

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT DIVISION

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL PROGRAMS/SERVICES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2015-2016

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION
Friday 4:00 pm on Friday, March 27, 2015

This is only a Request for Information (RFI) and does NOT constitute an agreement with Albuquerque Public Schools (APS). Should this RFI result in an agreement, the APS Student, Family and Community Supports (SFCS) Division will notify the applicant.

All services performed per an award for this RFI must be performed at no cost to APS. Successful applicants will be directed to bill Medicaid, other third party payers or provide services pro-bono.

APS is seeking multiple dental health providers to meet the needs of its students.

APS will determine schools that will be assigned to accepted applicants.

APS reserves the right to decline any entity responding to this RFI.

PURPOSE

The Albuquerque Public Schools (APS), Student, Family and Community Supports (SFCS) Division is seeking multiple providers for school-based dental program/services. APS, SFCS Division is issuing a Request for Information (RFI) from dental health providers interested in providing oral health programs/services in APS. The intent of this RFI is to create a system to ensure seamless support, efficiency and maximization of resources to extend outreach and reduce duplication of effort to meet the needs of children in APS.

The purpose of the RFI is to gather information from dental health providers who are interested in delivering direct services to students in APS for the 2015-2016 School Year following the prescribe defined approach.

BACKGROUND

Oral health diseases are often referred to as the “silent epidemic” that is affecting our most vulnerable citizens – children from families with low incomes, children from racial and ethnic minority groups, and children with special health care needs. Within APS, it is not unusual to learn of children who are suffering from pain of untreated oral infections and decay. APS is interested in partnering with multiple dental providers to coordinate a comprehensive oral health program that includes prevention and control of tooth decay. Tooth decay is progressive and if left untreated, can significantly diminish overall health and quality of life for children. Failure to prevent and treat tooth decay has long-term effects on children’s development, compromising their ability to eat and speak, reducing self-esteem, and can affect student academic performance. The cost of preventive dental care is minimal compared to the consequences of children suffering from dental pain/infection and having extensive treatment to repair damaged teeth.

APS does not know the specific number of children within the school system who lack the basic benefit of oral health care. However, school nurses report oral health as the most common unmet physical health care need for children. School nurses acknowledge children are presenting with

tooth decay, gum disease, loose teeth, and oral trauma. Furthermore, they report that when children have poor oral health, their ability to learn is affected. Children are distracted by dental pain and are unable to concentrate and learn, complete school work and score well on tests and exams. Poor oral health is also related to poor school-performance, poor social relationships and decreased academic success. Nationally, one-third (33%) of low-income children age 2-11 have untreated tooth decay in their primary teeth, compared to 15% of children at or above twice the poverty level. Almost 12% of low-income children age 6-11 have untreated tooth decay in their permanent teeth, compared with 4% of children at or above twice the poverty level. Although more than 90% of general dentists provide care to children, only a small percentage provide care to children covered by Medicaid and who under age four (*Seale NS, Casamassimo PS. Access to dental care for children in the United States: a survey of general practitioners. J Am Dent Assoc. 2003 Dec; 134(12): 1630-40*). Services for children with low incomes who are eligible for Medicaid within APS are facing similar circumstances.

There is a strong correlation between a child's health and academic performance. One of the fundamental missions of APS, SFCS Division is to provide the knowledge and skills to help children become healthy and productive adults; promoting healthy and safe behaviors among students is an important part of this mission. APS currently supports a ***Coordinated School Health Model*** and is actively engaged with organizations, agencies, providers, community and families to work together to maintain the well-being of young people. Developing relationships with multiple dental health professionals to coordinate and deliver services to youth with unmet needs is an important component to this model. Alignment of dental services with the ***Coordinated School Health Model*** is critical and will require relationships with multiple providers to ensure seamless support, efficiency and maximization of resources to extend outreach and reduce duplication of effort.

Individuals and organizations responding to this RFI must align proposals with best and promising practices described by the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors to integrate oral health into the Coordinated School Health Model (ASTDD: Where Oral Health Lives. Best Practice Approaches, May 2011.) APS seeks proposals to establish services needed for providing direct care services to students that supports prevention (sealant, varnish programs, cleaning), primary restorative care, along with case management to establish dental homes, make referrals; and conduct follow up.

Applicants chosen to provide services at APS will be required to provide a yearend report no later than June 30, 2016 to the SFCS Division. See Section III.

DEFINITIONS

Dental Health Screenings: an examination by a dental provider to determine the oral health status of a student. The assessment identifies whether or not a student has had dental sealants prior to the examination and is in need of a dental sealant on the molar and to identify any active oral disease.

Oral Hygiene: is the practice of keeping the mouth clean and healthy by brushing and flossing to prevent tooth decay and gum disease.

Prophylaxis: cleaning of the teeth by a dentist or dental hygienist, including removal of plaque, materia alba, calculus, and extrinsic stains; done as a preventive measure for control of gingivitis.

Restorative Dental Health Care: is the diagnosis and integrated management of diseases of the teeth and their supporting structures and the rehabilitation of the dentition to functional and aesthetic requirements of the individual.

Referral Follow Up: secure a dental provider to provide services or establish a dental home for services and confirm that a treatment plan has been completed.

Dental Home: is the ongoing relationship between the dentist and the patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way. Establishment of a dental home begins no later than 12 months of age and includes referral to dental specialists when appropriate

Dental Sealants: Dental sealants are thin plastic coatings that are applied to the grooves on the chewing surfaces of the back teeth to protect them from tooth decay. Most tooth decay in children and teens occurs on these surfaces. Sealants protect the chewing surfaces from tooth decay by keeping germs and food particles out of these grooves (molar).

Flouride Varnish: is a topical fluoride used to prevent tooth decay. Fluoridated toothpaste is another type of topical fluoride. Both are used on the surface of teeth. Fluoride in varnish enters the tooth enamel and makes the tooth hard. It prevents new cavities and slows down or stops decay from getting worse. If tooth decay is just starting, it repairs the tooth

Oral Prophylaxis: cleaning of the teeth by a dentist or dental hygienist, including removal of plaque, material alba, calculus, and extrinsic stains; done as a preventive measure for control of gingivitis.

Oral Health Case Management: recruit dentists to provide services or establish a dental home, educates clients about the use of dental services and keeping appointments, links clients to dental offices, identifies potential barriers to care and helps clients obtain transportation to appointments.

ELIGIBILITY

This RFI is open to Dental health care providers interested in providing dental health services at APS schools. All services performed per an award for this RFI must be performed at no cost to APS. Successful applicants will need to bill Medicaid, other third party payers or provide services pro-bono.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Questions concerning this RFI should be directed to: Laura Case, Director, Nursing, Albuquerque Public Schools Laura.Case@aps.edu or 505-855-9834.

1. Complete RFI must be typewritten using a minimum of 12 point font. Each page must be completed for consideration of partnership with APS:

- Cover Page
- Proposed Program
- Proposed Budget
- School/District/Charter School Assurances

2. A signed original of the **RFI and 4 additional copies must be received by Friday 4:00 pm Friday, March 27, 2015.** Facsimile copies **will not** be accepted. RFI should be mailed/delivered to:

Laura Case
Director, Nursing
Student, Family and Community Supports Division
Albuquerque Public Schools
P.O. Box 25704
Albuquerque, NM 87125-0704

or hand carried to:
APS City Center
6400 Uptown Blvd. NE Suite 385W
Albuquerque, NM

COVER PAGE

Name of Company/Agency			
Authorized Authority			
Phone		e-mail	
Mailing Address			
Program Coordinator			
Phone		e-mail	
Mailing Address			
Primary Contact for Data			
Phone		e-mail	
Mailing Address			

List All Providers That Will Be Working in the Schools (page may be duplicated for additional providers)			
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	
Provider Name		Phone	
e-mail		Type of License/ Certification	

PROPOSED SERVICES

Please complete each section below.

Section I: (limit 2 pages) – (20 Points)

Describe how you will establish a dental health clinic at the proposed school sites. Include

- Marketing and Outreach plan to families
- Consenting process: Permission and sign-up forms may be included as attachments)
- Data collection and how data will be shared with APS
- Educational materials for families and youth (bilingual).

Section II: (limit 4 pages):

1. Check-off the scope of services you will provide in each school. – (25 Points)

- Dental Screening (2 points)
- Dental Sealants (2 points)
- Fluoride Varnish (2 points)
- Oral Prophylaxis (2 points)
- Dental Restorative Work (5 points)
- Oral Health Case Management (2 points)
- Other (describe) (0 points)_____

- Applicant is a Dental Home Provider (10 points)
or
- Applicant can refer to Dental Home Provider (5 points) – **Describe Case Management strategies planned to assist families in establishing Dental Homes; referral and follow up. Identify who will conduct this work and how will it be tracked and reported**

Section III: (limit 2 page) – (20 Points):

Describe strategies for collecting and reporting data (unduplicated reporting). Include the following data in your proposal:

- Number of students served at each school (include age, gender and ethnicity)
- Number and type of services provided to each student
- Number of referrals (type of referrals)
- Number and type of follow-up services
- Number and type of completed treatments
- Number of students seen with Medicaid, private insurance and uninsured.
- Number of students receiving case management and identify success or failure.

Section IV: (limit 2 page) – (25 Points):

Describe strategies you will utilize to serve uninsured students:

Section V: (limit 1 page) – (10 Points):

Identify/Describe facility requirements needed to perform services on-campus:

ASSURANCES and UNDERSTANDINGS

We the undersigned assure that:

1. The information included in the enclosed Request for Information (RFI) is true and accurate.
2. The dental program/services described though this RFI will support Albuquerque Public Schools students.
3. We will participate in all data collection and sharing with Albuquerque Public Schools.
4. All providers working in schools hold the appropriate licenses/certifications to provide the school-based dental services.
5. All providers working in schools have cleared the Albuquerque Public Schools Fingerprinting Background Check.

We the undersigned understand that:

1. The application submitted is only a Request for Information (RFI) and does NOT constitute an agreement with Albuquerque Public Schools (APS).
2. All services performed per an award for this RFI must be performed at no cost to APS. Successful applicants will bill Medicaid, other third party payers or provide services pro-bono.
3. APS is seeking multiple dental health providers to meet the needs of its students.
4. APS holds the authority for all assignments of locations and by signing, I agree to this requirement.
5. APS reserves the right to decline to work with any entity responding to this RFI.
6. If chosen to provide services with APS I will be required to provide a yearend report no later than June 30, 2016 to the SFCS Division (See Section III of the RFI).

Agency Name: _____

Print Name Authorized Agency Representative

Date

Signature