



ALASKA RAILROAD CORPORATION
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January 31, 2025

Addendum 1

Request for Proposals # 25-02-212877

Benefits Consulting Services

This addendum is issued to answer questions. The closing date for this RFP **has not** changed.

Questions & Answers

1. Why is ARRC soliciting for benefits consulting services?
ARRC is soliciting for this service as its current contract is expiring June 2025. Additionally, ARRC would like to stay current with the market and continually improve health care benefits for its employees.
 - a. What are you getting from the current consultant that you value and like?
ARRC is unable to provide a response to this specific question due to confidentiality restrictions.
 - b. What are you not getting from the current consultant that you would like to have?
ARRC is unable to provide a response to this specific question due to confidentiality restrictions.
2. What does ARRC currently think is going well for the company and the health plans?
ARRC is not able to provide a response to this specific question due to confidentiality restrictions.
3. What are the top five challenges ARRC faces at this time?
Please refer to the ARRC's latest annual report from 2023. You can find this report on ARRC's Leadership>Reports webpage or by following this link:
https://www.alaskarailroad.com/sites/default/files/Communications/Alaska_Railroad_Annual_Report2023Web.pdf
Pages 4 through 9 of this report covers ARRC's challenges with safety/railroad operations, modernization efforts, inflation, and a tight labor market.

4. How does ARRC prefer fees are paid to the contracted firm?
ARRC prefers to pay monthly. Please also see page 20, VIII “Cost Proposal” section within the Evaluation Criteria (Section D) of the solicitation.
5. What is the ARRC’s plan year (when are renewals and budgets set)? Is that different from the fiscal year?
The plan year is a calendar year from January to December. The ARRC fiscal year is the same. Budgeting activities typically begin in August each year.
6. Is ARRC’s medical plan grandfathered?
ARRC has one grandfathered medical plan available to a closed group of Retirees.
7. How frequently does ARRC update the Summary Plan Descriptions (SPDs)? Are amendments created when there are plan changes? If so, how often would ARRC expect a full restatement of the SPD?
Plan documents are reviewed on an annual basis and updated when there are material changes. However, please note, ARRC is not on an ERISA plan, as written on page 4 of the solicitation.
8. Would ARRC share its last 24 months of claim data?
ARRC cannot disclose this information at this time.
9. Please clarify the page limit for proposals?
ARRC will accept a proposal of up to 30 pages. Please follow the “Proposal Format” instructions on page 12 of the solicitation. This information is found in PROPOSAL INFORMATION, CONDITIONS & INSTRUCTIONS (Section B).

Please direct all responses and/or questions concerning this solicitation and addenda directly to:

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