



April 7, 2024

Adam Steen, Director
Iowa Department of Administrative Services
Hoover Building, 3rd Floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Director Steen:

The Iowa Department of Administrative Services (DAS) – Human Resources Enterprise (HRE) is requesting a waiver under DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.16 (8A) of the application of DAS Administrative Rule 11-118.11 (3) concerning the duration of service contracts. The latter rule states “A service contract should be competitively selected on a regular basis so that a state agency obtains the best value for the funds spent; avoids inefficiencies, waste or duplication; and may take advantage of new innovations, ideas and technology. A service contract, including all optional renewals, shall not exceed a term of six (6) years; however, information technology service contracts entered into by the department or office of chief information officer may have a term length not to exceed ten (10) years. Service contracts shall not exceed the term lengths set forth herein unless the state agency obtains a waiver of this provision pursuant to rule 11-118.16 (8A).” DAS Human Resources Enterprise requests a waiver with respect to the following agreement:

Master Agreement number 18261 between Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa and the Iowa Department of Administrative Services (HRE) was extended on August 18, 2018 and will expire on December 31, 2024.

DAS Central Procurement posted an RFP1118005067 on February 14, 2018 for Third Party Administration of Medical and Pharmacy Insurance Plans. Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa was awarded the new contract on January 1, 2019. DAS Central Procurement is currently working with DAS-HRE to Issue a Medical RFP and we would request an additional 12 months.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request for waiver.

Respectfully submitted: 

Date: 4-8-2024

Approved based on the justification provided:

Approval: 

Date: 4-8-24