

MHBE Board Meeting

September 15, 2025

IT Procurement

AWS Subscription Extension

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Amazon Web Services (AWS) Infrastructure

MHBE currently utilizes AWS Infrastructure for the following:

- HBX Disaster Recovery site
- HBX Lower Environments (10)
- marylandhbe.com
- Maryland Health Connection for Small Business Web Portal
- Broker Connect Application
- LiveAgent Chat
- AI Agent for Call Center
- Internal Wordpress Site (BeeHive)
- Enrollment Dashboard (Tableau)
- Robotic Process Automation (RPA)

AWS Contract Background

License Period:	Two base years from November 1, 2022 – October 31, 2024, and one option year from November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025.
Procurement Method:	Request for Quote (RFQ) through GSA Schedule 70
Awarded Vendor:	A&T Systems, Inc.
Approved Contract:	On September 16, 2024, the Board approved to exercise Option Year 1 (November 2024 to October 2025), to procure Amazon Web Services Subscription from A&T Systems, Inc. and also approved a Not-to-exceed (NTE) Amount of \$1.5 million, with Federal Participation amount of \$990,000 and State Participation amount of \$510,000.

CMS Approval Requirement

45 CFR § 95.611(b)(2)(iii) provides that CMS approval is required for the acquisition solicitation documents and contract, unless specifically exempted by the Department, prior to release of the acquisition solicitation documents or prior to execution of the contract when the contract is anticipated to or will exceed \$500,000.

- **Applicability:** MHBE's AWS contract value exceeds the \$500,000 limit necessitating prior CMS approval for the new contract.
- **Status:** The AWS draft solicitation is currently with MDH review for CMS submission since May 2025, with limited possibility of CMS approval prior to October 31, 2025.
- **Interim Action:** Extend the current AWS contract for **6 months** from November 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026, while seeking approval from CMS for the proposed new solicitation.

NTE Amount for Extension

Product	Function	Federal 66% (\$)	State 34% (\$)	Total (\$)
Amazon Web Services' (AWS) Infrastructure subscription offering hosted on a FedRAMP Certified Infrastructure	AWS Services, which includes but is not limited to, Compute, Storage, Database, Robotics, Customer Enablement, Management & Governance, Analytics, Security, Identity, Compliance, Business Applications and End User Computing	660,000	340,000	1,000,000

Request for Approval

MHBE requests the Board to:

- Approve a 6-month extension from November 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026 of the Amazon Web Services subscription from A&T Systems, Inc to ensure continuous operations of the Exchange systems while CMS approves the new procurement.
- Approve a Not-to-Exceed (NTE) amount of \$1,000,000 for the extension period, with Federal Participation amount of \$660,000 and State Participation amount of \$340,000, pending CMS approval for the contract extension.