

709 - Fiscal 2021 Semi-Annual HUB Report Supplemental Letter

Texas A&M University Health Science Center continues its commitment to good faith efforts in HUB participation of the university's procurement opportunities. This commitment extends from Texas A&M University System Policies 25.06 and 25.06.01 regarding HUB participation by all System members.

In the implementation of this commitment, by mid-year FY21, Texas A&M Health reports the following efforts:

- September, November – Met with representative from Amazon to discuss implementation of search criteria and preferred vendor status for certified HUB vendors;
- November -- Participated Southwest Minority Supplier Development Council (SMSDC) 2020 Premier Face Time as virtual exhibitor
- November – Participated Houston Minority Supplier Development Council as a virtual exhibitor;
- December – Sponsored Chartwells/Thompson Hospitality Food HUB Vendor Zoom Meeting
- February – Attended HUB Talk Series: Looking Ahead; Sponsored by: Statewide HUB Program and Department of Information Resources

As follows is bid data for Texas A&M Health (709) for the period of 9/1/2020 – 2/28/2021: 547 total bids sent; 224 sent to HUBs (41%) with 30 responses (yield rate = 13.4%).

Though Texas A&M Health continues to seek HUB opportunities for its partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), the specialized nature of these purchases seriously limits HUB participation. The BARDA grant is one of the largest research grants in Texas and, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is anticipated that these additional expenditures will have a near-term negative impact on HUB percentages, but result in a huge positive impact on ending this crisis.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R.C. Bounds', written over a horizontal line.

Robert C. Bounds
Director, Procurement Services
Texas A&M University on behalf of
Texas A&M University Health Science Center