

EXHIBIT C

DSHS ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Note: It is not required that the respondent return the DSHS Assurances and Certifications with the application. Some of these Assurances and Certifications may not be applicable to your project. If you have questions, contact the contact person named in this RFA. These assurances and certifications will remain in effect throughout the project period of this solicitation and the term of any contract between respondent and DSHS.

As the duly authorized representative of the respondent, my signature on FORM A: FACE PAGE certifies that the respondent:

1. Is a legal entity legally authorized and in good standing to do business with the State of Texas and has the legal authority to apply for state/federal assistance, and has the institutional, managerial and financial capability and systems (including funds sufficient to pay the non-state/federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application; possesses legal authority to apply for funding; that a resolution, motion or similar action has been duly adopted or passed as an official act of the respondent's governing body, authorizing the filing of the application including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directing and authorizing the person identified as the authorized representative of the respondent to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required;
2. Under Government Code Section 2155.004, is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is incorrect. NOTE: Under Government Code Section 2155.004, a respondent is ineligible to receive an award under this RFA if the bid includes financial participation with the respondent by a person who received compensation from DSHS to participate in preparing the specification of RFA on which the bid is based;
3. Has a financial system that identifies the source and application of DSHS funds and program income in a unique set of general ledger account numbers, permits preparation of reports required by the contract, permits the tracing of funds expended and program income, allows for the comparison of actual expenditures to budgeted amounts, and maintains accounting records that are supported by verifiable source documents;
4. Will give (and any parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, if such a relationship exists, will give) DSHS, HHSC Office of Inspector General, the Texas State Auditor, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the federal government, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives;
5. Will not supplant funds (i.e. use funds from a contract awarded as a result of this RFA to replace or substitute existing funding from other sources that also supports the activities that are the subject of the contract), but rather will use funds from the contract to supplement any existing funds

currently available for any such activities;

6. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain;
7. Will ensure that no officer, employee, or member of the respondent's governing body or of the respondent's contractor will vote or confirm the employment of any person related within the second degree of affinity or the third degree of consanguinity (as defined in Texas Government Code Chapter 573) to any member of the governing body or to any other officer or employee authorized to employ or supervise such person. This prohibition does not prohibit the continued employment of a person who has been continuously employed for a period of two years, or such other period stipulated by local law, prior to the election or appointment of the officer, employee, or governing body member related to such person in the prohibited degree;
8. Has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give, at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, present or future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to any employee or official of DSHS or HHSC, in connection with this solicitation or procurement; does not have nor will it knowingly acquire any interest that would conflict in any manner with the performance of its obligations under any awarded contract that results from this RFA;
9. Will honor for 90 days after the award date the technical and business terms contained in the application;
10. Will initiate the work after receipt of a fully executed contract and will complete it within the contract period;
11. Will not require a client with limited English proficiency to provide or pay for the services of a translator or interpreter;
12. Will identify and document on client records the primary language/dialect of a client who has limited English proficiency and the need for translation or interpretation services;
13. Will make every effort to avoid use of any persons under the age of 18 or any family member or friend of a client as an interpreter for essential communications with clients who have limited English proficiency. However, a family member or friend may be used as an interpreter if this is requested by the client and the use of such a person would not compromise the effectiveness of services or violates the client's confidentiality, and the client is advised that a free interpreter is available;
14. Will comply with the Uniform Grant Management Act (UGMA), Texas Government Code, Chapter 783, as amended, and the current Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS), issued by the Governor's Budget and Planning Office, applicable Office of Management and Budget Federal Circulars, and if applicable the Federal awarding agency Common Rule and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Grants Policy Statements, which apply as terms and conditions of any resulting contract. A copy of the UGMS manual and federal references are available upon request;
15. Will remain current in its payment of franchise tax or is exempt from payment of franchise taxes, if applicable;

16. Will comply, if applicable, with Texas Family Code, § 231.006, regarding Child Support, and certifies that it is not ineligible to receive payment if awarded a contract, and acknowledges that any resulting contract may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate;
17. Will comply with the non-discriminatory requirements of Texas Labor Code, Chapter 21, which requires that certain employers not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, religion, sex, national origin, or age;
18. Will not charge a fee or profit. A profit and/or fee are considered to be an amount in excess of actual allowable costs that are incurred in conducting an assistance program;
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other state/federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program;
20. As the prospective participant, and any of the prospective participant's principals (collectively, participants):
 - A. are not presently disqualified, debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency; in accordance with 2CFR Parts 376 and 180 (parts A-I), and 45 CFR Part 76 (or comparable federal regulation);
 - B. have not within a 3-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a private or public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a private or public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes (including those proscribing price fixing between competitors, allocation of customers between competitors and bid rigging) or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements or false claims, tax evasion, obstruction of justice, –receiving stolen property or any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that seriously and directly affects the participant's present responsibility;
 - C. are not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (B) of this certification;
 - D. have not within a 3-year period preceding this application/application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default; and
 - E. has not (nor has its representative nor any person acting for the representative) (1) violated the antitrust laws codified by Chapter 15, Texas Business & Commercial Code , or the federal antitrust laws; or (2) directly or indirectly communicated the bid to a competitor or other person engaged in the same line of business.

Should the respondent not be able to provide this certification (by signing the FACE PAGE Form), an explanation should be placed after this form in the application response;

The respondent agrees by submitting this application that the respondent will include, without modification, the certifications in subparagraphs A through E of this paragraph in all lower tier covered transactions (i.e., transactions with subgrantees and/or contractors) and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions;

21. Will comply with Title 31, USC §1352, entitled "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain federal contracting and financial transactions," which generally prohibits recipients of federal grants and cooperative agreements from using federal (appropriated) funds for

lobbying the executive or legislative branches of the federal government in connection with a SPECIFIC grant or cooperative agreement. Section 1352 also requires that each person who requests or receives a federal grant or cooperative agreement must disclose lobbying undertaken with non-federal (non-appropriated) funds. These requirements apply to grants and cooperative agreements EXCEEDING \$100,000 in total costs (45 CFR Part 93):

- A. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
- B. If any funds other than federally-appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agent, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the respondent must complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," (SF-LLL) in accordance with its instructions. SF-LLL and continuation sheet are available upon request from the Department of State Health Services; and
- C. The language of this certification must be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients must certify and disclose accordingly;

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 USC §1352. Any person who fails to file the required certification must be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure;

- 22. Is in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service on any debt owed;
- 23. Affirms that no person who has an ownership or controlling interest in the organization or who is an agent or managing employee of the organization has been placed on community supervision, received deferred adjudication or been convicted of a criminal offense related to any financial matter, federal or state program or felony sex crime;
- 24. Is in good standing with all state and/or federal departments or agencies that have a contracting relationship with the respondent;
- 25. Will comply with all statutes and standards of general applicability. It is Respondent's responsibility to review and comply with all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, executive orders and policies. Respondent will carry out the terms of this Contract in a manner that is in compliance with the provisions set forth below. To the extent such provisions are applicable to respondent, respondent will comply with the following:
 - a) The following statutes, rules, regulations and DSHS policies, and any of their subsequent amendments that collectively prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, sex, sexual orientation (where applicable), disabilities, age, substance abuse, political belief, or religion: 1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 2000d et seq.; 2) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C.A. §§ 1681-1683, and 1685-1686; 3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C.A. § 794(a); 4) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C.A.

§§ 12101 et seq.; 5) Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 6101-6107; 6) Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970, 42 U.S.C.A. § 290dd (b)(1); 7) 45 CFR Parts 80, 84, 86 and 91 or CFR Part 15; 8) Tex. Lab. Code, ch. 21; 9) Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 USC §200 et seq); 10) US Department of Labor, Equal Opportunity E.O. 11246, as amended and supplemented; 11) Executive Order 13279 and 45 CFR Part 87 or 7 CFR Part 16 (regarding equal treatment and opportunity for religious organizations; 12) DSHS Policy AA-5018, Non-discrimination Policies and Procedures for DSHS Programs; and 13) any other nondiscrimination provision in specific statutes under which application for federal or state assistance is being made, which prohibits exclusion from or limitation of participation in programs, benefits, or activities, or denial of any aid, care, service or other benefit;

b) Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972, 21 U.S.C.A. §§ 1101 et seq., relating to drug abuse;

c) Public Health Service Act of 1912, §§ 523 and 527, 42 U.S.C.A. § 290dd-2, and 42 C.F.R. pt. 2, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records;

d) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 3601 et seq., relating to nondiscrimination in housing;

e) Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, 8 U.S.C.A. § 1324a, regarding employment verification;

f) Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C.A. §§ 6081-6084, regarding the non-use of all tobacco products;

g) National Research Service Award Act of 1971, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 289a-1 et seq., and 6601 (P.L. 93-348 and P.L. 103-43), as amended, regarding human subjects involved in research;

h) Hatch Political Activity Act, 5 U.S.C.A. §§ 7321-26, which limits the political activity of employees whose employment, is funded with federal funds;

i) Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C.A. §§ 201 et seq., and the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 4701 et seq., as applicable, concerning minimum wage and maximum hours;

j) Tex. Gov't Code ch. 469 (Supp. 2004), pertaining to eliminating architectural barriers for persons with disabilities;

k) Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Tex. Labor Code, chs. 401-406 28 Tex. Admin. Code pt. 2, regarding compensation for employees' injuries;

l) The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, 42 USC § 263a, regarding the regulation and certification of clinical laboratories;

m) The Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regulations on Blood Borne Pathogens, 29 CFR § 1910.1030, or Title 25 Tex. Admin Code ch. 96 regarding safety standards for handling blood borne pathogens;

n) Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, 7 USC §§ 2131 et seq., pertaining to the treatment of laboratory animals;

o) Environmental standards pursuant to the following: 1) Institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 USC §§ 4321-4347 and Executive Order 11514 (35 Fed. Reg. 4247), “Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality;” 2) Notification of violating facilities pursuant to Executive Order 11738 (40 CFR Part 32), “Providing for Administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to Federal Contracts, Grants, or Loans;” 3) Protection of wetlands pursuant to Executive Order 11990, 42 Fed. Reg. 26961; 4) Evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with Executive Order 11988, 42 Fed. Reg. 26951 and, if applicable, flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234); 5) Assurance of project consistency with the approved State Management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, 16 USC §§ 1451 et seq; 6) Conformity of federal actions to state clean air implementation plans under the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended, 42 USC §§ 7401 et seq.; 7) Protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, 42 USC §§ 300f-300j; 8) Protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 USC §§ 1531 et seq.; 9) Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 USC §1251 et seq.; 10) Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1271 et seq.) related to protecting certain rivers system; and 11) Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4801 et seq.) prohibiting the use of lead-based paint in residential construction or rehabilitation;

p) Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 USC §§4278-4763 regarding personnel merit systems for programs specified in Appendix A of the federal Office of Program Management’s Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. Part 900, Subpart F);

q) Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646), relating to fair treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs;

r) Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. § 276c and 18 U.S.C. § 874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction sub-agreements;

s) Assist DSHS in complying the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, §106 (16 U.S.C. § 470), Executive Order 11593, and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§ 469a-1 et seq.) regarding historic property;

t) Financial and compliance audits in accordance with Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, “Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations;” and

u) Requirements of any other applicable state and federal statutes, executive orders, regulations, rules, and policies.

If this contract is funded by a grant, additional state or federal requirements found in the Notice of Grant Award may be imposed on respondent;

26. Under §§2155.006 and 2261.053, Government Code, is not ineligible to receive a contract under this RFA and acknowledges that any contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate. Sections 2155.006 and 2261.053 relate to violations of federal law in

connection with a contract awarded by the federal government for relief, recovery or reconstruction efforts as a result of Hurricanes Rita or Katrina or certain other disasters;

27. Affirms that the statements in these assurances and certifications are true, accurate, and complete (to the best of respondent's and its authorized representative's knowledge and belief), and agrees to comply with the DSHS terms and conditions if an award is issued as a result of this application. Willful provision of false information is a criminal offense. Any person making any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement may, in addition to other remedies available, be subject to civil penalties.