Below are the questions received by the Office of the Illinois State Treasurer (“Treasurer”) and the Treasurer’s responses. Any capitalized terms that are not defined herein have the meaning set forth in the Request for Proposals Illinois Secure Choice Market Analysis (370-200-17-005) (“RFP”) published by the Treasurer on behalf of the Illinois Secure Choice Board on July 26, 2016.

1. Will the successful respondent be required to engage external research institutions or survey groups, or will the “Consumption Study and Internal Research” data to be provided by the State sufficiently cover the important assumptions used to conduct the feasibility analysis? Important assumptions would be those associated with determining eligible population (part-time vs. full-time status of workers, population without SSN), participation/contribution/withdrawals (worker turnover rates, default contribution rate, opt-out rates), and costs and revenue (recordkeeping and administrative costs, state resources and appropriation, investment costs).

The consumption study by the University of Chicago Urban Poverty Lab (“Poverty Lab”) and the Treasurer’s internal research will provide the Contractor with information on estimated pool size, estimated fund size, estimated opt-out rates, default contribution rates, and certain demographic features of expected participants, including race, age, gender, wages, and the participant’s Illinois work location by county. The consumption study and internal research will not provide any estimates on the financial burdens/costs of the program on the state or vendor side, or any projections on initial or future revenue. If such information is needed to provide the Services, then the Contractor may need to engage external research institutions or survey groups.

2. Does the 75 basis point fee cap begin immediately or once the plan has reached its break-even point?

The 75 basis point fee cap begins as soon as Secure Choice is launched.

3. Will the Contractor have access to the University of Chicago Urban Lab to ask questions or seek additional information if needed during the course of this study?
The Treasurer will coordinate communications between the Contractor and the Poverty Lab, allowing the Contractor to ask questions and seek clarification on the consumption study. However, the Contractor should not expect the Poverty Lab to answer the questions or conduct additional or follow-up research beyond what will be provided in the consumption study.

4. Is there a deadline for finalizing the report?

The Agreement will have a term of six (6) months. Although the term can be extended, the Treasurer would like all Services to be provided within six (6) months from the effective date of the Agreement.

5. How frequently should the contractor assume it will need to present progress updates to the board or subcommittees?

Pursuant to Section III.B.4 of the RFP, the Contractor shall provide a minimum of two (2) progress updates to the Board, including a presentation on preliminary findings and at least one (1) presentation on the Report to the Board.

6. How many public presentations should the contractor assume will be required to present at?

Secure Choice Board and subcommittee meetings are subject to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., therefore any presentation before the Board or a subcommittee will most likely be public. Pursuant to Section III.B.5 of the RFP, the Contractor shall be asked make a minimum of two (2) public presentations.