

State of Vermont

Department of Vermont Health Access

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Agency of Human Services

TO: Vermont General Assembly,
House Committee on Appropriations
House Committee on Health Care
Senate Committee on Appropriations

FROM: Stephanie Barret, Chief Financial Officer
Department of Vermont Health Access

DATE: January 30, 2025

SUBJECT: Clarification on PBM Procurement Funding

Vermont/DVHA and several other states have collaborated with the National Association of State Procurement Officers (NASPO). An RFP was issued in early 2024 and proposals from vendors were received in May 2024. Evaluations and scoring have been completed and are in the process of being finalized. Vermont's pharmacy team has been intensely involved in this process. The funding for DVHA in the BAA is for additional assistance from ADS/Enterprise Project Management Office for a Business Analyst to trace the functionalities listed in the NASPO process back to Vermont's specific needs/requirements. The final award and execution of master agreements is expected to be executed this spring.

DVHA has authority to continue the current contract with PBM ChangeHealthcare/Optum through December 2027 under Bulletin 3.5 waiver. We are utilizing the NASPO process to reprocore the service in anticipation of that date unless technical alignment and transition require additional extension of the current contract. The new procurement may result in a new vendor for these services.

A portion of funding in the BAA is anticipated to carryforward for continued technical assistance in this operational transition.

A second RFP for a supplemental rebate vendor will be issued this spring.

