

Competitive Bidding “Bid Window” Closes; Providers Encouraged to Continue Seeking Support for H.R. 3790

CMS officially closed the doors on the round one rebid process Monday at 9 p.m. EST. VGM analysts Mark Higley and Alan Morris fielded more than 100 calls from bidders throughout the day, including dozens of after-hour calls during an “On Call” session lasting right up until the 11:59 P.M. hard copy document postmark deadline.

“The unfortunate reality is that bidders were still working hard right up to the last minutes of the bid window. Some waited too long to get started, but most called because they were second-guessing the regulations of the program. Providers are worried that the evaluation process will be botched just as badly this time as it was last, and they don’t want to give CBIC any opportunity to disqualify their bids,” said Alan Morris, regulatory analyst for VGM Group, Inc. “Mark and I stayed busy throughout the evening. We helped several bidders finish the process, and clarified issues surrounding last-second concerns for others.”

Several providers have reported issues with DBidS (DMEPOS Bidding System) during the last few weeks, causing them to scramble at the last second to get their bids in. Others just wanted reassurance that they had fully completed the process.

Bidding entities were required, at minimum, to complete two things prior to last night’s deadline. They must have submitted their hard copy documents to CBIC and they must have completed Forms A and B on DBidS. The hard copy packet was to include the balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flow, tax return extract, and credit report, with the possible inclusion of network agreements, network certification statements, subcontractor letters of intent, corporate integrity agreements and settlement agreements, and expansion plan supporting documents. DBidS required the completion of Form A, and online application, and Form B, a bid sheet to be completed for each product category and competitive bidding area.

The last few weeks have been quite hectic, but now providers can again focus their energy on seeking support for [H.R. 3790](#), bi-partisan and budget neutral legislation to repeal competitive bidding. VGM strongly encourages providers to [view the call instructions](#) and ask their representative to co-sponsor the bill.

For more information about competitive bidding or H.R. 3790, contact VGM Government Relations at (800) 642-6065.