



August 4, 2020

Richard Parsons, Chairman
The Rockefeller Foundation
420 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10018

Rajiv J. Shah, M.D., President
The Rockefeller Foundation
420 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10018

Dear Chairman Parsons:

The States of Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Louisiana, Massachusetts and Virginia as part of our joint effort to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic, are offering this letter of intent (LOI) to express our commitment to a multi-state effort to establish one or more intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreements to align and consolidate common state requirements for rapid testing technology and provide an efficient and transparent platform for ordering needed test machines and associated supplies consistent with the Rockefeller Foundation (Foundation)'s National COVID-19 Testing & Tracing Action Plan.


Our intent is to benefit as many interested states as possible. We plan to work collaboratively with the Foundation, the states signed below, and key associations representing the collective efforts, resources and interests of all states, including the [National Governors Association](#) (NGA), [National Association of State Chief Administrators](#) (NASCA), and the [National Association of State Procurement Officials](#) (NASPO). We plan to leverage all available resources, collective expertise and proven cooperative contracting capabilities to enable a national cooperative agreement for national testing and tracing actions, which all interested states and their political subdivisions may participate in.

This LOI is nonbinding and requires a final contract or agreement signed by the relevant parties in order to be held legally enforceable. The conceptual ways and means by which this effort may be accomplished and how any participating state might benefit from this effort are outlined in the accompanying White Paper, and include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. The ability of other states to join this cooperative effort is subject to the submission of and Notice of Intent to Participate and a Participating Addendum. Further, any final agreement or contract between a vendor and participating state will be subject to that state's standard terms and conditions.
- b. Timing and size of orders will be subject to availability of funding/financing.
- c. Any products offered by qualified vendors will have to meet or exceed the minimum acceptable specifications, to be provided in any procurement solicitation resulting from this LOI or related White Paper.

Our entire nation faces a health crisis the likes of which have not been seen for one hundred years, and we look forward to working with the Foundation and working in concert with other states as we fight together collaboratively against the novel coronavirus.

Sincerely,



Larry Hogan

Governor of Maryland



Gretchen Whitmer

Governor of Michigan



Mike DeWine

Governor of Ohio



John Bel Edwards

Governor of Louisiana



Charlie Baker

Governor of Massachusetts



Ralph Northam

Governor of Virginia