

Office of State Procurement  
State of Louisiana  
Division of Administration

JEFF LANDRY  
GOVERNOR



TAYLOR F. BARRAS  
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

5/6/2025

**ADDENDUM NO. 02**

Your reference is directed to RFX Number 3000024598 for the Invitation to Bid for the State of Louisiana – Emergency Surge Medical Transportation - LDH, which is currently scheduled to open at 10:00 A.M. CT on 05/13/25.

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The following are the Vendor's Inquiries received by the deadline date of 04/22/2025 and the State's Responses:

**Vendor's Inquiry #1:** Regarding the six-hour arrival requirement to the assigned placarding area and the potential for staggered arrivals:

Given the six-hour arrival requirement for ambulances at the placarding area, what are the feasible strategies for staggering the arrival of ambulance units to support the surge unit's pre-storm medical evacuation mission effectively?

Could you provide examples, particularly considering the potential addition of out-of-state resources (up to 300 ambulances) with estimated arrival times of 8 to 24 hours?

**State's Response #1:** Please refer to Attachment C – Specifications, Line 2: ALS Ambulances, page 4 and Line 3: BLS Ambulances, page 7, "Response Time: Staffed ambulances are to be available for missions in their assigned area of operations within 6 hours of the activation of the contract or shall report to a credentialing center within 6 hours. In the exception case(s) where the Contractor is given authorization to utilize out-of-state ambulances, the response time for these ambulances is 12 hours, in lieu of the 6-hour requirement for in-state surge ambulances."

Staggering strategies to consider:

- Prioritizing in-state units to arrive at the placarding or credentialing location within the initial six-hour window
- Scheduling out-of-state resources to arrive within the 12-hour window when authorized

In regards to examples, the arrival and staging of ambulance resources—whether in-state or out-of-state are managed through a phased and coordinated deployment strategy based on the evolving needs of the incident. Each incident will dictate the exact execution plan, and any integration of large-scale out-of-state assets will require prior approval and coordination from the Louisiana State Surgeon General.

**Vendor’s Inquiry #2:** Concerning the availability of Louisiana ALS ambulances and the integration of out-of-state resources:

Considering the number of licensed Louisiana ALS ambulances available for an immediate surge deployment without disrupting the 911 operations, at what H-hour would the Louisiana Surgeon General consider integrating out-of-state ambulance units into the prestorm medical evacuation plan?

**State’s Response #2:** The integration of out-of-state ambulance units into Louisiana’s prestorm medical evacuation operations is determined on a case-by-case basis. Every incident is unique and depends on several operational factors. As such, there is no predetermined H-hour for activation. Any decision to incorporate out-of-state EMS assets must be formally approved by the Louisiana State Surgeon General.

**Vendor’s Inquiry #3:** Clarifying the role of locally contracted ambulances within the affected storm area:

What are the specific expectations regarding utilizing ambulances already under contract with local jurisdictions within the anticipated impact zone of the storm, to ensure a clear understanding and avoid potential conflicts?

**State’s Response #3:** As stated in Attachment C – Specifications, Line 2: ALS Ambulances, page 3 and Line 3: BLS Ambulances, page 6, Participating Ambulances for Affected Areas, participating in-state ambulance providers must not draw down ambulances or staff from a locally affected area unless they can continue to meet their obligations to local governments and facilities during times of surge. A “locally affected area” is defined as any parish or group of parishes that are evacuating, under threat of evacuation, or in need of surge support due to a declared disaster.

Attachment C – Specifications, Line 2: ALS Ambulances, page 3 and Line 3: BLS Ambulances, page 6, Maintaining Coverage of Operational Area further clarifies that providers must maintain their “Daily Operational Base,” which is defined as the number and configuration (ALS/BLS mix) of units they typically have on duty for local operations. If a provider wishes to reduce their Daily Operational Base to support the State Contract, they must ensure continuity of local operations. Any decisions affecting the implementation of contractual obligations must be disclosed to LDH.

Additionally as stated Attachment C – Specifications, Line 2: ALS Ambulances, page 4 and Line 3: BLS Ambulances, page 7, Disclosure of Contractual Obligations of Participating Providers, all participating providers are expected to disclose any other contractual obligations—including with nursing homes, home health agencies, or hospitals—whether in-state or out-of-state, to avoid operational conflicts during surge deployments.

Clarification regarding any potential conflicts or obligations should be coordinated with the EMS-TOC or designee prior to activation.

**Vendor’s Inquiry #4:** Inquiring about reimbursement for demobilization:

Would the state consider a reimbursement policy for the demobilization and return of ambulance units to their home base, potentially at a rate of one-half of the contracted rate, with a maximum reimbursement period of six hours?

**State’s Response #4:** The solicitation does not contemplate a specific reimbursement policy for the demobilization and return travel of ambulance units to their home base. The Louisiana State Surgeon General (previously titled the State Health Officer or SHO) or their designee, in coordination with the EMS Tactical Operations Center (EMS-TOC), must approve any exceptions or modifications to reimbursement policies.

**Vendor’s Inquiry #5:** Understanding the impact of the compact on out-of-state paramedics:

How does the existing interstate compact for emergency medical services affect the ability of licensed paramedics from out-of-state to provide patient care during a pre-storm medical evacuation in Louisiana?

**State’s Response #5:** While Louisiana is a member of the *Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice*, the resulting contract(s) will require that any use of out-of-state ambulances and personnel be considered a last resort, and only when specifically approved by the Louisiana State Surgeon General or their designee as stated in Attachment C – Specifications, Line 2: ALS Ambulances, page 3 and Line 3: BLS Ambulances, page 6, Out of State Ambulances.

The referenced sections further explain, if out-of-state ambulances are authorized, the Contractor must:

- Ensure that all responding personnel are licensed and in good standing in their home state.
- Notify the State EMS Office in the provider’s home state, disclosing the number of units, location, and ambulance service name.
- Provide evidence of that notification to the Louisiana Bureau of EMS (BEMS) and to the EMS Tactical Operations Center (EMS-TOC) prior to deployment.

While the EMS Compact facilitates cross-border recognition of licensure in declared emergencies, Louisiana’s contractual and operational requirements still apply. Therefore,

participation in the Compact does not automatically authorize out-of-state paramedics to practice in Louisiana for the purposes of the resulting contract(s).

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All else remains as on original bid.

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**THIS ADDENDUM IS HEREBY OFFICIALLY MADE A PART OF THE REFERENCED SOLICITATION.**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** If you have already submitted your bid and this Addendum does not cause you to revise your bid, you should acknowledge receipt of this Addendum by identifying your business name and by signing where indicated. You may return this Acknowledgement by mail, by hand delivery or courier to: Office of State Procurement, 1201 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Claiborne Building - Ste. 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or by fax to: (225) 342-9756. The State reserves the right to request a completed Acknowledgement at any time. Failure to execute an Acknowledgement shall not relieve the bidder from complying with the terms of its bid.

Addendum Acknowledged/No changes:

For: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

**REVISION:** If you have already submitted your bid and this Addendum requires you to revise your bid, you must indicate any change(s) below, identify your business name and sign where shown. Revisions shall be delivered prior to bid opening by mail, by hand or courier to: Office of State Procurement, 1201 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Claiborne Building - Ste. 2-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, and indicate the RFX number and the bid opening date and time on the outside of the envelope for proper identification, or by fax to: (225) 342-9756. Electronic transmissions other than by fax are not being accepted at this time

**Revisions received after bid opening shall not be considered and you shall be held to your original bid.**

Revision:

For: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: Tuan Nguyen  
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