**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
FOR**

DENTISTRY JURISPRUDENCE EXAM

**RFI # 34310-24221
[March 9, 2020]**

1. **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

The State of Tennessee, Department of Health issues this Request for Information ("RFI") for the purpose of gathering information for a written secure program for a Dental Jurisprudence exam where licensees and registrants can log into an account with a username and password to take the Dental Jurisprudence exam. Upon successful completion of the Jurisprudence exam, this secure site would need to interface with the Tennessee Department of Health's Versa/LARS site to show that this requirement has been met for license renewal or initial licensure application.

2. **BACKGROUND:**

Purpose:

Laws and regulations are constantly changing regarding Dentistry, permissible delegable duties and the supervision of dental staff. This examination will improve the knowledge of the Tennessee Dental statutes and rules as well as develop a higher standard of integrity and professionalism so Dentists, Dental Hygienists, and Dental Assistants will be able to better serve their patients.

Goal:

Reinforce the Tennessee Statutes and Rules in a positive and informative "No Fail" format to better assist the Dentist, Dental Hygienist and Registered Dental Assistant in making more ethical decisions regarding treatment. "No Fail" means that although mandatory, no one will fail the Jurisprudence Exam because they have to answer twenty-five (25) questions correctly. By educating Dental professionals, the State hopes to minimize the civil liabilities and/or discipline from the Dental Licensing Board.

Project Sought Requirements:

A secure computer program for the Jurisprudence exam that will interface with the Versa computer licensure system as described below

Provide a secure site where applicants, licensees and registrants (hereinafter referred to as "licensees") can log into an account with a username and password to take the Jurisprudence exam. Upon successful completion of the exam, this secure site would need to interface with the Tennessee Department of Health's Versa/LARS site to show that the requirement has been met for license renewal, reinstatement or initial licensure application.

The exam is a collection of questions provided by the State for each Licensee's category (Dentist, Hygienist, Assistant). Their initials, pre-lettering and License number (or file number for initial licensees) will link them to their category exam.
> Example:
> xxDS#R1234 will link them to the *dental* questions.
> xxDH#R1234 will link them to the *dental hygiene* questions.
> xxDA#R1234 will link them to the *dental assistant* questions.

Also, the bank of *general core questions* will be incorporated randomly into all categories. Initial license applicants will use #I, reinstatement applicants will use #E and renewals will use #R (as used in the example above).

Licensee will be able to log in and out of the exam twenty-four hours per day/seven days a week (24/7) until it is completed. There should be no time limit to complete the exam as long as it is completed before their license renewal date or initial license approval. A confirmation of successful completion of the exam and should be securely carried over to the Versa/LARS licensing program where they could continue with their license renewal.

Prior to taking the exam, the exam system must have check boxes to verify under penalty that the licensee is in fact the one taking the exam. The exam will include a statement that it is open book, no fee, no fail, no time limit and licensees are encouraged to use the statutes, rules and any other resources necessary to take the exam so the exam system must be able to provide a link to the statutes and rules of the Board of Dentistry.

The licensee must answer twenty-five (25) questions (from licensee's category and core questions) <u>correctly</u> in order to complete exam before initial licensure, reinstatement and/or renewal. Example: Licensees may need to answer forty-five (45) questions before getting twenty-five (25) correct.

- The program needs to have the capability to add/delete/change the questions and to change the number of questions required for completion.

- Questions should come up in random order (for their category & general core) so that no two exams will be the same.

- If all questions in their category and general core are answered without getting twenty-five (25) correct, the incorrectly answered questions should come up again in a random order.

- Open exam questions to licensee's and applicants when the initial, reinstatement or renewal application is opened in Versa/LARS.

- Link each question to the statutes and rules, so when changes are made to the statues and rules, the questions (from the exam) that are related to these changes can be easily found and updated by the board. The program must provide the ability to add/delete or change questions.

- Incorrectly answered questions will show the correct answer and where to find it in the statutes, rules or policies. Example: 0460-.02-.07 or 63-5-115.

- This exam site will not be limited to re-licensure but will also be used for initial licensure, reactivation and reinstatement of licensees, and Dental Board order compliance for licensees (undetermined number of questions from the category/general core questions).

- The program needs to track and detect questions that need to be rewritten or deleted. Track exam validity, efficiency and reliability. Example: How many questions were answered by each category (dentist, dental hygienist and assistant) in order to get the desired number (twenty-five (25)) of questions correct? Which questions were most often missed?' The average time it took for each category to take the exam? etc. Statistical information regarding the examination and questions will need to be available in reports.

- Post-exam survey – Have evaluation questions for licensees to answer. This will help with future changes that will make the exam better (validity) in the future. Example: Was this exam valuable to your field of dentistry? Did you gain information that is useful in your profession? Did you acquire knowledge that will help you make ethical decisions in your scope of practice?   In addition, the Division of Oral Health Services with the Department of Health may have additional survey questions authorized by the board to collect data regarding dental professionals practicing in Tennessee.

The State would like a program that would be easily adaptable for Jurisprudence and Licensure needs for each Tennessee Health Related Board.

3.   **COMMUNICATIONS:**

3.1.   Please submit your response to this RFI to:

Tara Roark, Sourcing Account Specialist
Central Procurement Office
Division of General Services
WRS Tennessee Tower, 3rd Floor
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue

Nashville, TN 37243
(615) 532-1837
Tara.Roark@tn.gov

3.2. Please feel free to contact the Department of Health with any questions regarding this RFI. The main point of contact will be:

Melissa Painter, Competitive Procurement Coordinator
Department of Health
Service Procurement Office
5th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243
615-741-0285
Melissa.Painter@tn.gov

3.3. Please reference RFI # 34310-24221 with all communications to this RFI.

4.   RFI SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

EVENT		TIME (Central Time Zone)	DATE (all dates are State business days)
1.	RFI Issued		March 9, 2020
2.	RFI Response Deadline	2:00PM	March 30, 2020

5.   GENERAL INFORMATION:

5.1. Please note that responding to this RFI is not a prerequisite for responding to any future solicitations related to this project and a response to this RFI will not create any contract rights. Responses to this RFI will become property of the State.

5.2. The information gathered during this RFI is part of an ongoing procurement. In order to prevent an unfair advantage among potential respondents, the RFI responses will not be available until after the completion of evaluation of any responses, proposals, or bids resulting from a Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid or other procurement method. In the event that the state chooses not to go further in the procurement process and responses are never evaluated, the responses to the procurement including the responses to the RFI, will be considered confidential by the State.

5.3. The State will not pay for any costs associated with responding to this RFI.

6.   INFORMATIONAL FORMS:

The State is requesting the following information from all interested parties. Please fill out the following forms:

RFI #34310-24221

TECHNICAL INFORMATIONAL FORM
1. RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:
2. RESPONDENT CONTACT PERSON: Name, Title: Address: Phone Number: Email:
3. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPERIENCE PROVIDING SIMILAR SCOPE OF SERVICES/PRODUCTS
4. Has your company created this type of environment before? For whom?
5. What does a typical rollout look like for your system? Does it have to occur in phases?
6. What is your experience with Versa or similar licensure databases?
7. What type of support assistance (trouble shooting) do you provide?
8. Please provide a description of your system and how the exam would be administered.
9. What report tools would be available to board staff?

COST INFORMATIONAL FORM
1. Describe what pricing units you typically utilize for similar services or goods (e.g., per hour, each, etc.:
2. Describe the typical price range for similar services or goods

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
1. Please provide input on alternative approaches or additional things to consider that might benefit the State: