

Qualified Health Plan Survey

2015 ENROLLEE SATISFACTION SURVEY VENDOR PARTICIPATION FORM

A survey vendor must meet all of the Minimum Business Requirements in order to apply to administer the Qualified Health Plan (QHP) Survey on behalf of QHP issuers.

This Participation Form is to be completed by organizations requesting approval to administer the 2015 QHP Survey on behalf of QHP issuers. Approval into the 2015 survey vendor program is contingent on successful completion of 2015 Survey Vendor Training (scheduled for Month, Day, Year).

ALL SURVEY VENDOR APPLICATIONS AND MATERIALS ARE DUE BY: [due date]

PARTICIPATION STATUS	DATE SUBMITTED
<input type="checkbox"/> New Participation Form	
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal of Participation Denial	

I. General Information

This section is to be completed with general information for participation.

1. Organization Name	
2. Organization Mailing Address	
3. Telephone Number	
4. Website	
5. Number of Years in Business (Date Company Founded)	
6. Number of Years Conducting Surveys	
7. Primary Contact Person (First, Middle, Last Name; Title; Degree)	
8. Primary Contact Mailing Address	
9. Primary Contact Telephone Number	
10. Primary Contact E-mail Address	

II. QHP Survey Minimum Business Requirements

Survey vendors must meet the following *Minimum Business Requirements*. Please check “Yes” or “No” for each item below to indicate that the organization has read and meets the following *Minimum Business Requirements*.

1. Relevant Survey Experience

Number of Years in Business	
Survey vendor has been in business for a minimum of three years.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Survey Experience	
Survey vendor has conducted large scale patient experience surveys using mixed mode (mail with telephone follow-up) survey administration for a minimum of two years.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has prior experience administering patient experience surveys for vulnerable populations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has prior experience submitting patient experience survey data to an external third-party organization.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has prior experience employing a statistical sampling process in the conduct of previously or currently conducted surveys.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

List the five most recent standardized health care patient experience surveys conducted as an organization:

Survey	Average Sample Size Per Data Collection Period	Data Collection Period Start and End Dates	Number of Contracted Clients	Mode of Survey Administration Mixed Mode, Mail Only, Telephone Only	Survey Language(s)	Number of Years Administering Survey

Experience with Survey Administration in Multiple Languages	
Survey vendor has prior experience administering mail and telephone surveys in Spanish.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>Optional:</p> <p>Survey vendor(s) will have the option of conducting the 2015 survey in Chinese (Mandarin) and should have prior experience with Chinese language survey administration if choosing to administer Chinese language surveys.</p> <p>Survey vendor has prior experience administering mail and telephone surveys in Chinese (Mandarin).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Explanation

Please explain any “No” responses to the above relevant survey experience requirements. Indicate the requirement(s) to which your explanation applies:

2. Organizational Survey Capacity

Capacity to Handle Estimated Workload	
Survey vendor has sufficient physical and personnel resources to administer large-scale outgoing and incoming mail surveys and perform computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) system telephone interviews during the survey fielding time period (estimated first quarter of calendar year). Survey vendor must adhere to requirements specified in <i>Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Personnel	
Survey vendor has a designated Project Manager overseeing all survey operations with at least two years of experience in overseeing all functional aspects of survey operations including mail, telephone, data file preparation and data security. Strong background in survey research and methodology and previous experience using specified modes of administration, as evidenced by CV. Experience with another organization does not qualify as meeting minimum requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has designated Sampling Manager, who is directly employed by survey vendor, with sample frame development and sample selection experience.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has designated Telephone Survey Supervisor with previous experience managing national scale telephone interviewing projects.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has designated Mail Supervisor has previous experience managing large-scale mail survey projects.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has designated Information System staff responsible for data submission (programmer) who are directly employed by survey vendor (i.e., not a subcontractor) and has previous experience preparing and submitting data files in XML format to external third-party organization within the past two years.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has appropriate, in terms of sufficiency and experience, organizational back-up staff for coverage of key staff.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

System Resources	
Survey vendor and its designated subcontractors (if applicable), conducts business operations from a commercial physical plant, which is owned or leased by the organization.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will conduct all survey-related work, including telephone interviewing, at the survey vendor's or approved subcontractor's official commercial business location. Telephone interviews will not be conducted from an interviewer's residence and incoming paper surveys will not be removed from a survey vendor's, or their designated subcontractor's, official business location.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has the capacity for reproducing and mailing questionnaires, cover letters and postcards in-house or in accordance with requirements outlined in "Approved Use of Subcontractors."	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has capacity for programming electronic telephone interviewing systems in accordance with specifications provided and conducting telephone interviews using a CATI system in-house or in accordance with requirements outlined in "Approved Use of Subcontractors."	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Survey vendor has capacity to handle concurrent survey projects while maintaining high quality survey data and high response rates.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will prepare for and accommodate on-site visits from CMS or CMS-contractor personnel for quality oversight purposes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will track fielded surveys using an electronic survey management system through each stage of the protocol through the use of a unique individual identifier ID and interim disposition codes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will provide regular progress reports to client QHP issuers, within guidelines specified by CMS.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will provide a secure work environment for receiving, processing and storing hardcopy and electronic versions of questionnaires and sample files that protects the confidentiality of survey response data and personal identifying information.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has experience preparing and submitting data via secure methods (HIPAA compliant).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will comply with all quality oversight requirements described in the <i>Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications</i> , including submitting sample mail materials for review prior to mass production.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will comply with all requirements described in the <i>Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications</i> , including submitting telephone script and screen shots for review prior to initiation of telephone interviewing and monitoring at least 10 percent of all telephone interviews conducted by survey vendor or telephone subcontractor interviewers.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will provide written evidence of their survey administration processes for collecting and accurately processing survey data through all phases of survey administration in a Quality Assurance Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has prior experience identifying and contacting non-respondents for follow-up.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will adhere to survey administration timeline.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has experience using commercial software/resources to ensure that addresses and telephone numbers are updated and correct for all sampled enrollees.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Sampling Experience	
Survey vendor has consistent experience in the two most recent years selecting a sample based on specific eligibility criteria. Must document statistical approach to drawing a sample. Must demonstrate ability to work with individual QHPs to electronically obtain sample frame for sampling.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Data Submission	
Survey vendor has the capability to scan or key enter data according to standard protocols.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will follow all data cleaning and submission rules as specified in the <i>Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications</i> , including verifying data are de-identified and contain no duplicate cases.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has the capability to submit data electronically in specified format. Data files may require encryption for transmission in accordance with required specifications (HIPAA compliant).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will execute business associate agreements with QHPs and receive annual authorization from QHPs to collect data on their behalf and submit to CMS.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will work with the Project Team to resolve data and data file submission problems.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Data Security	
Survey vendor will store returned paper questionnaires (if required) in a secure and environmentally safe location, either onsite or using an offsite contractor, and has established electronic security procedures related to access levels, passwords and firewalls.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor will perform data back-up and offsite redundancy procedures that adequately safeguard system data.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey vendor has established procedures for identifying and reporting breaches of confidential data.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Data Retention

Survey vendor will retain all data files for a minimum of three years.

Yes No

Confidentiality

Survey vendor will store data files (paper or electronic) securely and confidentially in accordance with specified requirements. Survey vendor must ensure confidentiality of sampled individuals is protected during each phase of the survey process. Survey vendor must obtain signed confidentiality agreements from staff and subcontractors.

Yes No

Technical Assistance/Customer Support

Survey vendor has the capacity to establish either in-house, or in accordance with requirements outlined in "Approved Use of Subcontractors," toll-free customer support telephone lines with a live operator during regular business hours to accommodate both Spanish and English inquiries starting at the beginning of the survey fielding period and continuing through the duration of survey fielding. If administering the survey in Chinese (Mandarin), accommodate telephone inquiries from Chinese-speaking survey participants.

Yes No

Explanation

Please explain any “No” responses to the above relevant survey experience requirements. Indicate the requirement(s) to which your explanation applies:

3. Quality Control Procedures

Demonstrated Quality Control Procedures	
Survey vendor has the capacity to establish and document quality control procedures for all phases of survey implementation: internal staff training; printing, mailing and recording receipt of surveys; telephone administration of survey (electronic telephone interviewing system); scanning, coding, and cleaning of survey data; preparing final data files for submission; and all other functions and processes that affect the administration of the survey as specified in the <i>Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Explanation

Please explain any “No” responses to the above relevant survey experience requirements. Indicate the requirement(s) to which your explanation applies:

III. List of Key Project Staff

Name	Role	Number of Years with Organization	E-mail	Telephone
1.				
2.				
3.				

4.				
5.				

IV. Subcontractors

Check here if you do not plan to use subcontractors for the QHP survey administration.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Subcontractor Name(s) and Experience

1. Organization Name	
2. Mailing Address	
3. Telephone Number	
4. Number of Years in Business	
5. Number of Years Subcontractor Has Worked with Your Organization	
6. Survey Administration Role	
7. Experience Related to Survey Administration Role, including names of projects on which subcontractor has contributed.	

1. Organization Name	
2. Mailing Address	
3. Telephone Number	
4. Number of Years in Business	
5. Number of Years Subcontractor Has Worked with Your Organization	
6. Survey Administration Role	
7. Experience Related to Survey Administration Role, including names of projects on which subcontractor has contributed.	

1. Organization Name	
2. Mailing Address	
3. Telephone Number	
4. Number of Years in Business	
5. Number of Years Subcontractor Has Worked with Your Organization	
6. Survey Administration Role	
7. Experience Related to Survey Administration Role, including names of projects on which subcontractor has contributed.	

1. Organization Name	
2. Mailing Address	
3. Telephone Number	
4. Number of Years in Business	
5. Number of Years Subcontractor Has Worked with Your Organization	
6. Survey Administration Role	
7. Experience Related to Survey Administration Role, including names of projects on which subcontractor has contributed.	

V. Curriculum Vitae (CV) and References

Please submit a CV for all identified key project staff, both the survey vendor and subcontractor(s) along with no more than three references for the survey vendor via the project mailbox at [e-mail address].

VI. Participation Rules

Any survey vendor organization participating in the QHP Survey vendor program must adhere to the following Participation Rules. To be eligible, the organization must:

1. Participate in a teleconference call with the Project Team (as determined by CMS) to discuss relevant survey experience, organizational survey capability and capacity, quality control procedures, and role of subcontractors (if applicable).
2. Submit an interim survey data file to CMS (as determined by CMS).
3. Participate in and successfully complete QHP Survey Vendor Training and all subsequent survey vendor update trainings. At a minimum, the organization's Project Manager, Telephone Survey Supervisor and Sampling Manager must attend training as representatives of the organization. It is strongly recommended that the Project Director and any additional key staff responsible for programming, data coding and file preparation also attend training. All key personnel subcontractor staff must attend survey vendor training.
4. Review and follow the *Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications* and any policy updates.
5. Attest to the accuracy of the organization's data collection (as determined by CMS); following guidelines set forth in the most current version of the *Qualified Health Plan Survey Quality Assurance Guidelines and Technical Specifications*.
6. Develop and submit a survey vendor Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) by due date. In addition, submit materials relevant to the survey administration (as determined by CMS), including mailing materials (e.g., cover letters and questionnaires) and telephone scripts.
7. Participate and cooperate (including subcontractors) in all oversight activities conducted by the Project Team.
8. Within 24 months of receiving its approved survey vendor status, survey vendor must successfully field the QHP Survey for at least one client.
9. Submit data on time according to CMS-specified deadlines. No late submissions will be allowed.
10. Acknowledge that CMS may, at its sole discretion, terminate, discontinue or not renew the "approved" status of a survey vendor.
11. Acknowledge that review of, and agreement with, the Rules of Participation is necessary for participation.

VII. Applicant Organization Qualification and Acceptance

<p>I certify that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I have reviewed and agree to meet the Rules of Participation for participating in the QHP Survey.• The statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and I accept the obligation to comply with the Minimum Business Requirements.	<p><u>Authorized Representative</u></p> <p>Name: Title: Organization: Date:</p>
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For assistance, please contact the Project Team by telephone at [phone number] or e-mail at [e-mail address].