# State of Delaware

2023 Request for Proposal Updates

State Employee Benefits Committee

June 12, 2023



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#### Overview

- There are two contracts under the purview of the SEBC that are set to expire on June 30, 2024:
  - Centers of Excellence (COE) administration for non-Medicare GHIP participants
  - Disability Insurance Program (DIP) administration for State and school district and higher education employees
- Requests for proposals (RFP) for each contract will be administered by DHR, with support from WTW
- The following is an update to the SEBC on the background and status of each RFP

# Background on the Centers of Excellence (COE) RFP

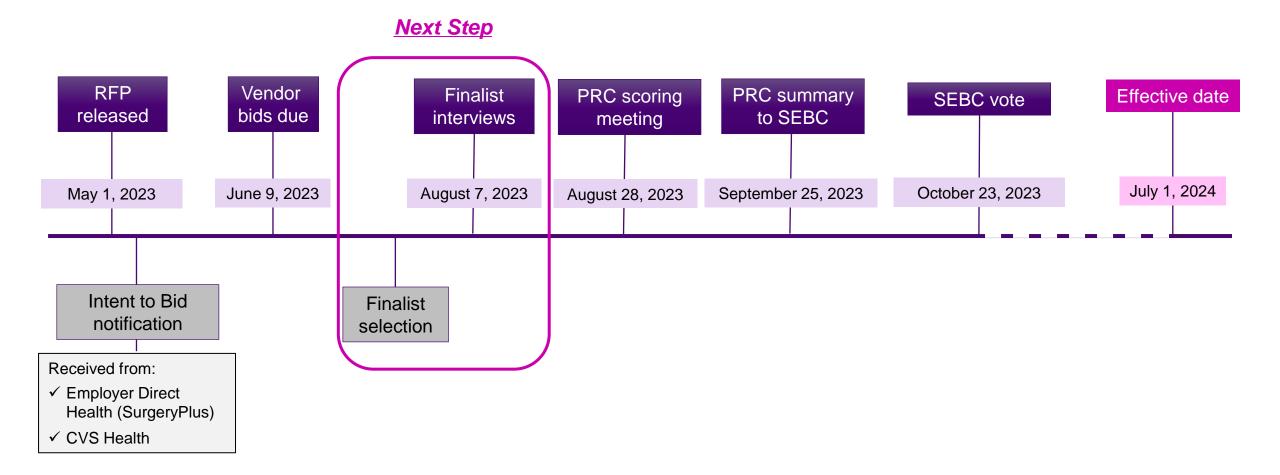
- COEs are medical facilities and professionals that have demonstrated their ability to achieve better health outcomes for medical services at a lower cost than in the surrounding community
- SEBC first implemented the SurgeryPlus program through Employer Direct Healthcare, a third-party administrator of COE services, effective 7/1/2019 (FY20), based on the SEBC's desire to:
  - maintain consistency in the GHIP non-Medicare member experience across all medical plans wherever possible; and
  - promote competition among the providers in Delaware to achieve the best possible pricing on medical services for non-Medicare plan participants as well as the GHIP
- These services are offered as a choice alongside Highmark and Aetna medical networks, with the exception of bariatric surgery which will be only available through a SurgeryPlus COE provider starting 7/1/2023
- Current RFP is the second time that the SEBC has marketed this benefit (initially in 2018)

## **COE RFP** objectives

Identify third-party administrators of COE services that can deliver services that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Reduce total cost of care for the GHIP and plan participants, without sacrificing quality of care delivered
- Facilitate choice of medical providers who deliver high quality care at a lower total cost of care
- Support financial rewards to medical providers who deliver high quality care at a lower total cost
- Build and maintain a stable COE provider network based on quality and cost efficiency across a variety of clinical procedures (e.g., orthopedic, spine, bariatric, cardiac)
- Frequently monitor the quality of providers within the COE network, using publicly available sources of quality and cost efficiency data
- Provide a consistent user experience for GHIP members regardless of medical plan selection
- Collaborate with other GHIP vendor partners (Aetna, Highmark, CVS) to deliver services to plan participants
- Articulate experience with various COE benefit designs, network offerings, claims adjudication, member incentives, care coordination, member education and other aspects of COE benefits administration
- Provide excellent customer service to GHIP participants, including concierge support for accessing COE services, and to the State as the plan sponsor
- Provide competitive financial terms and performance guarantees

### COE RFP timeline





## Background on the Disability Insurance Program (DIP) RFP

- The State of Delaware's Disability Insurance Program (DIP) offers short-term and long-term disability benefits to employees hired into a position covered by the Delaware State Employees' Pension Plan
  - Legislated program based on Title 29, Chapter 52A of the Delaware Code, enacted July 1, 2005
  - Disability benefits are currently offered to nearly 38,000 State employees and 1,245 University of Delaware employees
- The Hartford has been the State's DIP administrator for over 17 years, since January 1, 2006
  - Hartford has customized numerous processes to administer the DIP in accordance with Delaware's legislative requirements
  - Has resulted in the development of manual work-arounds and has prompted the need for greater involvement by the Statewide Benefits Office (SBO), the Pension Office and HR/Benefit Representatives
  - The State has experienced challenges with administering the DIP due to some of these work-around processes and from technology challenges with Hartford's IT platform
- The SEBC has previously marketed the DIP in 2008, 2013 and 2018

#### **DIP RFP objectives**

Identify disability benefits administrators that can deliver services that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Offer state of the art disability administrative services
- Directly impact and reduce the cost of disabilities
- Offer innovative solutions to manage the cost and duration of disabilities
- Modify standard operating processes to meet the unique needs of the State
- Provide excellent customer service to claimants and to the State as the plan sponsor
- Provide timely disability reporting that is customizable for the State and can be pushed to various agencies' human resource offices
- Support other State benefits and initiatives that coordinate with the DIP, including paid parental leave, paid family and medical leave insurance and a pilot "center of excellence" for leave of absence management
- Provide competitive financial terms and performance guarantees

#### **DIP RFP timeline**

<u>Next Step</u>

