

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security appreciates the interest you have shown in the Request for Proposal for the Banking Depository Services (RFP 16-04). In response to questions received by vendors concerning RFP 16-04, we submit the following consolidated questions and answers.

1. What are the current transaction volumes and existing services being used by MDES?

A. Deposits range from \$13 million to \$60 million monthly with an average monthly deposit of \$30 million. Some of the services utilized by MDES include internet banking, ACH alert, and positive pay.

2. What are the current balances and account structure being used by MDES?

A. Due to the proprietary nature of account balances, MDES is unable to disclose that information.

3. Are there any special considerations being used by MDES in their current account structure?

A. No

4. Does MDES plan to send a (sic) x9.37 formatted file to bank or use banks Remote Deposit Express service as an alternative?

A. No. MDES uses the file format layout called NACHA file layout.

5. What type of files will be submitted via FTP submission?

A. MDES uses a flat file with .txt extension via SFTP.

6. Does MDES currently produce its own payroll?

A. No, DFA produces payroll for the agency.

7. Are any ACH services used by MDES?

A. Yes

8. Is there an organization chart MDES can provide for employees involved with Banking Relationships, including names and years of service (sic)?

A. Due to the proprietary nature of employee information, MDES is unable to disclose. If needed, this information can be provided at the time of contracting.

9. Is there an example or more specifics on the USDOL ETA8401 and 8405 report requirements?
 - A. Detailed monthly account analysis of all transactions is required. For USDOL 8401 and 8405, MDES requires an average daily account balance.
10. Please clarify what is mean (sic) on "Contract Requirements #16". (sic) Can further detail be provided on "review checks deposited by specified date"? (sic)
 - A. MDES deposits large volumes at times and wants to ensure deposits are balanced in a timely manner.
11. Is MDES currently collateral pool eligible? Are there any collateral requirements?
 - A. Yes, MDES is included in the State Treasury pool and is subject to the collateral requirements of state funds.
12. Who is your current banking services provider?
 - A. Regions Bank
13. Please provide 1-2 months of bank account analysis statements.
 - A. Due to the proprietary contents of bank analysis statements, MDES prefers not to disseminate that information.
14. Is the MDES receiving an earnings credit from your current bank? If so, can you please share this rate? Is this rate being used to offset bank fees today?
 - A. Yes. MDES is receiving an earnings credit which offsets monthly bank charges.
15. Is the MDES receiving interest on bank account balances today?
 - A. No
16. Is your current bank charging an FDIC or Recoupment fee based on balances held in bank accounts?
 - A. No
17. Please provide name of ERP system or Financial Software being used
 - A. MDES uses the Mississippi Accountability System for Government Information and Collaboration (MAGIC) and the FARS system.

18. How are deposits made today? Deposited at local branch, armored courier taking deposits to cash vault/money center, electronically via Remote Deposit or Image Cash Letter. If using Remote Deposit or Image Cash Letter, please provide name/model of scanner(s) be (sic) used.

A. MDES makes deposits electronically via image cash letter.

19. How are payables handled today? Are paper checks utilized, are ACH payment made for vendors and/or benefit recipients, are prepaid cards used for benefit recipients or other purposes. If so, will this program be included in the new banking services contract? Are E-payables (virtual card) payments used for vendor payments?

A. Payables are handled through the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration. Benefits are paid using card services provided by another contracted vendor procured through another Request for Proposals. In addition, there are ACH and benefit payments made to some vendors on a weekly basis.

20. Is MDES currently using fraud protection such as positive pay and/or ACH Fraud Filter? If not, are you interested in these services?

A. Yes, MDES currently uses fraud protection and ACH Fraud Filter.