



Notice of Request for Information

RFI # YH26-0067

Secured Behavioral Health Residential Facility (SBHRF) RFI

Issue Date:	Friday, January 30, 2026
AHCCCS Procurement Officer:	Email: procurement@azahcccs.gov
RFI RESPONSE DUE DATE:	Thursday, February 19, 2026 by 3:00 PM ARIZONA TIME

Responses to this RFI must be submitted electronically to AHCCCS on or prior to the time and date indicated above.

This is a Request for Information (“RFI”) only and as such will NOT result in any award of contract.

AHCCCS is in the information gathering stage and no decisions have been made concerning the agency’s intent to issue a formal Request for Proposal. Responding to this RFI is appreciated and will NOT prohibit the respondents from responding to any future procurements.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the appropriate Procurement Agency. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. A person requiring special accommodations may contact the person responsible for this request as identified below.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. AHCCCS OVERVIEW

AHCCCS is the single state Medicaid agency for the State of Arizona. In that capacity it is responsible for operating the Title XIX and Title XXI programs through the State's 1115 Research and Demonstration Waiver, which was granted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information regarding AHCCCS see About Us:
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/AboutUs/index.html>

2. PURPOSE of RFI and Background

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) is requesting information from providers, potential bidders, professionals familiar with court ordered treatment in Arizona and/or stakeholders to help shape the forthcoming Request for Proposal (RFP) for Secure Behavioral Health Residential Facilities (SBHRFs) that will serve individuals court-ordered to treatment under A.R.S. §36-550.09. These facilities will fill a critical gap in the continuum of care by providing a secure, treatment-focused environment for Title 36 individuals who are seriously mentally ill and chronically resistant to treatment.

Through this RFI, AHCCCS seeks subject matter expertise and recommendations on program design, facility design, operational feasibility, staffing, security requirements, clinical service needs, cost considerations, and potential barriers. The information received will be used to refine and strengthen the RFP, ensuring it reflects real-world implementation needs and supports a high-quality, sustainable secure treatment model for Arizona's Title 36 population.

This process is intended to gather information specific to the PROCUREMENT of this service and interested bidders, providers, and stakeholders are asked to provide responses. Members of the public wishing to provide input surrounding the development and implementation of SBHRFs have the opportunity to provide information through an open public comment survey which will be published soon.

For information about this project, see here:
<https://www.azleg.gov/viewdocument/?docName=https://www.azleg.gov/ars/36/00425-06.htm>
<https://www.azleg.gov/viewdocument/?docName=https://www.azleg.gov/ars/36/00550-09.htm>

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3. INFORMATION REQUESTED:

AHCCCS requests the following information in a detailed written response. Respondents may respond to any or all of the areas identified.

- 3.1 What specific programmatic elements, staffing models, and therapeutic approaches are necessary to safely and effectively serve the Title 36 population who are approved for placement in an SBHRF?
- 3.2 What requirements should AHCCCS consider in the RFP related to physical plant standards, security design, and environmental safety for a secure, least-restrictive Title 36 residential setting?
- 3.3 What considerations should AHCCCS include in the RFP to help ensure that a 16 bed maximum facility can operate sustainably while serving the Title 36 population?
- 3.4 What staffing ratios, minimum qualifications, or special training should AHCCCS require in the RFP for Title 36 SBHRF staff? What flexibility would be necessary for providers to realistically recruit and retain this workforce?
- 3.5 What barriers or challenges do potential bidders anticipate in developing and operating a Title 36 SBHRF, and what should AHCCCS consider including (or avoiding) in the RFP to support successful participation?
- 3.6 What cost drivers (staffing, security, plant modifications, clinical services, etc.) will most significantly affect per-diem rates for Title 36 SBHRFs? What cost elements should AHCCCS explicitly account for in the RFP?
- 3.7 What rate-setting approaches, modifiers, or reimbursement structures should AHCCCS consider reflecting the higher acuity Title 36 population?
- 3.8 What reporting requirements, documentation expectations, or data elements should AHCCCS include in the RFP to support courts, monitoring obligations, and AHCCCS oversight of Title 36 placements?
- 3.9 What expectations should AHCCCS set for coordination with courts, crisis systems, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, and outpatient providers?
- 3.10 From your professional experience, what additional elements should AHCCCS consider including, clarifying, or explicitly addressing in the forthcoming RFP to ensure we receive high-quality, competitive bids for Title 36 SBHRFs?

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- 3.11 What is a realistic timeline, from award to go-live, for standing up a Title 36 SBHRF, including licensing, staffing, facility modifications, and contract readiness?
- 3.12 What sequence of activities (e.g., finalizing facility design, hiring staff, establishing clinical partnerships, submitting licensing documentation) should AHCCCS contemplate or require in the RFP to ensure orderly implementation?
- 3.13 What should AHCCCS consider including in the RFP regarding secure, limited-egress requirements for Title 36 SBHRFs?
- 3.14 What potential barriers to implementing secure, limited egress requirements should be considered? Please include any proposed solutions.
- 3.15 What expectations should AHCCCS include in the RFP regarding partnerships between SBHRFs and outpatient behavioral health clinics responsible for ongoing treatment when a member transitions out of the secure setting?
- 3.16 What barriers do providers anticipate in establishing and maintaining partnerships between SBHRFs and outpatient clinics, and what solutions or flexibilities should AHCCCS consider in the RFP?
- 3.17 Is there any additional information, operational consideration, requirement, or flexibility that you believe AHCCCS should include or evaluate as we develop the RFP for Title 36 SBHRFs?

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4. CONTENTS OF YOUR RESPONSE

Your response should include the following:

- 4.1 Detailed Written Response to any/all areas listed above. AHCCCS appreciates your attempt to limit your response to total of less than 25 pages.
- 4.2 A completed Attachment A, Respondent's Information, which includes contact information, including name, title, mailing address, email address, authorized signature, and phone number of the contact person for questions relating to the RFI.

5. HOW TO RESPOND

- 5.1 Submit one (1) electronic copy of the RFI response via email attachment to the listed at PROCUREMENT@azahcccs.gov. Please indicate the RFI number and your company name in the subject line of your email.
- 5.2 Submit your response no later than the time indicated on the front page of this RFI. Please take into consideration the Arizona time zone.

6. CONFIDENTIAL/PROPRIETARY INFORMATION:

- 6.1 To the extent allowed by law, information contained in a response to a request for information shall be considered confidential until a formal procurement process is concluded or for two (2) years, whichever occurs first. This RFI and responses to the RFI are subject to the Arizona Public Records law and as such, are open to public inspection after this time.
- 6.2 Please do not submit anything considered "proprietary" or "confidential".
- 6.3 Information received by AHCCCS becomes the property of AHCCCS and will not be returned to the sender.

7. REIMBURSEMENT:

AHCCCS will not reimburse any respondent for the cost of preparing and submitting a response to the RFI or for travel costs associated with presenting the demo.

8. DISCLAIMER/NO AWARD OF CONTRACT:

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ATTACHMENT A: Respondent's Contact Information

Company Name
Address
Federal Employer ID Number

For Clarification of this Response Contact:

Name
Title
Phone
Email

Signature of Authorized Person
Name
Title
Date

End of Document