



Department of
Administrative Services

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR
CHRIS COURNOYER, LT. GOVERNOR

MARK CAMPBELL, DIRECTOR

December 16, 2025

Mark Campbell, Director
Iowa Department of Administrative Services
Hoover Building, 3rd Floor
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Director Campbell:

The Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise (“DAS-HRE”) is requesting a waiver under Iowa Admin. Code r. 11—118.16 of the application of Iowa Admin. Code r. 11—118.11(3) concerning the duration of services contracts.

The latter rule states “A service contract, including all optional renewals, shall not exceed a term of six 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 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).”

The initial term of Master Agreement 18261 for Third Party Administration of Medical and Pharmacy Benefits Plans between the Iowa Department of Administrative Services and Wellmark, Inc. & Wellmark Health Plan of Iowa, Inc. (collectively “Wellmark”) was for two (2) year(s) beginning on January 1, 2019, and expiring on December 31, 2020. This contract was renewed multiple times, and as a result of renewals and a prior waiver, was extended for a total of additional five (5) years through December 31, 2025.

DAS – Central Procurement (“DAS-CP”) posted 005-RFP-1326-2025 on November 21, 2024 for Third Party Administration of Medical and Pharmacy Insurance Plan (“TPA”), and 005-RFP-1908-2025 on June 16, 2025 for Pharmacy Benefit Manager services (“PBM”). Wellmark was awarded the TPA contract on March 21, 2025, and Wellmark was awarded the PBM contract on August 21, 2025. DAS-CP is currently negotiating a consolidated agreement with Wellmark for the services contemplated under both RFPs; however, negotiations are ongoing and may continue into early 2026.

At this time, DAS-HRE is requesting a waiver for an additional one (1) year extension of the Wellmark MA 18261 – this would result in a total contract period of eight (8) years. This extension will allow DAS-CP to complete negotiations of the new contract for TPA and PBM services, and negotiations will be completed as swiftly as possible – please note that when entered, the new agreement will supersede MA 18261. This extension of MA 18261 will prevent a lapse in critical services to State of Iowa employees and their dependents.

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

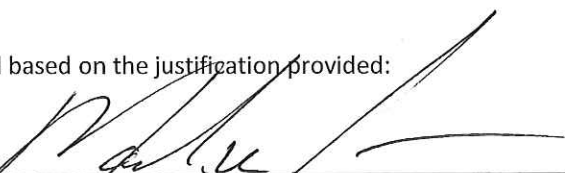
Respectfully submitted:


Erin Reinders, DAS-HRE

Date: 12.16.2025

Approved based on the justification provided:

Approval:



Date: 12/17/25