

Ortho Locum Q&As

1. Would like to ask for clarification specifically around how your team would classify the Orthopedic Physician Assistant and Nurse Practitioner roles within the framework of wage determination. Would your team please indicate the specific occupation code and title we are to utilize?

Response: Our NPs are GS12s with the locality payment of 15.06%.

A GS12 Steps 1- 5 makes:

	1	2	3	4	5
GS-12	62,722	64,813	66,904	68,995	71,086

With the 15.06%, the hourly rates would be:

	1	2	3	4	5
GS-12	62,722	64,813	66,904	68,995	71,086
	34.70	35.86	37.01	38.17	39.33

So that would make their wage determination like:

12314 - Registered Nurse III	34.88
12315 - Registered Nurse III, Anesthetist	34.88
12316 - Registered Nurse IV	41.79

I also looked at some FSS contracts, of course those are hourly rates that we pay the vendor, not what they pay the provider. PA & NP locums companies are paid between \$77-\$95 an hour.

2. Under section 3.1.3. Off Hours Coverage. Is there a shift differential expected for pay/work during off hours and on call work? Yes ,differential pay

3. Similarly, would the contracting team like us to call out over time pay rates? **Yes**
4. Please confirm that this candidate / employee will be paid holiday pay if not working the holiday. **This is up to you.. they will be off with the government on Holidays and do not provide pay according to the Labor Laws**
5. We don't see that Wage Determination has been addressed. Can you please provide the pertinent wage determination amount? **See response to question #1**
6. Is there an incumbent individual performing the work outlined in the solicitation today? **No**
7. If there is an employee performing this work at this time will the Non-Displacement of Qualified Workers Clause 52.222-17 be in effect for this solicitation? **Not applicable**

8. We are reviewing the details in the solicitation and noticed section 2.1.1 (noted below) and were curious if these were the only state licenses acceptable for this procurement. We have identified candidates for our response, however they are licensed in other states. We normally see that any state license is acceptable for VA's and wanted to reach out for clarification.

Will the VA accept any state license or just the identified states noted in section 2.1.1?

#### 2.1.1

*License – The Contractor's Physician Assistant assigned by the Contractor to perform the services covered by this contract shall be certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants and have prescriptive authority. The Contractor's Nurse Practitioner assigned by the Contractor to perform the services covered by this contract shall have a current license to practice medicine in any of the following States:*

*Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming*

*All licenses held by the personnel working on this contract shall be full and unrestricted licenses. Contractor's provider (s) who have current, full and unrestricted licenses in one or more states, but who have, or ever had, a license restricted, suspended, revoked, voluntarily revoked, voluntarily surrendered pending action or denied upon application will not be considered for the purposes of this contract.*

**This refers to the NPs, not the PAs. The NPs have to be licensed in states with reciprocal agreements with Colorado, PAs do not. It is because states have different scopes of practice for NPs so licenses in every state do not have the same scope of practice. Here is a graphic from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners that helps explain it. Colorado allows full practice so contractor NPs have to be licensed in another state that allows full practice and has a reciprocal agreement with Colorado.**

<https://www.aanp.org/images/documents/state-leg-reg/stateregulatorymap.pdf>

From the SOW:

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Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming.

It is because states have different scopes of practice for NPs so licenses in every state do not have the same scope of practice. Here is a graphic from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners that helps explain it. Colorado allows full practice so our NPs have to be licensed in another state that allows full practice and has a reciprocal agreement with Colorado.

<https://www.aanp.org/images/documents/state-leg-reg/stateregulatorymap.pdf>

9. Can you advise if the above referenced solicitation is for 1 FTE (40 hours per week) or will this coverage be on an as needed basis?

1 FTE 40 hours per week and a backup incase the primary is unable to be there

10. This is base year contract plus 4 option years, but the option years are not listed for the fill in on the schedule.

See attached schedule for option years.