

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		DHHS/OFI/Jamie Pruet			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Matt Galletta/Debbie Weston			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		OFI-21-103			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 717,174.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT 10A 20200909000000000867		
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	9/1/2020	Proposed End Date:	8/31/2023	
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:		
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:		
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:		
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:		
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Public Consulting Group (PCG), Boston, MA			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Asset Verification Services (AVS) system used for determination of eligibility for benefits under the MaineCare program, administered by the Office for Family Independence (OFI).			

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
X	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents		J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

OFI determines eligibility for MaineCare. The Social Security Act of 1940 (U.S. Code, Title 42, Chapter 7, Subchapter XIX) requires that each State have an asset verification system, for the purposes of determining or redetermining the eligibility of an individual for medical assistance. The AVS system created by PCG is a solution that is used by many states as it meets Social Security Administration (SSA) certification requirements. The online platform of this solution allows OFI staff to have individual accounts that they use to process each new eligibility application, or a recertification of their original eligibility, through this system in order to find and/or verify the assets of the clients and/or other household members. This allows OFI to ensure that no clients are made eligible to receive medical assistance under any MaineCare program, based on the asset limit established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

PCG is the country's most experienced and nationally recognized Medicaid AVS vendor. Since 2012, PCG has been contracted by dozens of states to implement and operate CMS-compliant asset verification services. PCG is eager to continue the working relationship it has established with Maine over the last few years.

PCG's asset verification service connects agencies with 100 percent of the financial institutions in the United States to verify account ownership potentially impacting resource-based benefits eligibility. PCG's AVS eliminates the need for OFI staff to have to manually collect and review physical bank statements and/or other documents, except from those clients that are identified by AVS as exceeding established program resource limits. AVS identifies undisclosed bank accounts and provides OFI with the opportunity to identify and/or avoid fraudulent applications and/or other elements of a clients' eligibility and benefits. AVS also verifies account balances of disclosed bank accounts, in order to ensure a quality control/quality assurance check on the information and data that clients provide themselves at point of application, or upon review.

OFI staff are familiar with the tool and to change to a new, less stable or unproven product would lead to a significant statewide training effort.

Any lapse in use of an AVS would jeopardize Maine compliance with federal requirements and lead to negative financial impact from federal partners.

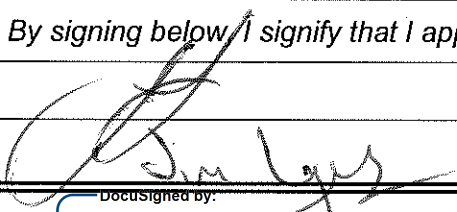
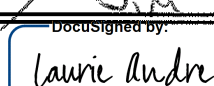
3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

Based on internal review and discussions with subject matter experts in both the public and private sector, the transactional based costs for PCG's AVS are comparable to those offered by the limited options that remain across the country. Because an AVS is mandatory for OFI to have, the funding has already been allocated in order for OFI to adhere to, and comply with, those federal regulations.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

OFI intends to explore other qualified vendors in the future as more mature systems and solutions become available, in order to ensure that OFI is always receiving the most cost efficient and operationally supportive AVS solution required for federal compliance.

PART IV: APPROVALS

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>By signing below I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i>		
Printed Name:		Date:	23-Sep-20
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: 		
Printed Name:	81084A22906E4FB... Laurie Andre	Date:	9/24/2020