

A New State Rate Structure for Rhode Island's Master Pricing Agreement (MPA)

Effective on July 1, 2019

Tier 1 (Traditional)

1. An independent contractor or a sole proprietorship company is eligible for Tier 1
2. For sign language interpreting services, the State Rates based on the credentials and uninterrupted years of interpreting are to be followed.
3. All arrangements for MPA remains the same as what we currently have.
4. The list of state job assignments that are more than 72 hours in advance shall be sent to the Tier 1 contractors list.
5. A communication access providing company approved by the RICDHH can be eligible for Tier 1 only if they match with the lowest MPA state rates.

Tier 2

1. A communication access providing company (remote or on-site) shall be approved by the RICDHH that are in compliance with federal and state laws, best practices standards, and code of professional conducts to be eligible for Tier 2.
2. The communication access providing company must quote their rates.
3. For sign language interpreting services, Tier 2 shall not send an interpreter that has no Rhode Island license in interpreting subject to RI General Laws, 5-71 with some exceptions as defined in RI General Laws, 5-71-15.
4. No state agency shall contact a Tier 2 contractor directly. All state agencies must contact the RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to request for the Tier 2 service. The RICDHH will need to verify that no contractor under Tier 1 is available before making a contact with a Tier 2 contractor.
5. Tier 2 shall deliver service on good faith and not promote its service to any state agencies.
6. The state job assignment is not confirmed until Tier 2 provides a name(s) for the assignment if either consumer or requester requests name(s) be provided.
7. One-time requests will be circulated through Tier 1 until 10 business days prior to service date. Multi-day requests will be circulated through Tier 1 until 15 business days prior to service date. If less than three weeks, notice is given for either one-time or multi-day request then Tier 1 will be given three business days to bid on request before it will be distributed to Tier 2.
8. An exception is considered by the RICDHH on a case by case basis such as a large conference needing multi-number of communication access providers, clients' preference of interpreters, specialized certificates or skills, etc.

Less than 72 hours:

If a request is received less than 72 hours prior to the service date, the state job assignments shall be sent to both lists of Tier 1 and 2.

If an emergency request is made less than 24 hours, the state job assignments shall be sent to both lists of Tier 1 and 2.

1. Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) service is also eligible for Tier 2 for all walk-in services or less than 72 hours requests if consumer is aggregable.
2. CART Remote Service is eligible for Tier 2 for all walk-in services or less than 72 hours request if consumer is aggregable.