3.4. Security ........................................................................................................... 25

4. **Preparation and Submission of Proposal** .................................................. 26
4.1. RFP Process Calendar ................................................................................. 26
4.2. Submission of Proposal ................................................................................ 26
   4.2.1. Proposal Size and Format .................................................................... 26
   4.2.2. Due Dates and Media ......................................................................... 26
   4.2.3. Acknowledgement ............................................................................. 27
4.3. Vendor Qualifications .................................................................................. 27
4.4. Use of Subcontractors ................................................................................ 28
4.5. Restriction on Multiple Submissions ........................................................... 28
4.6. Inquiries about the RFP ............................................................................... 28
4.7. What to Submit: Mandatory Proposal Content ......................................... 29
   4.7.1. Cover Letter ...................................................................................... 29
   4.7.2. Vendor Questionnaire ....................................................................... 29
   4.7.3. Certifications and Assurances ............................................................. 29
   4.7.4. Executive Summary ......................................................................... 29
   4.7.5. Technical ........................................................................................... 29
   4.7.6. Costs .................................................................................................. 29
   4.7.7. Implementation/Shipping Schedule .................................................... 30
   4.7.8. Vendor Staffing .................................................................................. 30
   4.7.9. Exceptions/Alternatives to These Requirements .................................. 30
   4.7.10. Miscellany ...................................................................................... 30
4.8. Fixed Price Period ....................................................................................... 30
4.9. Oral Presentations and/or Demonstrations ................................................. 30
4.10. Incurred Costs to Propose ....................................................................... 30
4.11. Errors and Omissions in a Proposal ........................................................... 30
4.12. Errors and Omissions in the RFP ............................................................... 31
4.13. Objections to RFP Terms ........................................................................ 31
4.15. Ownership and Disclosure of Proposals Submitted in Response to This RFP .............................................................. 31
4.16. Acceptance of RFP/Proposal Content ..................................................... 32

5. **Evaluation / Selection / Award Process** .................................................... 33
5.1. Evaluation Procedure .................................................................................. 33
5.2. Evaluation Committee ............................................................................... 33
5.3. Evaluation Criteria and Weighting .............................................................. 33
5.4. Contract Award: ....................................................................................... 34
5.5. Contract Award: Right to Reject Proposals and Negotiate Contract Terms .............................................................. 34
5.6. Notification of Intent to Award .................................................................. 34

6. **Additional Information** ............................................................................ 35
6.1. Commitment of Funds .............................................................................. 35
6.2. Laws That Apply ...................................................................................... 35
6.3. Indemnification .......................................................................................... 35
   6.3.1. General Indemnification .................................................................... 35
   6.3.2. Environmental Indemnification ......................................................... 35
6.4. Conflicts of Interest ................................................................................... 36
6.5. Right to Audit / Cooperation with FCC/USAC Auditors ................................ 36
6.6. Maintenance of Requirements to Do Business and Provide Services .................. 36
6.7. Reasonable Accommodations.............................................................................. 37
6.8. EEO: Minority- Veteran- & Women-owned Business Participation................. 37

7. Appendices............................................................................................................. 38
   A. Acronyms and Definitions .................................................................................. 39
   B. Vendor Questionnaire ....................................................................................... 45
   C. Vendor Certification and Assurances............................................................... 46
   E. USAC Invoice Template .................................................................................... 49
   F. Cost Worksheet................................................................................................. 50
1. Introduction

1.1. **Purpose of RFP**

This Request for Proposal (RFP) solicits proposals from vendors who can provide the required network equipment to complete the Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN) in Michigan. This is an equipment only bid, no installation services are being sought.

1.2. **Procuring and Contracting Agency**

This RFP is issued by the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), which is the sole point of contact during the selection process. The Contract resulting from this RFP will also be administered by MPHI. Jeff Shaw (see below) is responsible for managing the vendor selection process.

1.3. **RFP Contacts**

All general correspondence and inquiries about this RFP should be submitted in writing to the project team. See Section 4.6 below for more information about submitting inquiries.

The **primary RFP contact** is:

Jeff Shaw, PMP  
Senior Project Manager  
Michigan Public Health Institute  
2436 Woodlake Circle, Suite 300  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Telephone: 517.324.6055  
Fax: 517.324.6086  
E-mail: fcc@mphi.org

The alternate RFP contact is:

Harry Levins, PMP  
Project Manager  
Michigan Public Health Institute  
2436 Woodlake Circle, Suite 300  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Telephone: 517.324.6039  
Fax: 517.324.6086  
E-mail: fcc@mphi.org

1.4. **Proposal Due Date**

The proposal is due no later than 2 calendar days after the “Allowable Contract Date” as posted on the USAC website at [http://www.usac.org/rhc-pilot-program/vendors/](http://www.usac.org/rhc-pilot-program/vendors/). This should be approximately 30 calendar days from the date the RFP is posted on the USAC website. Once an “Allowable Contract Date” has been set by USAC, an updated calendar
will be posted at [http://fcc.mphi.org](http://fcc.mphi.org). Please refer to Section 4.1 for the full RFP process Calendar and Section 4.7 for detailed submission information.

### 1.5. Acronyms and Definitions

See Appendix A for acronyms and definitions of terms used in this RFP.

### 1.6. Background

#### 1.6.1. FCC’s Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP)

The FCC established the RHCPP in its 2006 Pilot Program Order. The goal of the Pilot Program is to “stimulate deployment of the broadband infrastructure necessary to support innovative telehealth and, in particular, telemedicine services to those areas of the country where the need for those benefits is most acute. … Applicants [for Pilot Program grants] were instructed to present a strategy for aggregating the specific needs of health care providers (HCP) within a state or region, including providers that serve rural areas, and for leveraging existing technology to adopt the most efficient and cost-effective means of connecting those providers.”

Eighty-one consortiums from 43 states and three U.S. territories applied for funding. The FCC awarded funds to 69 applicants in FCC Order 07-198. Michigan received the fourth highest award, $20,910,000. These funds can be used to “support up to 85 percent of the costs associated with the construction of state or regional broadband health care networks and with the advanced telecommunications and information services provided over those networks.”

Funding was made available over a three-year period, although, due to delays, the original schedule may be extended so that funding will be available beyond mid-2010. For more information, see the FCC’s project site at [http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/rural/rhcp.html](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/rural/rhcp.html).

The FCC selected applicants based on a number of criteria:

- Network utilization – how dedicated broadband capacity will be used to provide health care services;
- Leveraging of existing technology – using the most efficient and effective means of connecting providers;
- Aggregation of the needs of health care providers;
- Creation of a statewide or regional health care network and connection to a national broadband network dedicated to health care;
- Creation or expansion of health care networks serving tribal lands;
- Detailed cost estimates and budgets;
- Fair share – a description of how for-profit network participants will pay 100 percent of the costs associated with their participation;
- Identification of the source of matching funds (15 percent of the total cost of deploying the network);

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2. FCC 07-198, pages 2 and 10.
3. FCC 07-198.
4. Ibid., page 2.
5. Ibid., pages 16-32.
• Inclusion of more than a \textit{de minimis} number of rural HCPs;
• Prior experience in developing and managing health information technology programs;
• Project management plans that outlined leadership and management structures, work plans, schedules, and budgets;
• Demonstration of coordination throughout the state or region; and
• Sustainability – assurances that the proposed network will be sustainable once established.

1.6.2. Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)

USAC administers the RHCPP. USAC will employ a form called the Network Cost Worksheet (NCW) to approve planned project expenses and to manage the vendor payment process. The NCW will list all of the non-recurring and recurring vendor charges for building the broadband network and operating it during its first year of service.

Vendors will be paid from two sources of funds: RHCPP funds administered by USAC and the participating HCPs, which must pay the balance. In order to be paid by USAC, the vendor must submit MPHI-prepared invoices (similar to the NCW). The invoicing process is described in detail in Section 3.2.

1.6.3. Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI)

MPHI is a non-profit organization established in 1990 to help improve the health of Michigan’s citizens. Its 200 employees—researchers, data analysts, IT professionals, project managers, and scientists trained in a broad array of health fields—maximize positive health conditions in Michigan communities through collaboration, scientific inquiry, and applied expertise. MPHI is governed by a board of 12 directors representing government, three partner universities, foundations, and others. Historically, its strongest contracting relationship has been with the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH).

The Michigan FCC Pilot Program Collaborative wrote Michigan’s application for RHCPP funding. The Collaborative consisted of MPHI, MDCH, the Michigan Department of Information Technology (MDIT), the Michigan Health Information Technology Commission, the Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN) Resource Center, and Michigan State University. In the process of writing the application, many other stakeholders were consulted, including representatives of Michigan’s five rural Medical Trading Areas (MTAs).

MPHI is legally and financially responsible for the conduct of activities supported by RHCPP funding and will hold the Contract for this project.

1.6.4. Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN)

In her 2006 State of the State address, Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm highlighted Michigan’s goal of extending health information technology to every healthcare setting: “We will help our health care industry stop depending on your
memory and their paper records as databanks. We are going to use technology to vastly improve the system. In the future, you will be able to give your pharmacist, your doctor, or the emergency room immediate access to your information, but you will control who sees it and what it is used for.” She charged MDCH and MDIT with convening Michigan’s health care stakeholders to develop a vision and roadmap for the future of health information technology and exchange in Michigan. In December 2006, those stakeholders published the *Conduit to Care* report,⁶ which resulted in the creation of the Michigan Health Information Network (www.mihin.org).

The MiHIN *Conduit to Care* is a roadmap written for Michigan policymakers. It recommends accelerating the use of electronic healthcare data sharing in pursuit of better patient healthcare services and outcomes. The improvements that will result from implementation of these recommendations will benefit Michigan citizens.

### 1.6.5. Current Environment – Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN)

The Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established as a network of health care service providers serving Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola Counties in Michigan (Thumb Region). The Network consists of the seven Critical Access Hospitals, one Community Hospital and the three Health Departments located in the counties as well as two tertiary hospitals located outside of the counties. This Network is a formal collaboration committed to improving comprehensive health services and the health infrastructure of the rural Thumb Region. This commitment is demonstrated in projects and programs that address; access to care for the uninsured, cost savings initiatives for members, data collection and analysis of local health demographics and information technology.

A primary goal of the Network is the development and implementation of an information technology system that will make possible affordable, quality connectivity for local hospital needs, telemedicine applications and electronic health records exchange throughout the region. Milestones toward this goal include the development of a four hospital radiology transmission network (in existence four years), a pilot Electronic Health Record Exchange connecting three Critical Access Hospitals and a tertiary transfer hospital (live March 30), and a telemedicine pilot to provide psychiatry at a Critical access Hospital through Michigan State University (live April 15). All of these projects are in various stages of successful development or implementation.

**Member listing**
- Caro Community Hospital*
  - Caro, Michigan
- Covenant Health Care***
  - Saginaw, Michigan
- Deckerville Community Hospital*
  - Deckerville, Michigan
- Harbor Beach Community Hospital*

- Harbor Beach, Michigan
  - Hills and Dales General Hospital*
    - Cass City, Michigan
  - Huron County Health Department
    - Bad Axe, Michigan
  - Huron Medical Center**
    - Bad Axe, Michigan
  - Marlette Regional Hospital*
    - Marlette, Michigan
  - McKenzie Memorial Hospital*
    - Sandusky, Michigan
  - St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron***
    - Port Huron, Michigan
  - Sanilac County Health Department
    - Sandusky, Michigan
  - Scheurer Hospital*
    - Pigeon, Michigan
  - Tuscola County Health Department
    - Caro, Michigan

- Founding Hospital
- *Critical Access Hospital
- **Sole Provider Hospital
- ***Tertiary Hospital
2. Description of Infrastructure, Products, and Services Sought

2.1. Overview

This RFP is to solicit proposals from vendors who can provide the required network equipment to complete the Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN) in Michigan. The network equipment will include layer 3 switches, routers, network monitoring equipment and software, long-range wireless point-to-point (PTP) network equipment and other related equipment. This is an equipment only bid, no installation services are being sought. A complete equipment list is provided in Section 2.2.2.

2.2. Equipment Technical Requirements / Specifications

2.2.1. General Requirements

All sites on the network must support full Internet Protocol (IP) services/ports and advanced services, including, but not limited to, H.323 audio and video conferencing, large (100 MB+) file transfers, web-based audio and video streaming, Voice over IP (VoIP), and full support for both IPSec and SSL VPN traffic/services providing complete network convergence throughout the infrastructure (see Appendix A for definitions of technical terms).

All equipment, transmission methods, and systems must be “industry-standard.” Industry-standard is defined as the most current version of relative standard(s) set by an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or International Organization for Standardization (ISO)-accredited Standards Developing Organization (SDO), such as the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), or Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA). Vendors must list the relevant standards the solution utilizes.

All computer and networking hardware, services, and applications must support IPv6 and must conform to the mandatory components of the “Profile for IPv6 in the U.S. Government – Version 1.0” (USGV6) (or later version at MPH1's option). If there are any exceptions, the vendor must provide explicit details of non-conformance by the component along with a good-faith estimate of when the component will be fully conformant.

The overall reliability of the network—and, therefore, of all components comprising the network—is an important proposal evaluation criterion (see Section 5.3 of this RFP). All hardware must be manufactured by a recognized market leader with at least five (5) years of experience. As an attachment to its response to the RFP, the vendor must provide manufacturer specification/data sheets for all hardware that is proposed.

7 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Advanced Network Technologies Division (ANTD), http://www.antd.nist.gov/usgv6/
MPHI is aware that many hardware/equipment manufacturers are offering special discounts for the RHCPP projects. Vendors should contact the manufacturer(s) to obtain the best pricing.

All equipment and hardware supplied must be new or refurbished. If refurbished hardware is used, it must include a lifetime warranty. All equipment must be Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) compliant.

### 2.2.2. Summary of Equipment and Hardware Required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Equal or Better Than*</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managed Layer 3 Ethernet Switch, 24 Ethernet 10/100mb ports and 2 Small Form-Factor Pluggable (SFP)-based Gigabit Ethernet ports, with PoE</td>
<td>Cisco Catalyst 3560-24PS (part #: WS-C3560-24PS-S)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Small” Router</td>
<td>Cisco 2821 Integrated Services Router Security Bundle (CISCO2821-SEC/K9)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Large” Router</td>
<td>Cisco 3845 Integrated Services Router Security Bundle (CISCO3845-SEC/K9)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-rang PTP wireless network kit (Kit consists of two radios, 120V Ps, POE box, and pole mounts)</td>
<td>Solectek SkyWay 7501 PTP kit</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500VA UPS, rack mounted</td>
<td>Tripp Lite Smart500RT1u</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500VA UPS, rack mounted</td>
<td>Tripp Lite Smart1500RM2u</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8U wall mounted rack enclosure</td>
<td>Black Box RM2412A</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42U rack enclosure</td>
<td>APC NetShelter SX 42U (AR3100)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network monitoring server</td>
<td>HP Proliant DL380 G5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4GB RAM, RAID5, 4 Hard Drives @ 120GB each</td>
<td>Paessler AG – PRTG Network Monitor V7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Monitoring Software</td>
<td>Ipswitch – Whats Up Gold Premium</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lightening Surge protector</td>
<td>ALPU Broad band Data power injector ALPU-TSU</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional items, CAT 5e cables</td>
<td>See Section 2.2.3.13 for details</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Vendors may propose different equipment but all equipment must meet specifications in *Section 2.2.3* and have equal or better feature sets than models listed above.
2.2.3. Equipment Detail

2.2.3.1. Layer 3 Ethernet Switch

**Required Specifications**

- Must offer basic OSI layer 3 functionality in a managed configuration
- Must have 24 Ethernet 10/100Mb ports
- Must have 2 Small Form-Factor Pluggable (SFP)-based Gigabit Ethernet ports
- Must support IEEE 802.3af PoE on all 24 10/100Mb ports
- Must support autosensing on all 24 10/100Mb ports
- Must support auto-negotiating on all 24 10/100Mb ports (automatically selects half- or full-duplex transmission mode to optimize bandwidth)
- Must provide at least 30 Gbps of forwarding bandwidth
- Must have at least 128 MB DRAM
- Must have at least 16 MB Flash memory
- Must support maximum transmission unit (MTU) of up to 9000 bytes, with a maximum Ethernet frame size of 9018 bytes (Jumbo frames) and up to 1546 bytes for bridging of Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) tagged frames on 10/100 ports
- Dynamic Trunking Protocol (DTP) helps enable dynamic trunk configuration across all switch ports.
- Must support link aggregation or IEEE 802.1AX-2008 (formally known as IEEE 802.3ad)
- Must support IEEE 802.1d Spanning Tree Protocol, IEEE 802.1w Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (RSTP) and IEEE 802.1s Multiple Spanning Tree Protocol (MSTP)
- Must support basic IP unicast routing protocols (static, RIPv1, RIPv2 and RIPng)
- Must support IPv6 routing capability (OSPFv3, EIGRPv6)
- Must support Policy-Based Routing (PBR)
- Must support inter-VLAN IP routing
- Must support Internet Group Management Protocol v3 (IGMP) Snooping for IPv4 and IPv6 MLID v1 and v2 Snooping
- Must support IGMP filtering
- Must support IEEE 802.1x
  - Dynamic port-based security, providing user authentication
  - Dynamic VLAN assignment
- Must support TACACS+ and RADIUS authentication
- Must have a *minimum* documented mean time between failures (MTBF) of 100,000 hours

**Included Items**

- Rack mounting hardware
- Power cable with NEMA 5-15 plug
- Interface cable
- Manual
Warranty Items

- Three (3) years parts and on-site labor, next business day
  
  o Must include free software, firmware and hardware device drivers updates

2.2.3.2. “Small” Router

Required Specifications

- Must offer basic OSI layer 3 functionality in a managed configuration
- Must have 2 Ethernet 10/100/1000 Mb ports
- Must provide at least 300 Mbps of forwarding bandwidth
- Must have at least 256 MB DRAM
- Must have at least 128 MB Flash memory
- Must have at least 4 WAN/Voice/LAN card expansion slots
- Must have at least 1 module bay expansion slot
  
  Must support maximum transmission unit (MTU) of up to 9000 bytes, with a maximum Ethernet frame size of 9018 bytes (Jumbo frames) and up to 1546 bytes for bridging of Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) tagged frames on 10/100/1000 ports
- Must support basic IP unicast routing protocols (static, OSPF, EIGRP)
- Must support IPv6 routing capability (OSPFv3, EIGRPv6)
- Must support Policy-Based Routing (PBR)
- Must support inter-VLAN IP routing
- Must support Internet Group Management Protocol v3 (IGMP) Snooping for IPv4 and IPv6 MLD v1 and v2 Snooping
- Must support IGMP filtering
- Must support TACACS+ and RADIUS authentication
- Must support ISDN PRI for VoIP integration
- Must support MGCP integration to phone system
- Must support h.323 integration to devices
- Must support firewall function with stateful packet inspection
- Must support Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)
- Must support IPsec VPNs
- Must have a minimum documented mean time between failures (MTBF) of 100,000 hours

Included items

- Rack mounting hardware
- Power cable with NEMA 5-15 plug
- Interface cable
- Manual

Warranty Items

- Three (3) years parts and on-site labor, next business day
  
  o Must include free software, firmware and hardware device drivers updates
2.2.3.3. “Large” Router

Required Specifications

- Must offer basic OSI layer 3 functionality in a managed configuration
- Must have 2 Ethernet 10/100/1000 Mb ports
- Must provide at least 400 Mbps of forwarding bandwidth
- Must have at least 512 MB DRAM
- Must have at least 128 MB Flash memory
- Must have at least 4 WAN/Voice/LAN card expansion slots
- Must have at least 4 module bay expansion slots
- Must support maximum transmission unit (MTU) of up to 9000 bytes, with a maximum Ethernet frame size of 9018 bytes (Jumbo frames) and up to 1546 bytes for bridging of Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) tagged frames on 10/100/1000 ports
- Must support basic IP unicast routing protocols (static, OSPF, EIGRP)
- Must support IPv6 routing capability (OSPFv3, EIGRPv6)
- Must support Policy-Based Routing (PBR)
- Must support inter-VLAN IP routing
- Must support Internet Group Management Protocol v3 (IGMP) Snooping for IPv4 and IPv6 MLD v1 and v2 Snooping
- Must support IGMP filtering
- Must support TACACS+ and RADIUS authentication
- Must support Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)
- Must support ISDN PRI for VoIP integration
- Must support MGCP integration to phone system
- Must support h.323 integration to devices
- Must support firewall function with stateful packet inspection
- Must support Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)
- Must support IPsec VPNs
- Must have a minimum documented mean time between failures (MTBF) of 100,000 hours

Included items

- Rack mounting hardware
- Power cable with NEMA 5-15 plug
- Interface cable
- Manual

Warranty Items

- Three (3) years parts and on-site labor, next business day
  - Must include free software, firmware and hardware device drivers updates
2.2.3.4. **Long-Range PTP Wireless Network Kit**

**Required Specifications**

- Designed for outdoor use
  - Operating Temperature: -40º to +60º C or better
  - Operating Humidity: 0-100% condensing
  - Operating Water/Dust: Meets IP67 requirements
  - Lightning Suppression: Integrated, IEC 61000-4-5 Class 5 compliant or better
  - Wind: 125 MPH survivability, 110 MPH operation or better
- Capable of sustained 100+ Mbps operation, speed may decrease with distance but must maintain at least 30 Mbps at 30 miles (48 km)
- Capable of maximum operating distance of at least 30 miles (48 km)
- Radio Power Rating: 400mW or more
- Must be capable of running off Power-over-Ethernet (PoE)
- Must be capable of at least 128 bit AES encryption / decryption at full line speed
- Quality of Service (QoS)
  - Must support line speed packet inspection of 802.1p, IP ToS, IP DiffServ tags
  - Must have at least 4 queue prioritization engine
  - Must support RF MAC prioritization

**Included Items**

- Two (2) radios
- Two (2) pole mount adapter with 2-axis adjustment, must accommodate 1” to 3” pole diameter
- Two (2) 120 volt power supplies
- Two (2) Power over Ethernet injectors

**Warranty Items**

- Three (3) years parts and on-site labor, next business day
- Must include free software, firmware and hardware device drivers updates

**Interoperability Requirements**

- Must be capable of operating on the 5.8 GHz and 4.9 GHz frequencies

2.2.3.5. **500VA UPS**

**Required Specifications**

- Output VA: at least 500
- Output watts: at lease 300
- Input connector: NEMA 5-15P
- Output connector : at least six (6) NEMA 5-15R
- Output nominal voltage: 120V AC
- Output voltage regulation:
  - LINE MODE: Sine wave line voltage 120V (-15% +13%) or better
Required Specifications

- Output VA: at least 1500
- Output watts: at least 1000
- Input connector: NEMA 5-15P
- Output connector: at least six (6) NEMA 5-15R
- Output nominal voltage: 120V AC
- Output voltage regulation:
  - Line mode: Sine wave line voltage 120V (-21% +8%) or better
  - Battery mode: PWM sine wave output within 5% of 120V or better
- Output frequency regulation:
  - Line mode: Passes line frequency of 60Hz +/-10% or better
  - Battery mode: Inverter output regulated to 60Hz +/-0.5Hz or better
- Overload protection: 15A
- User replaceable battery
- AC surge suppression: Instantaneous, at least 480 joules
- EMI / RFI AC noise suppression
- Operating Temperature: at least +32 to +104 degrees Fahrenheit (0 to +40 degrees Celsius)
- Operating Relative Humidity: at least 0 to 95%, non-condensing
- Rack mountable
• Network-based SNMP compatibility

Included Items
• Input power cable, preferred attached
• Rack mounting hardware
• Interface cable
• Manual

Warranty Items
• Two (2) years parts, can exclude batteries

2.2.3.7. 8U Wall-mounted Rack Enclosure

Required Specifications
• 8U capacity
• Weight capacity of at least 50 pounds
• Solid welded construction
• Reversible door
• Standard 19” M6 (cage nuts) rails
• Key lock for security
• Ventilation holes
• Cable knockouts
• Exhaust fan mounted in the top of the enclosure

Included Items
• Wall mounting hardware

2.2.3.8. 42U Rack Enclosure

Required Specifications
• 42U capacity
• 19" equipment EIA-310 compliant
• Weight capacity of at least 2500 pounds
• Usable Height: at least 73.5”
• Usable Width: at least 19”
• Usable Depth: at least 36”
• Solid welded construction
• Standard 19” M6 (cage nuts) rails
• Key lock for security
• Ventilation holes
• Cable knockouts
• Exhaust fan mounted in the top of the enclosure
• Perforated front and rear doors
• Side panels to Complete the enclosure
2.2.3.9. Lightening Surge Suppressor

Required Specifications
- Non-degrading, fast response, silicon diode technology
- Protects Cat 5e, two pair lines - line to line, line to ground
- Protection to IEC 61000-4-5
- Meets NEC 830.30 and NEC 830.40 (B)
- Easy connections with either eight screw terminals or eight pin DIN connector
- Designed to self sacrifice in catastrophic events and protect equipment offline
- Cable knockouts

Installation
- Must be able to be bonded to building Ground

2.2.3.10. Network Monitoring Server

Required Specifications
- Processor: Intel Quad-core Xeon 2.5 GHZ (or faster), 1333 MHZ FSB (or faster)
- RAM: 4 GB Fully Buffered (2x2 GB) with at least 4 additional empty slots
- Windows 2007 Server installed
- Multimedia drive: CD-r/DVD-ROM combo drive
- RAID 5 controller with battery backup and configuration
- Hard drives: four (4) drives
  - 120GB hot pluggable
  - Serial Attached SCSI (SAS)
- Redundant power supply
- Redundant cooling fan
- Network card: Dual Gigabit Network Adapter

Included Items
- Rack mounting hardware
- Power cable with NEMA 5-15 plugs
- Manual

Warranty Items
- Three (3) years parts and on-site labor, next business day
  - Must include free firmware and hardware device drivers updates

2.2.3.11. Network Monitoring Software

Required Specifications
- Must be commercially supported Router Traffic Grapher
- Must support at least 100 monitored nodes or sensor
• Must support
  o SNMP (supports SNMP V1, V2c and V3)
  o WMI (Windows Management Instrumentation)
  o HTTP based services
  o TCP and UDP based services including PING, Port, SMTP, POP3, FTP
• Must support alerting and notifications by email, SMS, pager message, and HTTP request
• Must be the newest available version of software.

Included items
• Installation media and user guide

Warranty Items
• Software to be supplied with one year service agreement including software upgrades and live phone support

2.2.3.12. Network Management Software

Required Specifications
• Must support at least 300 monitored devices
• Intuitive Management Interface
  o Windows and Web-based consoles, workspace views, dashboards
• Dynamic Device Discovery
  o SNMP, IP Address Range, SNMP Scan, file import, and hosts file
• Full SNMP v1-3 Functionality including security
• WMI Monitoring Functionality
• Visual Network Mapping
  o Network topology, subnets, devices, applications, and systems
• Configurable Monitoring
  o Performance, passive, active, real-time, custom (scripted), monitoring templates, and bulk changes
• Predictive Alerts
  o Customizable, up, down, and threshold (min/max), maintenance mode, device dependency, and escalation
• Instantaneous Notifications
  o SMS, email, alpha and numeric pagers, management console, Windows popups or task tray and scripted
• Real-time Reporting
  o At least 150 configurable reports, real-time, and historical graphs
• Comprehensive Security
  o Local certificates, trusted certificates, and 128-bit SSL
• Role-based Management
  o Access network maps, configuration, alerts, notifications, reporting, and management console
• Must be the newest available version of software.
**Warranty Items**

- Software to be supplied with one year service agreement including software upgrades and live phone support

### 2.2.3.13. Additional Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAT 5e Patch Cable – 3 foot, with molded ends, Color Yellow</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAT 5e Patch Cable – 3 foot, with molded ends, Color Red</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAT 5e Patch Cable – 5 foot, with molded ends, Color Green</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat5e Outdoor, UV protection, gel-filled, direct burial cable</td>
<td>8000 feet (on rolls of no less than 1000 feet)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.3. Delivery/Shipping

The vendor is responsible to deliver all items in good condition to TRHN. The vendor is responsible for replacing any items damaged during shipping or that otherwise arrive not in good working order. The vendor is responsible for any and all cost associated with delivery. Shipment tracking information must be sent to the project team once it is available.

All items should be shipped to: Deckerville Community Hospital  
Attention: David West  
3559 Pine St  
Deckerville, MI 48427
3. Additional Requirements

3.1. Ownership of Equipment

All equipment will become the property of the Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN) once it is delivered and accepted by the TRHN.

3.2. Vendor Invoicing and Payment Processes

3.2.1. Mandated Process

The vendor invoicing process described in this section is mandated by USAC and its various administrative requirements.

3.2.2. Invoice Incurred Costs on a Monthly Basis

USAC will disburse RHCPP funds to the vendor based on the submission of detailed invoices for incurred eligible expenses. Invoices should be submitted on a monthly or less frequent basis. The vendor will be paid only for incurred costs: hardware will have to have been delivered and formally accepted before the vendor can invoice MPHI/USAC for any hardware or installation expenses, respectively. MPHI will only process invoiced items that are subject to acceptance and testing that have, in fact, been delivered and accepted.

3.2.3. Identification of HCP Sites

Appendix D shows how the vendor should identify each participating HCP site. The vendor must use the “HCP Site Number” in all invoicing transactions.

3.2.4. Allocation of Costs

The vendor must allocate all costs associated with the project to specific HCP participants. Any specific cost attributable to multiple participants (e.g., laying fiber optic cable) must be allocated on a reasonable and demonstrable basis. Any cost that does not directly support the health care network cannot be funded by the RHCPP project.

3.2.5. Whom the Vendor Will Invoice for Which Costs

The vendor will be reimbursed from two funding sources: the FCC (via USAC and MPHI) and the TRHN. The FCC (through USAC/MPHI) will reimburse up to 85 percent of the costs. The TRHN will cover the remaining amount (at least 15 percent).

3.2.6. Network Cost Worksheet (NCW)

During the invoicing process—while the network is being built—USAC mandates use of the Network Cost Worksheet (NCW) to process the charges. This RFP incorporates some elements of the NCW. MPHI will make the necessary conversions to the NCW format for submission to USAC, but the vendor’s cooperation will be required.
3.2.7. Five-Step Invoicing Process
The vendor will invoice FCC/USAC/MPHI using the process detailed in this section.

3.2.7.1. Vendor Invoices TRHN and Collects Payment
The vendor must first invoice the TRHN and collect its 15 (or more) percent share of the cost before it can invoice MPHI. Therefore, the first step in the invoicing process is to invoice the TRHN and collect payment.

3.2.7.2. Vendor Invoices MPHI
After receipt of payment from the TRHN, the vendor may invoice the balance (85 percent or less) to MPHI. The vendor must send MPHI:
- An invoice containing the data detailed below in Paragraph 3.2.8 and showing the full cost, the amount paid by the TRHN, and the amount to be paid by USAC/MPHI;
- Proof that the TRHN has paid its required percentage; and
- A copy of the Network Cost Worksheet (NCW) page(s) that contains the TRHN’s invoiced items. These items should be highlighted.

Please note that a single invoice may include multiple items. However, each charge must be itemized.

3.2.7.3. MPHI Processes Invoice
MPHI will review the invoice, proof of the TRHN payment, and marked-up NCW. MPHI will reformat the invoice to USAC specifications (the USAC “Invoice Template” shown in Appendix E), certify the invoice, and return it to the vendor. At the same time, MPHI will submit documentation supporting the invoice to USAC.

3.2.7.4. Vendor Certifies Invoice
The vendor will also certify the invoice MPHI has prepared and then submit it to USAC for payment.

3.2.7.5. USAC Reviews and Pays
USAC will review the invoice submitted by the vendor and the supporting documentation submitted by MPHI and then pay the vendor. USAC currently pays invoices twice a month.

3.2.8. Invoice Requirements
At a minimum, every vendor invoice submitted to MPHI must contain the following data elements:
- Vendor invoice number;
- Vendor invoice date;
- Vendor Billing Account Number (BAN);
- Total invoice amount;
• **Non-recurring costs.** Each and every identifiable one-time (non-recurring) cost to construct the health care network must be allocated to one or more HCP sites and described using the following fields:
  o A “Non-recurring” tag;
  o Identification of the participating HCP site that will receive the equipment or to whom the network construction costs are being allocated. Use the “HCP Site Number” shown in Appendix D of this RFP.
  o General description of the item. The description of each hardware item must include the manufacturer and model number. If any costs are allocated among two or more HCP sites, briefly explain why.
  o Category, e.g., equipment, infrastructure, etc.;
  o Component, e.g., fiber, network switch, router, T-1, bandwidth fee, connection fee, install fee, etc.
  o Optional expanded description/details/comments;
  o The number of items (e.g., two identical routers installed at the same site);
  o The cost per item; and
  o The total cost for this line item, i.e., the “number of items” times “the cost per item.”

### 3.2.9. Questions Regarding the Invoicing Process

Questions regarding the invoicing process should be directed to [fcc@mphi.org](mailto:fcc@mphi.org).

### 3.3. **Vendor Insurance Coverage**

At all times during the term of the Contract (including any contracts assigned to participating HCPs), the vendor shall maintain in full force and effect the insurance as listed below. All insurances shall be issued by insurers and for policy limits acceptable to MPHI, and the vendor shall furnish to MPHI certificates of insurance or other evidence satisfactory to MPHI evidencing the required insurance has been procured and is in force. The certificates shall include the following express obligation:

“This is to certify that the policies of insurance described herein have been issued to the insured for whom this certificate is executed and are in force at this time. In the event of cancellation, non-renewal, or material modification affecting the certificate holder, thirty (30) days prior written notice will be given to the certificate holder.”

MPHI and all participating HCPs shall be additional insureds on the vendor’s Commercial General Liability, Employers Liability, Automobile Liability, and Excess/Umbrella Liability insurance, and all other insurance described below; and the extent of the additional insured coverage afforded shall be no less broad than General Liability and Umbrella/Excess Liability, for Auto Liability, and other coverages, or substitute equivalent coverage. The additional insured coverage afforded under the vendor’s policies shall include both ongoing operations (work in progress) and completed operations (completed work). The insurance coverage shall be purchased and maintained by the vendor and shall be primary to any insurances, self-insurance, or self-funding.
arrangement maintained by MPHI, which shall not contribute therewith, and include severability of interests under the insurance policies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Minimum limits of liability, terms and coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial General Liability</td>
<td>$1,000,000 bodily injury and property damage each occurrence, including advertising and personal injury, products and completed operations $5,000,000 products/completed operations, independent contractors liability, contractual liability, and coverage for property damage from perils of explosion, collapse, or damage to underground utilities, commonly known as XCU $5,000,000 general annual aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Liability Insurance</td>
<td>$1,000,000 each person, bodily injury and property damage, including owned, non-owned and hired auto liability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers’ Compensation</td>
<td>Statutory limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer's Liability</td>
<td>$1,000,000 bodily injury by accident, each accident $1,000,000 bodily injury by disease, each employee $1,000,000 bodily injury by disease, policy aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbrella/Excess Liability</td>
<td>$5,000,000 each occurrence and annual aggregate Underlying coverage shall include General Liability, Auto Liability, and Employers Liability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution Legal Liability</td>
<td>$1,000,000 per claim $1,000,000 annual aggregate covering damages or liability arising or resulting from vendor’s services rendered, or which should have been rendered, pursuant to the Contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>The vendor shall purchase and maintain property insurance covering machinery, equipment, mobile equipment, and tools used or owned by the vendor in the performance of services under the Contract. MPHI shall in no circumstance be responsible or liable for the loss or damage to, or disappearance of, any machinery, equipment, mobile equipment and tools used or owned by the vendor in the performance of services under the Contract.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The vendor shall be responsible for the payment of any and all deductible(s) or retention(s) under the policies of insurance purchased and maintained by it pursuant to the Contract. To the extent permitted by law, all or any part of any required insurance coverage may be provided under an approved plan or plans of self-insurance.
All insurance shall be issued by insurance carriers licensed to do business by the State of Michigan or by surplus line carriers on the Michigan Insurance Commission-approved list of companies qualified to do business in Michigan. All insurance and surplus line carriers must be rated A+ or better by A.M. Best Company.

The vendor’s subcontractors shall carry in full force and effect commercial general liability, pollution liability, automobile liability, and workers’ compensation and employer liability insurance that complies with all terms of this section. In the alternative, the vendor, at its expense, may provide such coverage for any or all of its subcontractors.

Vendor may request a waiver, in their bid, of any of these items if they feel they are not required. However, MPHI may require the vendor to obtain any waived items before awarding of contract if in MPHI’s opinion the coverage is necessary.

3.4. Security

Employees of the vendor (or any subcontractor hired for this project) who are working at any participating HCP site must carry photo identification that shows the employee’s name, employer, and an employer phone number to verify identity. They will be required to provide the identification to HCP personnel upon request.

At no time should the vendor, subcontractor, or any employee of same attempt to access, look at, review, log/record/retain/save/copy, redirect, or in any other way access the content of the traffic on the network. If, at any time, the vendor becomes aware that unauthorized access is taking place or has taken place, it is required to take immediate steps to stop current and/or future unauthorized access and immediately notify the HCP and MPHI.

The vendor is responsible for the actions of its employees and subcontractors. Since the network will carry protected health information (PHI), the vendor, subcontractors, and all of their employees should be familiar with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has published a HIPAA security guide, “HIPAA Security Guidance for Remote Use of and Access to Electronic Protected Health Information”, that provides an overview and explanation of the requirements for protecting PHI. The link for the document is:

Due to federal, state, and local privacy and security regulatory requirements, each HCP may add additional requirements and security checks.
4. Preparation and Submission of Proposal

4.1. RFP Process Calendar

All dates are offsets of the “Allowable Contract Date” (ACD) posted on the USAC website. The ACD is approximately the date the RFP is posted on USAC’s website plus 28 days. If any date falls on a weekend or federal holiday, the event will be moved to the next business day. Once an ACD has been set by USAC, an updated calendar with actual dates will be posted at [http://fcc.mphi.org](http://fcc.mphi.org).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE - NUMBER OF CALENDAR DAYS</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACD ~ - 28</td>
<td>Date RFP is posted on the USAC website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACD ~ - 14</td>
<td>Last day to submit questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACD + 2</td>
<td>Proposals due from vendors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

~ = approximately

4.2. Submission of Proposal

4.2.1. Proposal Size and Format

The proposal should not exceed 50 pages of text, exclusive of attachments and appendices. The font should be clearly readable, similar to Times New Roman and no less than 12 point. All pages, exclusive of attachments and appendices, should be in 8.5” x 11” paper format and have at least one (1) inch margins. The proposal content is described in Section 4.7.

4.2.2. Due Dates and Media

Each vendor must submit its proposal in both electronic and paper formats:

- **Electronic Submission Required.** One electronic copy of the proposal in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF format must be e-mailed to MPHI at [fcc@mphi.org](mailto:fcc@mphi.org) no later than 5 p.m. (Lansing, MI time) on the due date. The total size of any single e-mail should not exceed nine (9) megabytes. If any file(s) will cause the e-mail to exceed that size limit, please separate the submission into two or more separate e-mails and clearly labeled them “1 of n”, “2 of n”, and so forth (where n = the total number of e-mails).

- **Paper Submission Required.** Three (3) hard copies, each copy in a separate three-ring binder, must be physically delivered to MPHI no later than three (3) business days after the e-mail version is due. Delivery may be made by the U. S. Postal Service, by express delivery service, or in person using the following physical address:

  Michigan Public Health Institute
Attn: FCC Team  
2436 Woodlake Circle, Suite 300  
Okemos, MI 48864

- **Caveats.** Late bids will not be considered. If there is any variance between the electronic and printed versions, except for signatures, the Evaluation Committee may reject the proposal in whole or in part. Do not submit proposals by fax.

**4.2.3. Acknowledgement**

Within three business days of receipt of both the electronic and paper versions of the vendor’s proposal, MPHI will notify the primary contact by e-mail of successful receipt. If receipt of a vendor’s proposal is not acknowledged when expected, please contact MPHI at fcc@mphi.org.

**4.3. Vendor Qualifications**

All vendors submitting proposals must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- The vendor must be a manufacture authorized vendor of all the equipment proposed.
- The vendor must have a current FCC Registration Number (FRN). More information about obtaining an FRN can be found at https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do.
- The vendor must have a current USAC Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN). More information about this process can be found at http://www.usac.org/rhc-pilot-program/vendors/step01/service-provider-id.aspx.
- The vendor must be in “good standing” with the FCC, the State of Michigan, and local governments in the service area. Any bidder found to be in FCC “Red-Light Status” will be automatically disqualified.
- The vendor must be thoroughly familiar with any and all laws, statutes, rules or regulations related to this project, including, but not limited to:
  - FCC Order 06-1448;
  - FCC Order 07-198 including correction;
  - The Telecommunications Act of 199610;
  - USAC’s RHCPP process11;
  - The Michigan Telecommunications Act12;
  - The Metro Act13; and
  - Other Applicable Local, State, and Federal Laws.

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10 [http://www.fcc.gov/telecom.html](http://www.fcc.gov/telecom.html)
12 1991 PA 179, as amended, MCL 484.2101 *et seq.*
13 2002 PA 48, as amended, MCL 484.3101 *et seq.*
4.4. **Use of Subcontractors**

The vendor must identify all subcontractors that will be paid more than ten percent (10%) of the overall project budget. Additionally, the vendor must provide the role of each subcontractor, the subcontractor’s experience in that role, and the vendor’s relationship with the subcontractor. All subcontractors must have at least one year of experience in the services they will be providing.

In any subcontracts entered into by the vendor for the performance of services, the vendor shall require the subcontractor, to the extent of the services to be performed by the subcontractor, to be bound to the vendor by the terms of the Contract and to assume toward the vendor all of the obligations and responsibilities that the vendor, by the Contract, assumes toward the project. MPHI reserves the right to receive copies of and review all subcontracts, although the vendor may delete or mask any proprietary information, including pricing, contained in such contracts before providing them to MPHI. The management of any subcontractor will be the responsibility of the vendor, and the vendor shall remain responsible for the performance of its subcontractors to the same extent as if the vendor had not subcontracted such performance. The vendor shall make all payments to subcontractors or suppliers of the vendor. Except as otherwise agreed in writing by MPHI and the vendor, MPHI will not be obligated for direct payments for the services other than to the vendor. MPHI’s written approval of any subcontractor engaged by the vendor to perform any obligation under the Contract shall not relieve the vendor of any obligations or performance required under the Contract.

4.5. **Restriction on Multiple Submissions**

Each vendor (based on federal tax ID) may submit only one proposal as a primary contractor. However, any such vendor may be named as a subcontractor in other proposals.

4.6. **Inquiries about the RFP**

Other than the methods described in this document, no other communication between prospective vendors and the project team is permitted during the bidding process, from the time the RFP is posted on USAC’s website until award of the contract.

Any questions concerning this RFP must be submitted in writing to the project team. Vendors are strongly encouraged to review this RFP and any questions and answers posted on the [http://fcc.mphi.org](http://fcc.mphi.org) website before submitting a question. Questions may be submitted:

- By e-mail at [fcc@mphi.org](mailto:fcc@mphi.org) OR
- By mail to: Michigan Public Health Institute  
  Attn: FCC RHCPP Team  
  2436 Woodlake Circle, Suite 300  
  Okemos, MI 48864

Each question and answer will be posted on the project website ([http://fcc.mphi.org](http://fcc.mphi.org)). MPHI will do its best to respond in a timely manner, but an answer may require a
response from USAC or the FCC. In no case will a failure of MPHI to answer a submitted question, extend the proposal due date.

MPHI will not identify the source of the question. However, vendors are responsible for phrasing questions in a way that does not reveal their identity, if possible.

4.7. **What to Submit: Mandatory Proposal Content**

4.7.1. **Cover Letter**

A cover letter must accompany the proposal documents. The letter should clearly identify the MPHI RHCPP RFP 01; the vendor; the primary contact for the vendor’s proposal; and his or her contact information, especially an e-mail address. The cover letter must be signed by an individual authorized and empowered to bind the vendor to the provisions of this RFP and any Contract awarded pursuant to it. Each proposal shall stipulate that it is predicated upon the terms and conditions of this RFP and any supplements or revisions thereof.

4.7.2. **Vendor Questionnaire**

Complete and attach the Vendor Questionnaire found at Appendix B to this RFP.

4.7.3. **Certifications and Assurances**

Complete, sign, and attach the Vendor Certification and Assurances found at Appendix C. Also, submit a sworn and notarized affidavit as described in Section 6.4.

4.7.4. **Executive Summary**

Provide an executive summary with the following information:

- Overview of the vendor’s proposed solution(s);
- Vendor Capabilities. Describe the firm's experience and capabilities in providing services similar to those requested in this RFP.

4.7.5. **Technical**

In this section vendors must respond in full and with specificity to Part 2 of this RFP (“Description of Infrastructure, Products, and Services Sought”). The vendor’s proposal must detail how the proposed network will meet all of the requirements of this RFP.

Responses should include the manufacturer’s hardware specification/data sheet for each proposed model of equipment. These items may be provided as attachments to the proposal.

4.7.6. **Costs**

The vendor must complete the cost worksheet that is attached in Appendix F. An Excel format of this worksheet will be provided on [http://fcc.mpni.org](http://fcc.mpni.org) within 5 days of the RFP being posted on USAC’s website.
4.7.7. Implementation/Shipping Schedule

Provide an implementation/shipping schedule, by week, showing when each item will be delivered. Provide a brief overview of how the implementation schedule was devised and will be executed.

4.7.8. Vendor Staffing

Provide a staffing summary with the following information.

- Primary Contact Person and Alternate (complete contact information);
- Subcontractors Coordination (if any): Identify and provide the qualifications of key staff who will coordinate subcontractor activities, if any; and
- Subcontractors (if any): Identify and provide the qualifications of at least one (1) key staff person for each subcontractor, if any, as defined in Section 4.4.

4.7.9. Exceptions/Alternatives to These Requirements

All exceptions to the requirements of this RFP must be delineated in this section of the vendor’s response to the RFP; otherwise, all requirements of this RFP will be considered to be acceptable by the vendor. For the proposal to be considered, proposed alternatives must be identified and explained in this section.

4.7.10. Miscellany

If any bidder plans to request that MPHI include in the Contract all or a portion of the vendor’s form of contract, that form must be attached to the proposal.

4.8. Fixed Price Period

All prices, costs, and conditions outlined in a vendor’s proposal shall remain fixed and valid for acceptance for 60 days starting on the due date for proposals.

4.9. Oral Presentations and/or Demonstrations

MPHI may require any vendor to make oral presentations to supplement its proposal. MPHI will make every reasonable attempt to schedule each oral presentation at a time and location that is agreeable to the vendor.

4.10. Incurred Costs to Propose

MPHI is not liable for any costs incurred by any bidders or vendors prior to the execution of a Contract by all parties.

4.11. Errors and Omissions in a Proposal

A vendor may revise a proposal on its own initiative at any time before the deadline for submission. The vendor must submit the revised proposal in the same manner as the original was submitted. In no case will a statement of intent to submit a revised proposal, or commencement of a revision process, extend the proposal due date.
4.12. Errors and Omissions in the RFP

If a vendor discovers any significant ambiguity, error, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other deficiency in this RFP, the vendor should immediately notify MPHI (at fcc@mphi.org) of such error and request modification or clarification of the RFP document. In the event it becomes necessary to provide additional data or information, or to revise any part of this RFP, MPHI will provide supplements and/or revisions via email to all vendors who have submitted a letter of intent to bid. MPHI will also post the supplements and/or revisions on the project website, http://fcc.mphi.org. Each vendor is responsible for ensuring that its proposal reflects any and all supplements and revisions issued prior to the proposal due date, regardless of how early in the process a vendor submits a proposal.

4.13. Objections to RFP Terms

Should a vendor object on any ground to any provision or legal requirement set forth in this RFP, the vendor must send a written letter setting forth with specificity the grounds for the objection. The letter must be received 15 days before the Allowable Contract Date posted on USAC’s website. Letters should be sent to:

Michigan Public Health Institute
Attn: FCC RHCPP Team
2436 Woodlake Circle, Suite 300
Okemos, MI 48864

Objections letters will not be acknowledged by MPHI; if a vendor wants proof of delivery, the letter should be sent by certified mail or some other form of service that provides proof of delivery.

The failure of a vendor to object in the manner set forth in this paragraph shall constitute a complete and irrevocable waiver of any such objection and the right to object.


No waiver by MPHI of any provision of this RFP shall be implied from any failure by MPHI to recognize or take action on account of any failure by a vendor to observe any provision of this RFP.

4.15. Ownership and Disclosure of Proposals Submitted in Response to This RFP

Proposals submitted in response to this competitive procurement shall become the property of MPHI. MPHI will share all proposals with internal staff and all the members of the Evaluation Committee. All proposals received shall remain confidential, with the exception of any information MPHI is legally required to disclose.
4.16. **Acceptance of RFP/Proposal Content**

The contents of this RFP and the vendor’s proposal will become contractual obligations, if a Contract ensues. Failure of the vendor to accept these obligations will result in cancellation of the award.
5. Evaluation / Selection / Award Process

5.1. Evaluation Procedure

The evaluation and selection of a vendor will be based on the information submitted in the proposal, and any required oral presentations and/or demonstrations. Vendors should respond to ALL requirements of the RFP. Failure to respond completely may lead to rejection of a proposal.

5.2. Evaluation Committee

MPHI’s Evaluation Committee will consist of MPHI staff, State of Michigan government employees, and representatives from the TRHN. They will be chosen because of their special expertise in procurement of the product(s) and/or service(s) that are the subject of this RFP or because of their knowledge of MPHI’s requirements for these product(s) and/or service(s). Vendors may not knowingly contact members of the Evaluation Committee (other than the primary and alternate RFP contacts) regarding this RFP or the RHCPP project except at MPHI’s request. Any intentional, unauthorized contact may disqualify the vendor’s proposal.

5.3. Evaluation Criteria and Weighting

The proposals will be reviewed first to determine if all mandatory requirements have been met. Failure to meet any mandatory requirement may result in the proposal being rejected. Both the vendor and any or all subcontractors identified by the proposal requirement in Section 4.7.8 may be evaluated on these criteria.

Proposals will then be ranked using the following criteria:

- 50% - Cost
- 30% - Technical solution
  - Ability of the proposed solution to meet all technical requirements; and
  - Resiliency/redundancy of the items.
- 10% - Vendor qualifications, and experience
  - Demonstration that the vendor can complete the project on time and on budget and deliver a complete and solid solution; and
  - Demonstration that the vendor has a full understanding of the purposes described in this RFP and the laws applicable to the project.
- 10% - Implementation
  - Implementation time frame;
  - Implementation plan and approach; and
  - Vendor’s project management process.
5.4. **Contract Award:**

Once bids have been received and evaluated, MPHI will provide copies of all the compliant bids to the Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee will then evaluate the bids and elect a vendor. The Evaluation Committee may request additional information from any bidder. MPHI will negotiate a Contract with the selected vendor.

5.5. **Contract Award: Right to Reject Proposals and Negotiate Contract Terms**

MPHI expressly reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein, and to award the Contract(s) to other than the low-cost bidder. MPHI reserves the right to approve subcontractors for this project and to require the vendor to replace subcontractors who are found to be unacceptable. MPHI reserves the right to award the Contract to a bidder who, in MPHI’s sole discretion, provides bid quotations that are in the overall best interests of MPHI and this project. If a Contract is awarded, it will be granted to the most responsive and responsible vendor with whom MPHI is able to negotiate a Contract that meets the objectives of the RHCPP. The Contract will contain all of the requirements and terms set forth in this RFP, plus such additional terms as are acceptable to MPHI and its legal counsel to carry out the intent of this RFP and address the information submitted by the bidder(s) in response to this RFP. Any Contract entered into as a result of this RFP will be contingent upon USAC and FCC approval.

5.6. **Notification of Intent to Award**

Any vendor who responds to this RFP will be notified in writing (e.g., by e-mail) of MPHI’s intent to award a Contract as a result of this RFP.
6. Additional Information

6.1. Commitment of Funds

The Executive Director of MPHI is the only individual who may legally commit MPHI to the expenditures of funds for a Contract resulting from this RFP. No cost chargeable to the proposed Contract may be incurred before receipt of a fully executed Contract.

6.2. Laws That Apply

All proposals submitted in response to this RFP and any Contract shall be subject to all applicable laws and procedures, including, but not limited to, all FCC Orders, Statutes, and USAC requirements mentioned in this RFP. All proposals should also demonstrate familiarity with local authority over the management of rights-of-way (see Art. VII, Sec. 29 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; Metro Act, MCL 484.3101 et seq.) and the benefits and impacts of the project community-wide in accomplishing the purposes of those laws.

6.3. Indemnification

MPHI and the participating HCPs are to be indemnified and held harmless by the vendor and all subcontractors for the vicarious liability of MPHI and the participating HCPs as a result of this RFP and any resulting Contract(s).

6.3.1. General Indemnification

Vendor agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless MPHI, all participating HCPs, and their respective Boards of Directors, in their official and individual capacities, administrators, employees, agents, contractors, successors, and assignees, from and against any and all costs, expenses, damages, and liabilities, including reasonable attorney’s fees, arising out of the: (i) acts or omissions of the vendor, its officers, directors, employees, successors, assignees, contractors, and agents; (ii) any breach of the terms of the Contract by vendor; or (iii) any breach of any representation or warranty by vendor under the Contract.

6.3.2. Environmental Indemnification

Throughout the term of the Contract, vendor shall not permit itself or any third party to use, generate, handle, store, or dispose of any Hazardous Substances in, on, under, upon, or affecting any HCP or MPHI property in violation of any applicable law or regulation. Without limiting any other provisions of the Contract, vendor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless all participating HCPs and MPHI from and against all liabilities, claims, losses, costs, and expenses (specifically including, without limitation, attorneys’, engineers’, consultants’, and experts’ fees, costs, and expenses) arising from (i) any breach of any representation or warranty made in this paragraph and/or (ii) environmental conditions or noncompliance with any applicable law or regulation that result, in the case of vendor, from operations or services in or about any HCP or MPHI property by vendor or its agents or employees. As used herein, the term...
“Hazardous Substances” shall mean (i) any hazardous or regulated substance as defined by all federal, state, and local environmental laws, including, but not limited to, Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq.) (“Clean Water Act”), the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 et seq.) (“RCRA”), Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 300f-j), Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 2601 et seq.), Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 et seq.), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 et seq.) (“CERCLA”), the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 11001 et seq.) (“EPCRA”), the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (MCL § 324.101 et seq.), the administrative rules and regulations promulgated under such statutes, or any other similar federal, state, or local law or administrative rule or regulation of similar effect, each as amended and as in effect and as adopted as of the Contract Date, (ii) any other pollutant, contaminant, hazardous substance, solid waste, hazardous material, radioactive substance, toxic substance, noxious substance, hazardous waste, particulate matter, airborne or otherwise, chemical waste, medical waste, crude oil or any fraction thereof, radioactive waste, petroleum or petroleum-derived substance or waste, asbestos, PCBs, radon gas, all forms of natural gas, or any hazardous or toxic constituent of any of the foregoing, whether such substance is in liquid, solid, or gaseous form, or (iii) any such substance the release, discharge, or spill of which requires activity to achieve compliance with applicable law. This paragraph shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of the Contract.

6.4. **Conflicts of Interest**

All proposals must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized affidavit disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the vendor or any employee of the vendor and any member of the MPHI Board (available at http://www.mphi.org/board.aspx) or the individuals identified in Section 1.3. Any proposal not accompanied by said sworn and notarized affidavit maybe rejected.

6.5. **Right to Audit / Cooperation with FCC/USAC Auditors**

MPHI reserves the right to conduct, at its expense, an independent audit of the vendor’s records pertaining to this project. In the event any question arises during an FCC/USAC audit of MPHI’s project records, the vendor is required to reply to auditor questions about the RHCPP project within three business days. The FCC and or USAC may audit the winning vendor; vendors are expected to cooperate fully. Failure to cooperate with any audits may result in termination of the Contract.

6.6. **Maintenance of Requirements to Do Business and Provide Services**

The vendor and any subcontractors, at their cost, shall obtain and maintain all licenses, permits and authority necessary to do business and render service under this RFP and any resulting contact(s) and, where applicable, shall comply with all applicable laws including, but not limited to, those regarding safety, unemployment insurance, disability insurance, and worker's compensation.
6.7. **Reasonable Accommodations**

Upon request, MPHI will provide reasonable accommodations, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, for qualified individuals with disabilities. If you require accommodations, please contact the primary RFP contact.

6.8. **EEO: Minority- Veteran- & Women-owned Business Participation**

While MPHI encourages minority-, veteran-, and women-owned businesses to submit a proposal or participate as a subcontractor to a vendor who is submitting a proposal, no preference will be given based on business type.
7. Appendices

   A. Acronyms and Definitions
   B. Vendor Questionnaire
   C. Vendor Certification and Assurances
   D. Participating Health Care Provider (HCP) Sites
   E. USAC Invoice Template
   F. Cost Worksheet
### A. Acronyms and Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym/Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allowable Contract Date (ACD)</td>
<td>Date set by USAC that is the first acceptable date to sign a contract for any USAC supported services. Typically 28 days after posting of RFP and related documents to the USAC website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AES</td>
<td>The Advanced Encryption Standard is a block cipher adopted as an encryption standard by the U.S. government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APC</td>
<td>The Assistant Project Coordinator for an RHCPP project. MPHI’s APC is Jeff Shaw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATM</td>
<td>Asynchronous transfer mode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billing Account No.</td>
<td>A service provider number used on Form 467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification</td>
<td>Participants, vendors, and the Project Coordinator must each file a certification with the FCC and USAC stating that RHCPP funds were used for the intended purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Date</td>
<td>The Contract shall be effective on the date indicated in the Contract.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DES</td>
<td>The data encryption standard is a cipher (a method for encrypting information) first used in the mid-1970s that is now considered to be insecure for many applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligible HCP</td>
<td>For purposes of its rural health care support program, the FCC narrowly defines &quot;health care provider (HCP)&quot; to include community health centers or health centers providing health care to migrants, local health departments or agencies, community mental health centers, not-for-profit hospitals, rural health clinics, and combinations of these five entities. The FCC excludes the following: nursing homes, hospices, other long-term care facilities, emergency medical service facilities, and pharmacies. Ineligible HCPs participating in RHCPP projects must be treated as if they are for-profit entities (i.e., they must pay 100 percent of the costs of any benefits received from a RHCPP-funded project in which they participate).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethernet</td>
<td>A family of frame-based computer networking technologies for local area networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen Status</td>
<td>USAC grants this status to participants whose RHCPP-funded vendor contracts meet five criteria: both parties identified; signed &amp; dated by both parties; type and term of service specified; specific duration; and reviewed &amp; verified by USAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCC</td>
<td>Federal Communications Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCC 07-198</td>
<td>FCC Order 07-198 released on 19 Nov. 2007 (and corrected by Erratum DA 07-5018 released on 17 Dec. 2007) selected participants in the RHCPP, clarified the facilities and services eligible for RHCPP funding, provided specific guidance regarding RHCPP paperwork requirements, reaffirmed the necessity for competitive bidding of proposed network projects, and established an audit and oversight mechanism for the RHCPP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCL</td>
<td>USAC issues a Funding Commitment Letter for each RHCPP funding year after receipt of all required documentation. FCLs are accompanied by approved Network Cost Worksheets (NCWs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Force Majeure</strong></td>
<td>Force Majeure shall include acts of God, acts or omissions of the other party, civil or military authority, civil disturbance, war, strikes, fires, floods, other catastrophes, or other events beyond the reasonable control of the affected party. Any delay or failure in performance caused by Force Majeure shall extend or excuse the affected party’s performance accordingly, in whole or in part, as may be reasonable under the circumstances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form 465</strong></td>
<td>Health care providers submit this two-page &quot;Description of Services Requested &amp; Certification Form&quot; to USAC to request bids for eligible services. The Form 465 and RFP information will be posted for bidding by vendors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form 465 Attachment</strong></td>
<td>An explanation of network participant eligibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form 466-A</strong></td>
<td>Project Coordinators submit the two-page &quot;Internet Service Funding Request and Certification Form&quot; to USAC for each vendor selected through the competitive bidding process. The form and accompanying documentation must show the type(s) of network construction ordered and the cost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form 466-A Attachment</strong></td>
<td>Identifies the services to be provided to each HCP and the locations to be served by the vendor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form 467</strong></td>
<td>The Project Coordinator submits this &quot;Health Care Providers Universal Service Connection Certification&quot; form for each vendor once it begins to receive services from the vendor. Upon receipt, USAC will issue a Health Care Provider Support Acknowledgement Letter (with a summary of the funding available to each participant) to the PC and vendor and post it the SharePoint website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form 498</strong></td>
<td>Each vendor must obtain a Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) by submitting a &quot;Service Provider Identification Number and Contact Information Form&quot; to USAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FQHC</strong></td>
<td>Federally Qualified Health Clinic. There are 72 FQHCs in Michigan's five rural medical trading areas (MTAs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRN</strong></td>
<td>10-digit FCC Registration Number which is required to conduct business with the FCC and required to bid on this RFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Request No.</strong></td>
<td>The number the USAC's Funding Commitment Letter (FCL) assigns to a service request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Year</strong></td>
<td>USAC fiscal year, June through July. Funding Year 2007 ran from July 2007 through June 2008.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gb/s or Gb</strong></td>
<td>Billions of bits per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>H.323</strong></td>
<td>H.323 is an umbrella recommendation from the International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) that defines the protocols to provide audio-visual communication sessions on any packet network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HCP</strong></td>
<td>Health care provider. See &quot;eligible HCP.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Care Provider Support Acknowledgement Letter</strong></td>
<td>The letter USAC issues to the Project coordinator and vendor upon receipt of a participant's Form 467. Once received, invoicing may begin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIE</strong></td>
<td>Health information exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIPAA</strong></td>
<td>Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IAD</strong></td>
<td>USAC's Internal Audit Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interruption of Service</strong></td>
<td>For the purpose of this project an interruption of service is defined as any two (2) second interval with a complete interruption of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
transmission or a bit error rate of worse than 1 x 10^-9 for a particular communication path within a route, including VPN traffic/routes. The following shall not be deemed an interruption: a) any period during which the customer fails to afford access to any facilities for the purpose of investigating and clearing troubles; b) planned maintenance outages; c) Force Majeure events; d) interruptions of a service that is in whole or in part off-net to the vendor; e) announced maintenance in the acceptable maintenance window; and f) interruptions caused in whole or in part by the customer equipment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IHS</th>
<th>The Indian Health Services (IHS) provides care for nearly two million American Indians and Alaska Natives across the United States.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internet2</td>
<td>A nationwide internet backbone infrastructure owned by a networking consortium consisting of the research and education communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invoice Template</td>
<td>The USAC Invoice Template is used by RHCPP participants to submit invoices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>The Internet Protocol is a protocol used for communicating data across a packet-switched network using the TCP/IP suite of protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPS</td>
<td>An intrusion prevention system (IPS) is a computer security device that monitors network and/or system activities for malicious or unwanted behavior and can react, in real-time, to block or prevent those activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPSec</td>
<td>Internet Protocol Security is a suite of protocols for securing Internet Protocol (IP) communications by authenticating and/or encrypting each IP packet in a data stream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPv6</td>
<td>Internet Protocol version 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOA</td>
<td>A Letter of Agency is required from each health care provider/facility participating in a RHCPP project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mbps or Mb</td>
<td>Millions of bits per second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDCH</td>
<td>Michigan Dept. of Community Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metcalf's Law</td>
<td>The value of the network is proportional to the square of the connections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Act</td>
<td>2002 PA 48, as amended, MCL 484.3101 et seq.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan FCC Pilot Program Collaborative</td>
<td>The Michigan FCC Pilot Program Collaborative was a statewide collaborative of health care stakeholders created to provide structure and direction to Michigan’s effort to participate in the RHCPP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Telecommunications Act</td>
<td>1991 PA 179, as amended, MCL 484.2101 et seq.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MiHIN Resource Center</td>
<td>The Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN) Resource Center (<a href="http://www.mihin.org">www.mihin.org</a>) provides guidance, direction, and coordination to regional and statewide health information exchange (HIE) initiatives in the state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPHI</td>
<td>The Michigan Public Health Institute is a Michigan 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is to plan, promote, and coordinate all facets of health care services. MPHI frequently acts as an agent for the State of Michigan and currently administers a number of health information technology initiatives on its behalf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPLS</td>
<td>Multi-protocol label switching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MTA</strong></td>
<td>A Medical Trading Area (MTA) is a largely self-organizing geographic market area in which a delineated population receives most of their medical services. MTA identification takes into account where patients seek medical care as well as where their health professionals refer them for specialized care. In this regard, MTA analysis focuses on the geographic origins of patients (i.e., counties, towns, zip codes, etc.) seeking medical services and the geographic areas served by particular health care service providers such as hospitals. For example, most of the residents of the Upper Peninsula (UP) tend to receive their health care in the UP. There are nine MTAs in Michigan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MTBF</strong></td>
<td>Mean time between failures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NCC</strong></td>
<td>North Central Council of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, a non-profit association of 13 hospitals and health systems in the 21-county Northern Lower MTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NCW</strong></td>
<td>The Network Cost Worksheet provides a line-item breakdown of total network costs (eligible and ineligible). USAC provides an approved version with the Funding Commitment Letter (FCL). This approved version reflects the final list of items for which each HCP participant will receive funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Network Convergence</strong></td>
<td>The IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS) is a concept for an integrated network of telecommunications carriers that would facilitate the use of IP (Internet Protocol) for packet communications in all known forms over wireless or landline. Examples of such communications include traditional telephony, fax, e-mail, Internet access, Web services, Voice over IP (VoIP), instant messaging (IM), videoconference sessions and video on demand (VOD). IMS was originally conceived in the late 1990s as part of a plan for worldwide deployment of mobile telecommunications networks that would interface with the public switched telephone network (PSTN). IMS is part of the Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NLR</strong></td>
<td>National LambdaRail nationwide internet backbone infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operation Date</strong></td>
<td>The date that is the later of the completion of the installation of a participating HCP site’s broadband infrastructure/hardware/software, satisfactory testing of same, and formal acceptance of same.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PC</strong></td>
<td>The Project Coordinator for an RHCPP project. MPHI’s PC is Jeff Taylor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PR</strong></td>
<td>PR is the USAC-employed Project Reviewer for an RHCPP project. He or she is the direct point-of-contact for the PC/APC and helps guide them through the information submission and funding processes. He or she reviews forms and associated documentation submitted by the PCs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RFP</strong></td>
<td>Request for proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RHC</strong></td>
<td>Rural health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RHCPP</strong></td>
<td>The Rural Health Care Pilot Program is an FCC project designed to help public and non-profit health care providers deploy a state or regional dedicated broadband health care network and optionally connect it to the larger internet system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RUCA code</strong></td>
<td>Rural-Urban Commuting Area code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Area</td>
<td>In 2004 the FCC defined &quot;rural area&quot; for purposes of its rural health care support mechanism. While the actual definition is technical, in practical terms, a &quot;rural area&quot; is one that is not within or near a large population base.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Care (RHC) Support Mechanism</td>
<td>The rural health care support mechanism is an FCC initiative (funded by monies collected through the Universal Service Fund) that implements the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The RHC support mechanism ensures that rural health care providers pay no more than their urban counterparts for their telecommunication needs in the provision of health care services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLA</td>
<td>Service level agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLHIE</td>
<td>State-level health information exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SONET</td>
<td>The synchronous optical networking standard for fiber optic networks that allows multiple technologies and vendor products to interoperate by defining standard physical network interfaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPIN</td>
<td>A Service Provider Identification Number is required for any entity providing services to RHCPP participants. It is obtained by submitting a Form 498 to USAC and is required to bid on this RFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSL</td>
<td>Secure Sockets Layer, a cryptographic protocol that provides secure communications on the Internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Acknowledgement Letter</td>
<td>Letter USAC posts to SharePoint after it receives a completed Form 467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommunications Act of 1996</td>
<td>The Telecommunications Act of 1996 mandated that rural health care providers be provided with &quot;an affordable rate for the services necessary for the provision of telemedicine and instruction relating to such services.&quot; To implement this statutory directive, the FCC adopted the current rural health care support mechanism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telehealth</td>
<td>Telehealth is the delivery of health-related services and information via telecommunications technologies. Telehealth is an expansion of telemedicine, and unlike telemedicine (which more narrowly focuses on the curative aspect), it encompasses preventive, promotive, and curative aspects of health care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telemedicine</td>
<td>Telemedicine is the use of telecommunications technologies to provide health care services to distant locations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple DES Encryption</td>
<td>Triple DES is a block cipher formed from the Data Encryption Standard (DES) cipher by using it three times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSP</td>
<td>The Telecommunications Service Priority Program is an FCC program used to identify and prioritize telecommunication services that support national security or emergency preparedness missions, including health care. TSP connections must be repaired first and are given priority in times of emergency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRHN</td>
<td>Thumb Rural Health Network (Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPTN</td>
<td>Upper Peninsula Telehealth Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAC</td>
<td>The Universal Service Administrative Company is an independent, not-for-profit corporation that the FCC has designated to administer USF programs. USAC administers the RHCPP and ensures the Program's fiscal integrity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USF</td>
<td>The Universal Service Fund is a mechanism for assessing interstate long distance carriers in order to subsidize telephone service to low-income households and high-cost areas. The law that created the USF was amended in 1996 to also help make telehealth services affordable for rural health care providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USGV6</td>
<td>A profile for U.S. government use of the IPv6 standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOIP</td>
<td>Voice over Internet protocol is protocol optimized for the transmission of voice through the Internet or other packet-switched networks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPN</td>
<td>A virtual private network is a computer network in which some of the links between nodes are carried by open connections or virtual circuits in some larger network (e.g., the Internet) instead of by physical wires.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# B. Vendor Questionnaire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corporate Name:</th>
<th>Federal EIN:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address (line 2):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNS Number:</td>
<td>State of Incorporation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCC Registration Number (FRN):</td>
<td>USAC Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Primary Point of Contact:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Phone:</td>
<td>Alternate Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Alternate Point of Contact:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Phone:</td>
<td>Alternate Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reference 1:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Point of Contact Name:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Project: (approx. 100 words)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reference 2:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Point of Contact Name:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Project: (approx. 100 words)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Reference 3:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Point of Contact Name:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Project: (approx. 100 words)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Completed By (Name): | Completed Date: |
C. Vendor Certification and Assurances

The Vendor must complete and sign this document. It must be signed, in the space below, by an individual empowered to bind the vendor to the provisions of this RFP and any Contract awarded pursuant to it.

Vendor’s Legal Entity Name: ______________________________________________

Vendor’s Federal Employer Identification Number: ____________________________

I/we make the following certifications and assurances as a required element of the proposal to which it is attached, understanding that the truthfulness of the facts affirmed here and the continuing compliance with these requirements are conditions precedent to the award or continuation of the related Contract(s):

1. I/we declare that all answers and statements made in the proposal are true and correct.

2. The prices and/or cost data have been determined independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with others for the purpose of restricting competition. However, I/we may freely join with other persons or organizations for the purpose of presenting a single proposal.

3. The attached proposal is a firm offer for a period of 180 days following receipt, and it may be accepted by MPHI without further negotiation (except where obviously required by lack of certainty in key terms) at any time within the 180 day period.

4. In preparing this proposal, I/we have not been assisted by any current or former employee(s) of the State of Michigan, the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), or a participating Health Care Provider (HCP) whose duties relate (or did relate) to this proposal or prospective contract and who was assisting in other than his or her official, public capacity. Any exceptions to these assurances are described in full detail on a separate page and attached to this document.

5. I/we understand that MPHI will not reimburse me/us for any costs incurred in the preparation of this proposal. All proposals become the property of the MPHI, and I/we claim no proprietary right to the ideas, writings, items, or samples, unless so stated in this proposal.

6. Unless otherwise required by law, the prices and/or cost data that have been submitted have not been, and will not be, knowingly disclosed by the above-named Vendor, directly or indirectly, to any other vendor or to any competitor prior to MPHI opening bids.

7. I/we agree that submission of the attached proposal constitutes acceptance of the Request for Proposals (RFP) contents. If there are any exceptions to these terms, I/we have described those exceptions in detail on a page(s) attached to this document.
8. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Vendor to induce any other person or firm to submit or to not submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.

9. I/we grant MPHI the right to contact references and others, who may have pertinent information regarding the Vendor’s prior experience and ability to perform the services contemplated in this procurement.

10. I/we have read and understand the RFP, all related legal documents, and related laws applicable to this proposal and shall comply with all aforementioned items, including, but not limited to:
   - FCC Order 06-144
   - FCC Order 07-198 including correction
   - The Telecommunications Act of 1996
   - USAC’s program process
   - Local, State, and Federal Laws

11. I/we understand and, if selected, will comply with the all requirements of this RFP, including, but not limited to, those listed in Part 2.3 of this RFP:
   - The invoicing and payment processes described in Section 3.2
   - The insurance requirements described in Section 3.3
   - The security provisions described in Section 3.4

12. I/we acknowledge receipt of Addendum ___________ (if any).

   On behalf of the firm submitting this proposal, my Signature below attests to the accuracy of the above statements.

   ____________________________  ____________________________
   Signature                      Name (printed or typed)

   ____________________________  ____________________________
   Title                          Date
D. Participating Health Care Provider (HCP) Sites

A copy of this information in Excel format will be made available on http://fcc.mphi.org within 5 days of RFP posting.
## E. USAC Invoice Template

### Rural Health Care Pilot Program Invoice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>Total Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Item A</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Item B</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Item C</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** $75,000
F. Cost Worksheet