

(2) THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION, AND EACH SCHOOL SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MARYLAND ADOLESCENT SURVEY OR THE YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEY SHALL COOPERATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN ADMINISTERING THE SURVEYS.

(3) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MAY NOT DISCONTINUE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MARYLAND ADOLESCENT SURVEY UNTIL AFTER IT HAS SUBMITTED A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT STATES THE REASON FOR DISCONTINUING THE SURVEY.

(II) IF THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUBMITS A REPORT AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, IT MAY DISCONTINUE THE MARYLAND ADOLESCENT SURVEY IN THE FIRST SCHOOL YEAR THAT BEGINS AFTER THE REPORT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED.

(E) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) THROUGH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTRACT WITH A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION OR PRIVATE ENTITY TO CONDUCT THE BASELINE TOBACCO STUDY.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO SELECT THE ENTITY THAT WILL CONDUCT THE BASELINE TOBACCO STUDY.

(3) THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SHALL REQUIRE THAT ANY METHODOLOGY OR MODEL THAT IS USED BY THE ENTITY TO CONDUCT THE BASELINE TOBACCO STUDY ANY DATA COLLECTED UNDER THE STUDY, AND ANY ELECTRONIC FILES, CODES, AND DEFINITIONS RELATING TO THE STUDY BE PROVIDED TO THE STATE FOR USE IN SUBSEQUENT STUDIES, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE SUBSEQUENT STUDIES ARE CONDUCTED BY THE SAME ENTITY.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTRACT WITH AN ENTITY TO CONDUCT THE BASELINE TOBACCO STUDY AND ONE OR MORE ANNUAL TOBACCO STUDIES AS REQUIRED UNDER § 13-1004 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(5) (I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH AS A GUIDE IN ADMINISTERING THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS FOR THE BASELINE TOBACCO STUDY.

(II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PREFERENCE TO AN ENTITY THAT:

1. IS A MARYLAND-BASED VENDOR;
2. HAS PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE RELATING TO TOBACCO OR HEALTH ACTIVITIES;
3. HAS PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE RELATING TO YOUTH AND ADOLESCENTS;
4. DEMONSTRATES A CAPABILITY FOR INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES AND USE OF STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGIES;