



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

**RFQQ #19-100**

*Independent Expenditure Review*

**AMENDMENT NO. TWO (2)**

**OFM RESPONSES TO BIDDER QUESTIONS**

**09.03.2019**

**OFM Answers to Bidders' Questions**

This OFM Answer to Bidders' Questions may only explain or clarify some aspect that is already addressed in the Solicitation. However, some of the answers may also supplement or change what was previously stated in the Solicitation or in an exhibit.

*Therefore, it is important that bidders review all questions and answers, and not just those which they may have submitted.*

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## **Bidder Questions & Answers**

***Question 1: Who are the payments going to for the “private rental housing payments”? Is the state working with NFP or other commercial entities that are helping to house the homeless, or are they paying private landlords directly?***

**ANSWER:** The state (Commerce) provides funding to counties and other entities that may be used for rent, 45% of which must be set aside for rental units in the private market. As of last year, per HB 1570 (2018) “private rental housing” also includes housing owned by non-profit entities.

***Question 2: What’s the population of payments out of the fund (number of payments for the biennium period)?***

**ANSWER:** We don’t have a precise count. Commerce has about 40 contracts relevant to the audit, primarily with county governments. Under those contracts are subcontracts with hundreds of housing providers. The housing providers make ten of thousands of rent payments, and in most cases the landlord receiving payments is unique to each tenant being subsidized.

***Question 3: How many providers are receiving payments?***

**ANSWER:** See above.

***Question 4: Who is performing eligibility assessments for both the private rental housing payments and for the housing grant program? Where are the supporting documents retained (Olympia versus at the provider sites)?***

**ANSWER:** The Department of Commerce determines eligibility for the consolidated homeless grant program. The County, or awardee, is responsible for ensuring that 45% of funds awarded are set aside for private market rental housing, and documents compliance with this requirement. Grantees three layers down from Commerce maintain the client files that contain the information on who was paid (private or public).

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