

# STATE OF ALASKA INFORMAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



## **PUBLIC OUTREACH TECHNICAL SUPPORT IRFP 18-335-21**

**ISSUED FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is soliciting proposals from Contractors on behalf of its Division of Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR). The purpose of the contract is to provide public outreach technical support in the form of general assistance to Contaminated Sites Program (CSP) project managers, revision of Site Summaries, development or review/revision of general program fact sheets and updating the CSP website.

---

ISSUED BY:  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY  
MANAGEMENT (OPPM),  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

PRIMARY CONTACT:  
RICK COTTRELL  
PROCUREMENT OFFICER  
[DECDASPROCUREMENT@ALASKA.GOV](mailto:DECDASPROCUREMENT@ALASKA.GOV)

### **OFFERORS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RETURN THIS FORM.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** IF YOU RECEIVED THIS SOLICITATION FROM THE STATE OF ALASKA'S "ONLINE PUBLIC NOTICE" WEB SITE, YOU MUST REGISTER WITH THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER LISTED IN THIS DOCUMENT TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS. FAILURE TO CONTACT THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SECTION 1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION &amp; INSTRUCTIONS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
SEC. 1.01	PURPOSE OF THE IRFP.....	4
SEC. 1.02	BUDGET .....	4
SEC. 1.03	DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS .....	4
SEC. 1.04	PRIOR EXPERIENCE.....	4
SEC. 1.05	REQUIRED REVIEW .....	4
SEC. 1.06	QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS .....	4
SEC. 1.07	RETURN INSTRUCTIONS .....	5
SEC. 1.08	PROPOSAL CONTENTS .....	5
SEC. 1.09	ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY .....	6
SEC. 1.10	AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS .....	6
SEC. 1.11	AMENDMENTS TO THE IRFP .....	6
SEC. 1.12	IRFP SCHEDULE.....	6
SEC. 1.13	PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE .....	7
SEC. 1.14	ALTERNATE PROPOSALS.....	7
<b>SECTION 2.</b>	<b>BACKGROUND INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>8</b>
SEC. 2.01	BACKGROUND INFORMATION .....	8
<b>SECTION 3.</b>	<b>SCOPE OF WORK &amp; CONTRACT INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>9</b>
SEC. 3.01	SCOPE OF WORK.....	9
SEC. 3.02	CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE.....	9
SEC. 3.03	DELIVERABLES.....	9
SEC. 3.04	CONTRACT TYPE .....	10
SEC. 3.05	PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES .....	10
SEC. 3.06	PROMPT PAYMENT FOR STATE PURCHASES .....	10
SEC. 3.07	CONTRACT PAYMENT.....	10
SEC. 3.08	LOCATION OF WORK.....	10
SEC. 3.09	THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDERS .....	10
SEC. 3.10	SUBCONTRACTORS .....	10
SEC. 3.11	JOINT VENTURES.....	11
SEC. 3.12	RIGHT TO INSPECT PLACE OF BUSINESS .....	11
SEC. 3.13	F.O.B. POINT.....	11
SEC. 3.14	CONTRACT PERSONNEL .....	11
SEC. 3.15	CONTRACT CHANGES - UNANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS .....	11
SEC. 3.16	NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY.....	12
SEC. 3.17	INDEMINFICATION .....	12
SEC. 3.18	INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS .....	13
SEC. 3.19	TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT.....	13
<b>SECTION 4.</b>	<b>PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT .....</b>	<b>14</b>
SEC. 4.01	PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT .....	14
SEC. 4.02	OFFEROR INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM A) .....	14
SEC. 4.03	EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM B) .....	15
SEC. 4.04	UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM C).....	15
SEC. 4.05	METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM D) .....	16
SEC. 4.06	SUBCONTRACTORS (SUBMITTAL FORM E) .....	16
SEC. 4.07	COST PROPOSAL (SUBMITTAL FORM F) .....	16
<b>SECTION 5.</b>	<b>EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION.....</b>	<b>17</b>

SEC. 5.01	EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	17
SEC. 5.02	UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT.....	17
SEC. 5.03	METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT.....	17
SEC. 5.04	EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS .....	18
SEC. 5.05	CONTRACT COST (40%).....	18
SEC. 5.06	MBE/WBE PREFERENCE (5%).....	19
<b>SECTION 6.</b>	<b>GENERAL PROCESS INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>20</b>
SEC. 6.01	ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES.....	20
SEC. 6.02	SITE INSPECTION .....	20
SEC. 6.03	CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS.....	20
SEC. 6.04	DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS .....	21
SEC. 6.05	EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS .....	21
SEC. 6.06	CONTRACT NEGOTIATION .....	21
SEC. 6.07	FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE.....	21
SEC. 6.08	OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION .....	22
SEC. 6.09	PROTEST .....	22
SEC. 6.10	APPLICATION OF MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE).....	23
	AND WOMEN’S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE) PREFERENCES- AS 36.30.890 .....	23
SEC. 6.11	FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS .....	23
SEC. 6.12	EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES.....	23
SEC. 6.13	FEDERAL DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION.....	25
<b>SECTION 7.</b>	<b>GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>26</b>
SEC. 7.01	STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS.....	26
SEC. 7.02	PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT.....	26
SEC. 7.03	ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS .....	26
SEC. 7.04	HUMAN TRAFFICKING .....	26
SEC. 7.05	RIGHT OF REJECTION.....	26
SEC. 7.06	STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS .....	27
SEC. 7.07	DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS .....	27
SEC. 7.08	ASSIGNMENTS .....	27
SEC. 7.09	DISPUTES .....	27
SEC. 7.10	SEVERABILITY .....	27
SEC. 7.11	SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.....	28
SEC. 7.12	FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARIFFS .....	28
<b>SECTION 8.</b>	<b>ATTACHMENTS.....</b>	<b>29</b>
SEC. 8.01	ATTACHMENTS .....	29

## **SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS**

### **SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE IRFP**

The State of Alaska, Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM), Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Spill Prevention and Readiness, is soliciting proposals from qualified professionals to provide outreach technical support and updates to the Contaminated Sites Program website.

### **SEC. 1.02 BUDGET**

The Division of Spill Prevention and Response estimates a budget of between \$15,000.00 and \$18,000.00 dollars for completion of this project. Proposals priced at more than \$20,000.00 will be considered non-responsive.

### **SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS**

Proposals must be received no later than **4:00 p.m.** prevailing Alaska Time on February 25, 2021. Faxed or oral proposals are not acceptable.

An Offeror's failure to submit their proposal prior to the deadline will cause the proposal to be disqualified. Late proposals or amendments will not be opened or accepted for evaluation.

### **SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE**

In order for proposals to be considered responsive, offerors must meet these minimum prior experience requirements:

- One year proficiency in Umbraco CMS.
- Two years of experience with Public Outreach Activities, including development of technical fact sheets for a general audience and demonstrated ability to communicate clearly in written and oral forms.

An offeror's failure to meet these minimum prior experience requirements will cause their proposal to be considered non-responsive and rejected.

### **SEC. 1.05 REQUIRED REVIEW**

Offerors should carefully review this solicitation for defects and questionable or objectionable material. Comments concerning defects and questionable or objectionable material should be made in writing and received by the procurement officer at least ten days before the deadline for receipt of proposals. This will allow time for the issuance of any necessary amendments. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective proposal and exposure of offeror's proposals upon which award could not be made.

### **SEC. 1.06 QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS**

All questions must be in writing and directed to the procurement officer. The interested party must confirm telephone conversations in writing.

Two types of questions generally arise. One may be answered by directing the questioner to a specific section of the IRFP. These questions may be answered over the telephone. Other questions may be more complex and may require a written amendment to the IRFP. The procurement officer will make this decision.

**SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS**

Offerors must submit their proposal electronically to the procurement officer in a single pdf file. The services proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to **decidasprocurement@alaska.gov** as separate, clearly labeled attachments, such as “Firm Name – Services Proposal.pdf” and “Firm Name – Cost Proposal.pdf”. The email must contain the IRFP number in the subject line.

The **maximum** size of a single email (including all text and attachments) that can be received by the state is **20mb (megabytes)**. If the email containing the proposal exceeds this size, the proposal must be sent in multiple emails that are each less than 20 megabytes and each email must comply with the requirements described above.

Please note that email transmission is not instantaneous. Like sending a hard copy proposal, if you are emailing your proposal, the state recommends sending it enough ahead of time to ensure the email is delivered by the deadline for receipt of proposals.

It is the offeror’s responsibility to contact the issuing agency via email to **decidasprocurement@alaska.gov** to confirm that the proposal has been received. The state is not responsible for unreadable, corrupt, or missing attachments.

**SEC. 1.08 PROPOSAL CONTENTS**

The following information must be included in all proposals.

**(a) AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE**

All proposals must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the offeror to the provisions of the IRFP. Proposals must remain open and valid for at least 90-days from the date set as the deadline for receipt of proposals.

**(b) OFFEROR'S CERTIFICATION**

By signature on the proposal, offerors certify that they comply with the following:

- A. the laws of the State of Alaska;
- B. the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- C. the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- D. the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- E. all terms and conditions set out in this IRFP;
- F. a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
- G. that the offers will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

If any offeror fails to comply with [a] through [g] of this paragraph, the state reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the contractor in default.

**(c) VENDOR TAX ID**

A valid Vendor Tax ID must be submitted to the issuing office with the proposal or within five days of the state's request.

**(d) CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Each proposal shall include a statement indicating whether or not the firm or any individuals working on the contract has a possible conflict of interest (e.g., currently employed by the State of Alaska or formerly employed by the State of Alaska within the past two years) and, if so, the nature of that conflict. The procurement officer reserves the right to **consider a proposal non-responsive and reject it** or cancel the award if any interest disclosed from any source could either give the appearance of a conflict or cause speculation as to the objectivity of the contract to be performed by the offeror.

**(e) FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS**

The offeror must identify all known federal requirements that apply to the proposal, the evaluation, or the contract.

**SEC. 1.09 ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY**

Offerors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this IRFP or participating in the procurement process. For more information, contact the procurement officer no later than ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

**SEC. 1.10 AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS**

Amendments to or withdrawals of proposals will only be allowed if acceptable requests are received prior to the deadline that is set for receipt of proposals. No amendments or withdrawals will be accepted after the deadline unless they are in response to the state's request in accordance with 2 AAC 12.290.

**SEC. 1.11 AMENDMENTS TO THE IRFP**

If an amendment is issued, it will be provided to all who were notified of the IRFP and to those who have registered with the procurement officer after receiving the IRFP from the State of Alaska Online Public Notice website.

**SEC. 1.12 IRFP SCHEDULE**

The IRFP schedule set out herein represents the State of Alaska's best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. If a component of this schedule, such as the deadline for receipt of proposals, is delayed, the rest of the schedule may be shifted by the same number of days.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Issue IRFP                                  | <b>February 11, 2021</b>                    |
| • IRFP question submission deadline           | <b>February 18, 2021</b>                    |
| • Deadline for Receipt of Proposals           | <b>February 26, 2021 4:00 p.m. AKST</b>     |
| • Proposal Evaluation Committee approximately | <b>week of March 1, 2021</b>                |
| • Notice of Intent to Award a Contract issue  | <b>approximately week of March 5, 2021</b>  |
| • State of Alaska issues contract             | <b>approximately week of March 15, 2021</b> |
| • Estimated Contract start date               | <b>March 15, 2021</b>                       |

This IRFP does not, by itself, obligate the State. The State's obligation will commence when the contract is approved by the Department of Environmental Conservation. Upon written notice to the contractor, the State may set a different starting date for the contract. The State will not be responsible for any work done by the contractor, even work done in good faith, if it occurs prior to the contract start date set by the State.

**SEC. 1.13      PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE**

No pre-proposal conference will be held for this IRFP.

**SEC. 1.14      ALTERNATE PROPOSALS**

Offerors may only submit one proposal for evaluation.

In accordance with 2 AAC 12.830 alternate proposals (proposals that offer something different than what is asked for) will be rejected.

## **SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **SEC. 2.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The CSP provides information on contaminated sites regulations, policy, and guidance and on the characterization and cleanup of contaminated sites through various public outreach activities. The CSP relies on providing accurate and up-to-date information on its website so that consultants, responsible parties, stakeholders, and the general public can easily find the information that they seek. Due to a staffing shortage, CSP needs assistance with ensuring that the website information is current. CSP project managers draft fact sheets and community involvement information which need to be reviewed to ensure that the technical message can be clearly understood by the target audience.



## **SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION**

### **SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK**

#### **Task I – CSP Website Update**

The Contractor shall conduct revisions to the CSP website, as requested by the designated DEC point of contact. CSP may request that the Contractor suggest areas to revise information within the website, to provide clear and understandable presentation to the general public. Website updates shall be made within a specified timeframe that is agreed upon between the Contractor and DEC. These timeframes will be laid out based on the size of each website update. DEC estimates that a total of 40 staff hours will be required to keep the website current for the duration of the contract.

#### **Task II – Site-specific Public Outreach Activities**

The Contractor shall assist CSP project managers with public outreach activities on contaminated sites, including but not limited to, reviewing draft fact sheets, providing suggestions for draft fact sheets or other written communications to ensure that the content contains a clear and accurate message, advising on public outreach activities so communities are aware of site actions, and assisting in conducting virtual meetings with the public or stakeholder groups.

The Contractor shall revise the content of the online Site Summaries ([dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/sites](http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/sites)) to provide current information for the website updates. The Contractor shall coordinate with the assigned project manager to ensure that the revisions are correct. DEC estimates that a total of 80 staff hours will be required for this task.

#### **Task III – General CSP Programmatic Document Review**

The Contractor shall review fact sheets or other written communication and provide suggestion for revisions to make the information more easily understood by a non-technical reader. DEC estimates that a total of 25 staff hours will be required for this task.

### **SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE**

The length of the contract will be from the date of award, approximately March 2021, through June 30, 2021 with no renewal options.

Unless otherwise provided in this IRFP, the State and the successful offeror/contractor agree: (1) that any extension of the contract excluding any exercised renewal options, will be considered as a month-to-month extension, and all other terms and conditions shall remain in full force and effect and (2) the procurement officer will provide notice to the contractor of the intent to cancel such month-to-month extension at least 30 days before the desired date of cancellation. A month-to-month extension may only be executed by the procurement officer via a contract amendment.

### **SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES**

The contractor shall be required to provide the following deliverables:

- a. Progress Status Report with each invoice.
- b. All draft documents – Microsoft Word format.

Final documents – comprehensive *portable document format* (pdf) unless another format is requested by CSP.

#### **SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE**

This contract is a FIRM FIXED contract.

The Contractor's cost established as a result of this solicitation will remain through June 30, 2021.

#### **SEC. 3.05 PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES**

The state will make payments based on a negotiated payment schedule. Each billing must consist of an invoice and progress report. No payment will be made until the progress report and invoice has been approved by the project director.

#### **SEC. 3.06 PROMPT PAYMENT FOR STATE PURCHASES**

NOT APPLICABLE

#### **SEC. 3.07 CONTRACT PAYMENT**

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation or the Commissioner's designee. Under no conditions will the state be liable for the payment of any interest charges associated with the cost of the contract. The state is not responsible for and will not pay local, state, or federal taxes. All costs associated with the contract must be stated in U.S. currency.

#### **SEC. 3.08 LOCATION OF WORK**

The state **WILL NOT** provide workspace for the contractor. The contractor must provide its own workspace.

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that all services provided under this contract by the contractor and all subcontractors shall be performed in the United States.

If the offeror cannot certify that all work will be performed in the United States, the offeror must contact the procurement officer in writing to request a waiver at least 10 days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

The request must include a detailed description of the portion of work that will be performed outside the United States, where, by whom, and the reason the waiver is necessary.

Failure to comply with these requirements may cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive or cancel the contract.

#### **SEC. 3.09 THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

NOT APPLICABLE

#### **SEC. 3.10 SUBCONTRACTORS**

Subcontractors may be used to perform **TASK I** under this contract. If an offeror intends to use subcontractors, the offeror must identify in the proposal the names of the subcontractors and the portions of the work the subcontractors will perform.

Subcontractor experience **SHALL** be considered in determining whether the offeror meets the requirements set forth in **SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE**.

If a proposal with subcontractors is selected, the offeror must provide the following information concerning each prospective subcontractor within five working days from the date of the state's request:

- complete name of the subcontractor;
- complete address of the subcontractor;
- type of work the subcontractor will be performing;
- percentage of work the subcontractor will be providing;
- evidence that the subcontractor holds a valid Alaska business license; and
- a written statement, signed by each proposed subcontractor that clearly verifies that the subcontractor is committed to render the services required by the contract.

An offeror's failure to provide this information, within the time set, may cause the state to consider their proposal non-responsive and reject it. The substitution of one subcontractor for another may be made only at the discretion and prior written approval of the project director.

Note that if the subcontractor will not be performing work within Alaska, they will not be required to hold an Alaska business license.

### **SEC. 3.11 JOINT VENTURES**

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

### **SEC. 3.12 RIGHT TO INSPECT PLACE OF BUSINESS**

At reasonable times, the state may inspect those areas of the contractor's place of business that are related to the performance of a contract. If the state makes such an inspection, the contractor must provide reasonable assistance.

### **SEC. 3.13 F.O.B. POINT**

NOT APPLICABLE

### **SEC. 3.14 CONTRACT PERSONNEL**

Any change of the project team members or subcontractors named in the proposal must be approved, in advance and in writing, by the project director or procurement officer. Changes that are not approved by the state may be grounds for the state to terminate the contract.

### **SEC. 3.15 CONTRACT CHANGES - UNANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS**

During the course of this contract, the contractor may be required to perform additional work. That work will be within the general scope of the initial contract. When additional work is required, the project director will provide the contractor a written description of the additional work and request the contractor to submit a firm time schedule for accomplishing the additional work and a firm price for the additional work. Cost and pricing data must be provided to justify the cost of such amendments per AS 36.30.400.

The contractor will not commence additional work until the procurement officer has secured any required state approvals necessary for the amendment and issued a written contract amendment, approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation or the Commissioner's designee.

**SEC. 3.16 NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

The contractor agrees that all confidential information shall be used only for purposes of providing the deliverables and performing the services specified herein and shall not disseminate or allow dissemination of confidential information except as provided for in this section. The contractor shall hold as confidential and will use reasonable care (including both facility physical security and electronic security) to prevent unauthorized access by, storage, disclosure, publication, dissemination to and/or use by third parties of, the confidential information. “Reasonable care” means compliance by the contractor with all applicable federal and state law, including the Social Security Act and HIPAA. The contractor must promptly notify the state in writing if it becomes aware of any storage, disclosure, loss, unauthorized access to or use of the confidential information.

Confidential information, as used herein, means any data, files, software, information or materials (whether prepared by the state or its agents or advisors) in oral, electronic, tangible or intangible form and however stored, compiled or memorialized that is classified confidential as defined by State of Alaska classification and categorization guidelines provided by the state to the contractor or a contractor agent or otherwise made available to the contractor or a contractor agent in connection with this contract, or acquired, obtained or learned by the contractor or a contractor agent in the performance of this contract. Examples of confidential information include, but are not limited to: technology infrastructure, architecture, financial data, trade secrets, equipment specifications, user lists, passwords, research data, and technology data (infrastructure, architecture, operating.

If confidential information is requested to be disclosed by the contractor pursuant to a request received by a third party and such disclosure of the confidential information is required under applicable state or federal law, regulation, governmental or regulatory authority, the contractor may disclose the confidential information after providing the state with written notice of the requested disclosure (to the extent such notice to the state is permitted by applicable law) and giving the state opportunity to review the request. If the contractor receives no objection from the state, it may release the confidential information within 30 days. Notice of the requested disclosure of confidential information by the contractor must be provided to the state within a reasonable time after the contractor’s receipt of notice of the requested disclosure and, upon request of the state, shall seek to obtain legal protection from the release of the confidential information.

The following information shall not be considered confidential information: information previously known to be public information when received from the other party; information freely available to the general public; information which now is or hereafter becomes publicly known by other than a breach of confidentiality hereof; or information which is disclosed by a party pursuant to subpoena or other legal process and which as a result becomes lawfully obtainable by the general public.

**SEC. 3.17 INDEMINIFICATION**

The contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the state from and against any claim of, or liability for error, omission or negligent act of the contractor, its agents, under this agreement. The contractor shall not be required to indemnify the contracting agency for a claim of, or liability for, the independent negligence of the state. If there is a claim of, or liability for, the joint negligent error or omission of the contractor and the independent negligence of the state, the indemnification and hold harmless obligation shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis. “Contractor” and “state”, as used within this and the following article, include the employees, agents and other contractors who are directly responsible, respectively, to each. The term

“independent negligence” is negligence other than in the contracting agency’s selection, administration, monitoring, or controlling of the contractor and in approving or accepting the contractor’s work.

### **SEC. 3.18 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Without limiting contractor's indemnification, it is agreed that contractor shall purchase at its own expense and maintain in force at all times during the performance of services under this agreement the following policies of insurance. Where specific limits are shown, it is understood that they shall be the minimum acceptable limits. If the contractor's policy contains higher limits, the state shall be entitled to coverage to the extent of such higher limits.

Certificates of Insurance must be furnished to the contracting officer prior to beginning work and must provide for a notice of cancellation, non-renewal, or material change of conditions in accordance with policy provisions. Failure to furnish satisfactory evidence of insurance or lapse of the policy is a material breach of this contract and shall be grounds for termination of the contractor's services. All insurance policies shall comply with and be issued by insurers licensed to transact the business of insurance under AS 21.

**Workers' Compensation Insurance:** The contractor shall provide and maintain, for all employees engaged in work under this contract, coverage as required by AS 23.30.045, and where applicable, any other statutory obligations including but not limited to Federal U.S.L. & H. and Jones Act requirements. The policy must waive subrogation against the State.

**Commercial General Liability Insurance:** covering all business premises and operations used by the contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 combined single limit per claim.

**Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance:** covering all vehicles used by the contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 combined single limit per claim.

**Professional Liability Insurance:** covering all errors, omissions or negligent acts in the performance of professional services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 per claim /annual aggregate.

### **SEC. 3.19 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT**

If the project director determines that the contractor has refused to perform the work or has failed to perform the work with such diligence as to ensure its timely and accurate completion, the state may, by providing written notice to the contractor, terminate the contractor's right to proceed with part or all of the remaining work.

This clause does not restrict the state's termination rights under the General Provisions of Appendix A, Attachment 2.

## SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

### SEC. 4.01 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

This IRFP contains Submittal Forms, which must be completed by the offeror and submitted as their proposal. An electronic copy of the forms is posted along with this IRFP. Offerors shall not re-create these forms, create their own forms, or edit the format structure of the forms unless permitted to do so.

Unless otherwise specified in this IRFP, the Submittal Forms shall be the offeror's entire proposal. Do not include any marketing information in the proposal.

**Any proposal that does not follow these requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

The offeror must ensure that their proposal meets all special formatting requirements identified in this section.

**Documents and Text:** All attachment documents must be written in the English language, be single sided, and be single spaced with a minimum font size of 10. Pictures or graphics may be used if the offeror feels it is necessary to communicate their information, however, be aware of the below requirements for page limits.

**Anonymity:** Some Submittal Forms listed below must not contain any names that can be used to identify who the offeror is (such as company names, offeror name, company letterhead, personnel names, project names, sub consultant names, manufacturer or supplier names, or product names).

**Page Limits:** Some Submittal Forms listed below have maximum page limit requirements. Offerors must not exceed the maximum page limits. Note, the page limit applies to the front side of a page only (for example, '1 Page' implies that the offeror can only provide a response on one side of a piece of paper).

Submittal Form	Anonymous Document	Maximum Page Limits
Submittal Form A – Offeror Information and Certifications		
<b>Submittal Form B – Experience and Qualifications</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Submittal Form C – Understanding of the Project</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Submittal Form D – Methodology Used for the Project</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Submittal Form E– Subcontractors</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>2</b>
Submittal Form F – Cost Proposal		

Any Submittal Form that is being evaluated and does not follow these instructions may receive a '1' score for the evaluated Submittal Form, or the entire response may be deemed non-responsive and rejected. Failure to submit any of the Submittal Forms will result in the proposal being deemed non-responsive and rejected.

### SEC. 4.02 OFFEROR INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM A)

The offeror must complete and submit this Submittal Form. The form must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the offeror to the provisions of the IRFP.

By signature on the form, the offeror certifies they comply with the following:

- a) the laws of the State of Alaska;
- b) the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;

- c) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the Federal government;
- d) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the Federal government;
- e) all terms and conditions set out in this IRFP;
- f) a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
- g) that the offers will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

If any offeror fails to comply with [a] through [g] of this paragraph, the State reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the Contractor in default.

The Submittal Form also requests the following information:

- a) The complete name and address of offeror's firm along with the offeror's Tax ID.
- b) Information on the person the State should contact regarding the proposal.
- c) Names of critical team members/personnel.
- d) Addenda acknowledgement.
- e) Conflict of interest Statement.
- f) Federal requirements.
- g) MBE/WBE preference qualifications.

An offeror's failure to address/respond/include these items may cause the proposal to be determined to be non-responsive and the proposal may be rejected.

#### **SEC. 4.03 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM B)**

Offerors must provide detail on the personnel assigned to accomplish the work called for in this IRFP; illustrate the lines of authority; designate the individual responsible and accountable for the completion of each component and deliverable of the IRFP.

Offerors must provide a narrative description of the organization of the project team and a personnel roster that identifies each person who will actually work on the contract along with their titles and location(s) where work will be performed.

Offerors must also provide reference names and phone numbers for similar projects the offeror's firm has completed.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form shall be kept anonymous and must not contain any names that can be used to identify who the offeror is and cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.01).

#### **SEC. 4.04 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM C)**

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that illustrate their understanding of the requirements of the project and the project schedule.

SPECIAL NOTE: The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form shall be kept anonymous and must not contain any names that can be used to identify who the offeror is and cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.01).

#### **SEC. 4.05 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM D)**

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the methodology they intend to employ and illustrate how the methodology will serve to accomplish the work and meet the state's project schedule.

SPECIAL NOTE: The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form shall be kept anonymous and must not contain any names that can be used to identify who the offeror is and cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.01).

#### **SEC. 4.06 SUBCONTRACTORS (SUBMITTAL FORM E)**

If using subcontractors, the offeror must complete and submit this Submittal Form.

#### **SEC. 4.07 COST PROPOSAL (SUBMITTAL FORM F)**

Offerors must complete and submit this Submittal Form F.

Proposed costs must include all direct and indirect costs associated with the performance of the contract, including, but not limited to, total number of hours at various hourly rates, direct expenses, payroll, supplies, overhead assigned to each person working on the project, percentage of each person's time devoted to the project, and profit. The costs identified on the cost proposal are the total amount of costs to be paid by the State. No additional charges shall be allowed.

A proposed rate that is not a single, hourly rate for services rendered will not be accepted. (**See Attachment 1, Cost Proposal Form F**).



**SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION****SEC. 5.01 EVALUATION CRITERIA**

All proposals will be reviewed to determine if they are responsive. Proposals determined to be responsive will be evaluated using the criterion that is set out in **Section 5. Evaluation Criteria and Contractor Selection**.

An evaluation may not be based on discrimination due to the race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, or political affiliation of the offeror.

<b>Overall Criteria</b>		<b>Weight</b>
Responsiveness		Pass/Fail
<b>Qualifications Criteria</b>		<b>Weight</b>
Experience and Qualifications		325
Understanding of the Project		100
Methodology Used for the Project		100
Subcontractor		25
Total		550
<b>Cost Criteria</b>		<b>Weight</b>
Cost Proposal		400
		Total 400
<b>Preference Criteria</b>		<b>Weight</b>
MBE/WBE (if applicable)		50
		Total 50

**TOTAL EVALUATION POINTS AVAILABLE: 1000**

**SEC. 5.02 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT**

**Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:**

- 1) How well has the offeror demonstrated a thorough understanding of the purpose and scope of the project?
- 2) How well has the offeror identified pertinent issues and potential problems related to the project?
- 3) To what degree has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the deliverables the state expects it to provide?
- 4) Has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the state's time schedule and can meet it?

**SEC. 5.03 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT**

**Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:**

- 1) How comprehensive is the methodology and does it depict a logical approach to fulfilling the requirements of the IRFP?
- 2) How well does the methodology match and achieve the objectives set out in the IRFP?
- 3) Does the methodology interface with the time schedule in the IRFP?

**SEC. 5.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

**1) Questions regarding the personnel:**

- a) Do the individuals assigned to the project have experience on similar projects?
- b) Are resumes complete and do they demonstrate backgrounds that would be desirable for individuals engaged in the work the project requires?
- c) How extensive is the applicable education and experience of the personnel designated to work on the project?

**2) Questions regarding the firm and subcontractor (if used):**

- a) How well has the firm demonstrated experience in completing similar projects on time and within budget?
- b) How successful is the general history of the firm regarding timely and successful completion of projects?
- c) Has the firm provided letters of reference from previous clients?
- d) If a subcontractor will perform work on the contract, how well do they measure up to the evaluation used for the offeror?

**SEC. 5.05 CONTRACT COST (40%)**

Overall, a minimum of **40%** of the total evaluation points will be assigned to cost. The cost amount used for evaluation may be affected by one or more of the preferences referenced under Section 6.10.

**Converting Cost to Points**

Overall, a minimum of **40%** of the total evaluation points will be assigned to cost. After the procurement officer applies any applicable preferences, the offeror with the lowest total cost will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost per 2 AAC 12.260(c). The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined using the following formula:

$$[(\text{Price of Lowest Cost Proposal}) \times (\text{Maximum Points for Cost})] \div (\text{Cost of Each Higher Priced Proposal})$$

**Example (Max Points for Contract Cost = 400):****Step 1**

List all proposal prices, adjusted where appropriate by the application of applicable preferences claimed by the offeror.

Offeror #1	\$40,000
Offeror #2	\$42,750
Offeror #3	\$47,500

**Step 2**

In this example, the IRFP allotted 40% of the available 1,000 points to cost. This means that the lowest cost will receive the maximum number of points.

**Offeror #1 receives 400 points.**

The reason they receive that amount is because the lowest cost proposal, in this case \$40,000, receives the maximum number of points allocated to cost, 400 points.

**Offeror #2 receives 374.3 points.**

$$\$40,000 \text{ lowest cost} \times 400 \text{ maximum points for cost} = 16,000,000 \div \$42,750 \text{ cost of Offeror \#2's proposal} = 374.3$$

**Offeror #3 receives 336.8 points.**

$$\$40,000 \text{ lowest cost} \times 400 \text{ maximum points for cost} = 16,000,000 \div \$47,500 \text{ cost of Offeror \#3's proposal} = 336.8$$

If an offeror qualifies for the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or Women's Business Enterprise (WBE), the offeror will receive an MBE/WBE Preference. The preference will be 5% of the total available points.

**SEC. 5.06 MBE/WBE PREFERENCE (5%)**

To receive the points, the qualified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) offeror or subcontractor will provide evidence of certification and the work that they will perform. Please refer to section 6.10 for additional information on the MBE/WBE preference.

## **SECTION 6. GENERAL PROCESS INFORMATION**

### **SEC. 6.01 ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES**

Prior to the award of a contract, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license. However, in order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference and other related preferences, such as the Alaska Veteran Preference and Alaska Offeror Preference, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. Offerors should contact the **Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing, PO Box 110806, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806**, for information on these licenses. Acceptable evidence that the offeror possesses a valid Alaska business license may consist of any one of the following:

- copy of an Alaska business license;
- certification on the proposal that the offeror has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the proposal;
- a canceled check for the Alaska business license fee;
- a copy of the Alaska business license application with a receipt stamp from the state's occupational licensing office; or
- a sworn and notarized statement that the offeror has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.

You are not required to hold a valid Alaska business license at the time proposals are opened if you possess one of the following licenses and are offering services or supplies under that specific line of business:

- fisheries business licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue or Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
- liquor licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue for alcohol sales only,
- insurance licenses issued by Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Insurance, or
- Mining licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue.

Prior the deadline for receipt of proposals, all offerors must hold any other necessary applicable professional licenses required by Alaska Statute.

### **SEC. 6.02 SITE INSPECTION**

The state may conduct on-site visits to evaluate the offeror's capacity to perform the contract. An offeror must agree, at risk of being found non-responsive and having its proposal rejected, to provide the state reasonable access to relevant portions of its work sites. Individuals designated by the procurement officer at the state's expense will make site inspection.

### **SEC. 6.03 CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS**

In order to determine if a proposal is reasonably susceptible for award, communications by the procurement officer or the proposal evaluation committee (PEC) are permitted with an offeror to clarify uncertainties or eliminate confusion concerning the contents of a proposal. Clarifications may not result in a material or

substantive change to the proposal. The evaluation by the procurement officer or the PEC may be adjusted as a result of a clarification under this section.

#### **SEC. 6.04 DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS**

The state may conduct discussions with offerors in accordance with AS 36.30.240 and 2 AAC 12.290. The purpose of these discussions will be to ensure full understanding of the requirements of the IRFP and proposal. Discussions will be limited to specific sections of the IRFP or proposal identified by the procurement officer. Discussions will only be held with offerors who have submitted a proposal deemed reasonably susceptible for award by the procurement officer. Discussions, if held, will be after initial evaluation of proposals by the procurement officer or the PEC. If modifications are made as a result of these discussions, they will be put in writing. Following discussions, the procurement officer may set a time for best and final proposal submissions from those offerors with whom discussions were held. Proposals may be reevaluated after receipt of best and final proposal submissions.

If an offeror does not submit a best and final proposal or a notice of withdrawal, the offeror's immediate previous proposal is considered the offeror's best and final proposal.

Offerors with a disability needing accommodation should contact the procurement officer prior to the date set for discussions so that reasonable accommodation can be made. Any oral modification of a proposal must be reduced to writing by the offeror.

#### **SEC. 6.05 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS**

The procurement officer, or an evaluation committee made up of at least three state employees or public officials, will evaluate proposals. The evaluation will be based solely on the evaluation factors set out in **SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION**.

After receipt of proposals, if there is a need for any substantial clarification or material change in the IRFP, an amendment will be issued. The amendment will incorporate the clarification or change, and a new date and time established for new or amended proposals. Evaluations may be adjusted as a result of receiving new or amended proposals.

#### **SEC. 6.06 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION**

After final evaluation, the procurement officer may negotiate with the offeror of the highest-ranked proposal. Negotiations, if held, shall be within the scope of the request for proposals and limited to those items which would not have an effect on the ranking of proposals. If the highest-ranked offeror fails to provide necessary information for negotiations in a timely manner, or fails to negotiate in good faith, the state may terminate negotiations and negotiate with the offeror of the next highest-ranked proposal. If contract negotiations are commenced, they may be held via teleconference or WebEx hosted by the State of Alaska, Office of Procurement and Property Management.

#### **SEC. 6.07 FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE**

If the selected offeror:

- fails to provide the information required to begin negotiations in a timely manner; or
- fails to negotiate in good faith; or
- indicates they cannot perform the contract within the budgeted funds available for the project; or

- if the offeror and the state, after a good faith effort, simply cannot come to terms,

the state may terminate negotiations with the offeror initially selected and commence negotiations with the next highest ranked offeror.

## **SEC. 6.08 OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION**

After the completion of contract negotiation, the procurement officer will issue a written Notice of Intent to Award (NOIA) and send copies to all offerors. The NOIA will set out the names of all offerors and identify the proposal selected for award.

## **SEC. 6.09 PROTEST**

AS 2 AAC 12.695 provides that an interested party may protest the content of the IRFP or the award of a contract.

An interested party is defined in 2 AAC 12.990(a)(7) as “an actual or prospective bidder or offeror whose economic interest might be affected substantially and directly the issuance of a contract solicitation, the award of a contract, or the failure to award a contract.”

Per 2 AAC 12.695, an interested party must first attempt to informally resolve the dispute with the procurement officer. If that attempt is unsuccessful, the interested party may file a written protest to the solicitation or the award of the contract. The protest must be filed with the Commissioner of the purchasing agency or the Commissioner’s designee. The protester must also file a copy of the protest with the procurement officer. The protest must include the following information:

- the name, address, and telephone number of the protester;
- the signature of the protester or the protester's representative;
- identification of the contracting agency and the solicitation or contract at issue;
- a detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest including copies of relevant documents; and
- the form of relief requested.

If an interested party wishes to protest the content of a solicitation, the protest must be filed before the date and time that proposals are due.

If an offeror wishes to protest the award of a contract not greater than \$50,000, the protest must be filed within 10 days from the date of the solicitation or award, whichever is later.

If an offeror wishes to protest the award of a contract greater than \$50,000, the protest must be filed within 10 days from the date that notice of award is made.

A protester must have submitted a proposal in order to have sufficient standing to protest the award of a contract.

The procurement officer shall immediately give notice of the protest to the contractor or, if no award has been made, to all offerors who submitted proposals.

If the protestor agrees, the Commissioner of the purchasing department or the Commissioner's designee may assign the protest to the procurement officer or other state official for alternate dispute resolution. In other cases, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may issue a decision denying the protest and stating the reasons for denial, issue a decision sustaining the protest, in whole or in part, and instruct the procurement officer to implement an appropriate remedy, or conduct a hearing using procedures set out in AS 36.30.670(b).

#### **SEC. 6.10 APPLICATION OF MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE) AND WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE) PREFERENCES- AS 36.30.890**

To receive the points, the qualified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) contractor or subcontractor must provide evidence of certification and the work that they shall perform.

This project is funded in part or fully through federal grants or cooperative agreements. It is a national policy to award a fair share of contracts to Minority Firms and Women's Business Enterprises through affirmative action. This solicitation incorporates a five point preference for all qualified minority firms and women's business enterprises.

In order to be deemed a bona fide Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) a firm must be an independent business concern which is a least fifty-one percent (51%) owned and controlled by minority group members or women.

It is the responsibility of the offeror to include in the proposal an affidavit of their qualifications and/or of the qualifications of their subcontractors for this preference. It is also the responsibility of the offeror claiming eligibility for this preference to pledge in the proposal that the eligible subcontractor will be **guaranteed** the proposed work.

#### **SEC. 6.11 FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS**

The distribution of points based on cost will be determined as set out in 2 AAC 12.260(c). The lowest cost proposal will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost. The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined using the formula:

$$[(Price\ of\ Lowest\ Cost\ Proposal) \times (Maximum\ Points\ for\ Cost)] \div (Cost\ of\ Each\ Higher\ Priced\ Proposal)$$

#### **SEC. 6.12 EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES**

##### **(a) FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS**

The PEC will evaluate responses against the questions set out in Sections 5.01 through 5.04 and assign a single score for each section. Offerors' responses for each section will be rated comparatively against one another with each PEC member assigning a score of 1, 5, or 10 (with 10 representing the highest score, 5 representing the average score, and 1 representing the lowest score). Responses that are similar or lack dominant information to differentiate the offerors from each other will receive the same score. Therefore, it is the offeror's responsibility to provide dominant information and differentiate themselves from their competitors.

After the PEC has scored each section, the scores for each section will be totaled and the following formula will be used to calculate the amount of points awarded for that section:

$$\frac{\text{Offeror Total Score}}{\text{Highest Total Score Possible}} \times \text{Max Points} = \text{Points Awarded}$$

**Example (Max Points for the Section = 100):**

	PEC Member 1 Score	PEC Member 2 Score	PEC Member 3 Score	PEC Member 4 Score	Combined Total Score	Points Awarded
<b>Offeror 1</b>	10	5	5	10	30	75
<b>Offeror 2</b>	5	5	5	5	20	50
<b>Offeror 3</b>	10	10	10	10	40	100

**Offeror 1** was awarded 75 points:

$$\frac{\text{Offeror Total Score (30)}}{\text{Highest Total Score Possible (40)}} \times \text{Max Points (100)} = \text{Points Awarded (75)}$$

**Offeror 2** was awarded 50 points:

$$\frac{\text{Offeror Total Score (20)}}{\text{Highest Total Score Possible (40)}} \times \text{Max Points (100)} = \text{Points Awarded (50)}$$

**Offeror 3** was awarded 100 points:

$$\frac{\text{Offeror Total Score (40)}}{\text{Highest Total Score Possible (40)}} \times \text{Max Points (100)} = \text{Points Awarded (100)}$$

Highest Total Score Possible (40)

## **(b) MBE / WBE PREFERENCE**

### **STEP 1**

Following is an example of how the preference points will be calculated for qualifying businesses:

1000 Total Points Available in IRFP x MBE/WBE preference = 50 Points for the Preference

### **STEP 2**

Add the preference points to the qualified MBE/WBE offers. In a hypothetical situation, there are three offerors. After being evaluated, each received the following points:



Offeror #1	883 points	No Preference	0 points
Offeror #2	874 points	MBE/WBE Preference	50 points
Offeror #3	880 points	MBE/WBE Preference	50 points

**STEP 3**

Add the applicable MBE/WBE preference amounts to the offeror's scores.

Offeror #1	883 points
Offeror #2	871 points (874 points + 50 points)
<b>Offeror #3</b>	<b>880 points (880 points + 50 points)</b>

**STEP 4**

**Offeror #3** is the highest scoring offeror and would get the award, provided their proposal is responsible and responsive.

**SEC. 6.13 FEDERAL DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION**

Expenditures from a contract resulting from this solicitation may involve federal funds. The U.S. Department of Labor requires all State agencies that are expending federal funds to have a certification filed in the proposal (by the offeror) that they have not been debarred or suspended from doing business with the federal government. Certification regarding debarment, suspension, ineligibility and voluntary exclusion lower tier covered transactions must be completed and submitted by the offeror to the procurement officer prior to contract / purchase order award (**Appendix B: Federal Debarment Certification Form**). This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 29 CFR Part 98, Section 98.510, Participant's responsibilities. The regulations were published as Part VII of the May 26, 1988 Federal Register (pages 19160-19211). If contractors and/or subcontractors do not complete the Federal Debarment Certification Form shall be disqualified from consideration. This form will be required to be submitted during annual renewals of the contract.

## **SECTION 7. GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION**

### **SEC. 7.01 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

The contractor must be required to sign and submit the State's Standard Agreement Form for Professional Services Contracts (form SAF.DOC/Appendix A) OR Standard Contract Form for Goods and Non-Professional Services (form SCF.DOC/Appendix A) OR Purchase Order (form PO/Appendix A). This form is attached in **SECTION 8. EXHIBITS** for your review. The contractor must comply with the contract provisions set out in this attachment. No alteration of these provisions will be permitted without prior written approval from the Department of Law. Objections to any of the provisions in Appendix A must be set out in the offeror's proposal in a separate document. Please include the following information with any change that you are proposing:

1. Identify the provision the offeror takes exception with.
2. Identify why the provision is unjust, unreasonable, etc.
3. Identify exactly what suggested changes should be made.

### **SEC. 7.02 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT**

Part of all of this IRFP and the successful proposal may be incorporated into the contract.

### **SEC. 7.03 ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The state reserves the right to add terms and conditions during contract negotiations. These terms and conditions will be within the scope of the IRFP and will not affect the proposal evaluations.

### **SEC. 7.04 HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that the offeror is not established and headquartered or incorporated and headquartered in a country recognized as Tier 3 in the most recent United States Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report.

The most recent United States Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report can be found at the following website: <https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>

Failure to comply with this requirement will cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive or cancel the contract.

### **SEC. 7.05 RIGHT OF REJECTION**

Offerors must comply with all of the terms of the IRFP, the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), and all applicable local, state, and federal laws, codes, and regulations. The procurement officer may reject any proposal that does not comply with all of the material and substantial terms, conditions, and performance requirements of the IRFP.

Offerors may not qualify the proposal nor restrict the rights of the state. If an offeror does so, the procurement officer may determine the proposal to be a non-responsive counteroffer and the proposal may be rejected.

Minor informalities that:

- do not affect responsiveness;
- are merely a matter of form or format;

- do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other offers;
- do not change the meaning or scope of the IRFP;
- are trivial, negligible, or immaterial in nature;
- do not reflect a material change in the work; or
- do not constitute a substantial reservation against a requirement or provision;

may be waived by the procurement officer.

The state reserves the right to refrain from making an award if it determines that to be in its best interest.

**A proposal from a debarred or suspended offeror shall be rejected.**

#### **SEC. 7.06 STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS**

The state will not pay any cost associated with the preparation, submittal, presentation, or evaluation of any proposal.

#### **SEC. 7.07 DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS**

All proposals and other material submitted become the property of the State of Alaska and may be returned only at the state's option. AS 40.25.110 requires public records to be open to reasonable inspection. All proposal information, including detailed price and cost information, will be held in confidence during the evaluation process and prior to the time a Notice of Intent to Award is issued. Thereafter, proposals will become public information.

Trade secrets and other proprietary data contained in proposals may be held confidential if the offeror requests, in writing, that the procurement officer does so, and if the procurement officer agrees, in writing, to do so. The offeror's request must be included with the proposal, must clearly identify the information they wish to be held confidential, and include a statement that sets out the reasons for confidentiality. Unless the procurement officer agrees in writing to hold the requested information confidential, that information will also become public after the Notice of Intent to Award is issued.

#### **SEC. 7.08 ASSIGNMENTS**

Per 2 AAC 12.480, the contractor may not transfer or assign any portion of the contract without prior written approval from the procurement officer. Proposals that are conditioned upon the state's approval of an assignment will be rejected as non-responsive.

#### **SEC. 7.09 DISPUTES**

A contract resulting from this IRFP is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. If the contractor has a claim arising in connection with the agreement that it cannot resolve with the state by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – AS 36.30.632. To the extent not otherwise governed by the preceding, the claim shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

#### **SEC. 7.10 SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of the contract is found to be invalid or declared by a court to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and provisions will not be affected; and the rights and obligations

of the parties will be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the particular provision held to be invalid.

#### **SEC. 7.11 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Proposals must comply with **SEC. 7.05 RIGHT OF REJECTION**. However, if the state fails to identify or detect supplemental terms or conditions that conflict with those contained in this IRFP or that diminish the state's rights under any contract resulting from the IRFP, the term(s) or condition(s) will be considered null and void. After award of contract:

if conflict arises between a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal and a term or condition of the IRFP, the term or condition of the IRFP will prevail; and

if the state's rights would be diminished as a result of application of a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal, the supplemental term or condition will be considered null and void.

#### **SEC. 7.12 FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARRIFFS**

Changes in price (increase or decrease) resulting directly from a new or updated Federal Tariff, excise tax, or duty, imposed after contract award may be adjusted during the contract period or before delivery into the United States via contract amendment.

- **Notification of Changes:** The contractor must promptly notify the procurement officer in writing of any new, increased, or decreased Federal excise tax or duty that may result in either an increase or decrease in the contract price and shall take appropriate action as directed by the procurement officer.
- **After-imposed or Increased Taxes and Duties:** Any Federal excise tax or duty for goods or services covered by this contract that was exempted or excluded on the contract award date but later imposed on the contractor during the contract period, as the result of legislative, judicial, or administrative action may result in a price increase provided:
  - a) The tax or duty takes effect after the contract award date and isn't otherwise addressed by the contract;
  - b) The contractor warrants, in writing, that no amount of the newly imposed Federal excise tax or duty or rate increase was included in the contract price, as a contingency or otherwise.
- **After-relieved or Decreased Taxes and Duties:** The contract price shall be decreased by the amount of any decrease in Federal excise tax or duty for goods or services under the contract, except social security or other employment [taxes](#), that the contractor is required to pay or bear, or does not obtain a refund of, through the contractor's fault, negligence, or failure to follow instructions of the procurement officer.
- **State's Ability to Make Changes:** The State reserves the right to request verification of Federal excise tax or duty amounts on goods or services covered by this contract and increase or decrease the contract price accordingly.
- **Price Change Threshold:** No adjustment shall be made in the contract price under this clause unless the amount of the adjustment exceeds \$250.

## **SECTION 8. ATTACHMENTS**

### **SEC. 8.01 ATTACHMENTS**

#### **Attachments:**

- 1) Cost Proposal Form F;
- 2) Purchase Order Sample with Appendix A (PO);
- 3) Federal Debarment Certification Form-Appendix B; and
- 4) Submittal Forms A-E.

**ATTACHMENT 1**  
**Cost Proposal (SUBMITTAL FORM F)**

**Public Outreach Technical Support IRFP 18-335-21**

Modifications and any additions to the below form or format will not be allowed. Proposal may be considered non-responsive if any modification or additions made to the form.

Description	Hourly Rate	Estimated Hours	Estimated Total Cost
Task I – CSP Website Update	US\$ Per Hour	40	US\$
Task II – Site-specific Public Outreach Activities	US\$ Per Hour	80	US\$
Task III – General CSP Programmatic Document Review	US\$ Per Hour	25	US\$
Estimated Grand Total US Dollars			US\$ _____

Name of Offeror's Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name and Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# PURCHASE ORDER

Department of Environmental Conservation

NUMBER

AWARD DATE

VENDOR

AGREEMENT REFERENCE

Tel:

Fax:

PAYMENT TERMS

% /

Note: The State will pay within 30 days if no payment terms are defined here.

PURCHASE DESCRIPTION - For further information, refer to line item section.

Total:

Line No.	Supplier Part No.	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost
1					
Start Date	End Date	Delivery Date	F.O.B. Point	Extended Line Total	
			F.O.B. final destination		

BILL TO:

SHIP TO:

DEC Juneau  
ATTN: ACCTS PAYABLE  
PO BOX 111800  
JUNEAU, AK 99811-1800

DEC Juneau  
110 Milloughby Avenue Suite 303  
Juneau, AK 99801-1724

**PROCUREMENT OFFICER:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** This order constitutes a binding commitment between the State and the vendor listed hereon. Unauthorized modification without express prior approval of the procurement officer will result in a financial obligation on the vendor and/or unauthorized State personnel making the change.

**IMPORTANT:**

1. Award number and received department name must appear on all invoices and documents related to this order.
2. Receipted freight bills must accompany claims for freight charges.
3. The State is registered for tax free transactions under Chapter 32, IRS Code, Registration No.92-6001185. Items are for the exclusive use of the State and not for resale.

**SIGNATURES:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Terms and Conditions**

No.	Name	Section
		1



## APPENDIX A

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 1. Definitions.

- 1.1 In this contract and appendices, "Project Director" or "Agency Head" or "Procurement Officer" means the person who signs this contract on behalf of the Requesting Agency and includes a successor or authorized representative.
- 1.2 "State Contracting Agency" means the department for which this contract is to be performed and for which the Commissioner or Authorized Designee acted in signing this contract.

#### Article 2. Inspections and Reports.

- 2.1 The department may inspect, in the manner and at reasonable times it considers appropriate, all the contractor's facilities and activities under this contract.
- 2.2 The contractor shall make progress and other reports in the manner and at the times the department reasonably requires.

#### Article 3. Disputes.

- 3.1 If the contractor has a claim arising in connection with the contract that it cannot resolve with the State by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – 632.

#### Article 4. Equal Employment Opportunity.

- 4.1 The contractor may not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, or because of age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood when the reasonable demands of the position(s) do not require distinction on the basis of age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, or parenthood. The contractor shall take affirmative action to insure that the applicants are considered for employment and that employees are treated during employment without unlawful regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sex, and marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood. This action must include, but need not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeship. The contractor shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting out the provisions of this paragraph.
- 4.2 The contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees to work on State of Alaska contract jobs, that it is an equal opportunity employer and that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, and marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood.
- 4.3 The contractor shall send to each labor union or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding a notice advising the labor union or workers' compensation representative of the contractor's commitments under this article and post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to all employees and applicants for employment.
- 4.4 The contractor shall include the provisions of this article in every contract, and shall require the inclusion of these provisions in every contract entered into by any of its subcontractors, so that those provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor. For the purpose of including those provisions in any contract or subcontract, as required by this contract, "contractor" and "subcontractor" may be changed to reflect appropriately the name or designation of the parties of the contract or subcontract.
- 4.5 The contractor shall cooperate fully with State efforts which seek to deal with the problem of unlawful discrimination, and with all other State efforts to guarantee fair employment practices under this contract, and promptly comply with all requests and directions from the State Commission for Human Rights or any of its officers or agents relating to prevention of discriminatory employment practices.
- 4.6 Full cooperation in paragraph 4.5 includes, but is not limited to, being a witness in any proceeding involving questions of unlawful discrimination if that is requested by any official or agency of the State of Alaska; permitting employees of the contractor to be witnesses or complainants in any proceeding involving questions of unlawful discrimination, if that is requested by any official or agency of the State of Alaska; participating in meetings; submitting periodic reports on the equal employment aspects of present and future employment; assisting inspection of the contractor's facilities; and promptly complying with all State directives considered essential by any office or agency of the State of Alaska to insure compliance with all federal and State laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to the prevention of discriminatory employment practices.
- 4.7 Failure to perform under this article constitutes a material breach of contract.

#### Article 5. Termination.

The Project Director, by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the best interest of the State. In the absence of a breach of contract by the contractor, the State is liable only for payment in accordance with the payment provisions of this contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.

#### Article 6. No Assignment or Delegation.

The contractor may not assign or delegate this contract, or any part of it, or any right to any of the money to be paid under it, except with the written consent of the Project Director and the Agency Head.

#### Article 7. No Additional Work or Material.

No claim for additional services, not specifically provided in this contract, performed or furnished by the contractor, will be allowed, nor may the contractor do any work or furnish any material not covered by the contract unless the work or material is ordered in writing by the Project Director and approved by the Agency Head.

**Article 8. Independent Contractor.**

The contractor and any agents and employees of the contractor act in an independent capacity and are not officers or employees or agents of the State in the performance of this contract.

**Article 9. Payment of Taxes.**

As a condition of performance of this contract, the contractor shall pay all federal, State, and local taxes incurred by the contractor and shall require their payment by any Subcontractor or any other persons in the performance of this contract. Satisfactory performance of this paragraph is a condition precedent to payment by the State under this contract.

**Article 10. Ownership of Documents.**

All designs, drawings, specifications, notes, artwork, and other work developed in the performance of this agreement are produced for hire and remain the sole property of the State of Alaska and may be used by the State for any other purpose without additional compensation to the contractor. The contractor agrees not to assert any rights and not to establish any claim under the design patent or copyright laws. Nevertheless, if the contractor does mark such documents with a statement suggesting they are trademarked, copyrighted, or otherwise protected against the State's unencumbered use or distribution, the contractor agrees that this paragraph supersedes any such statement and renders it void. The contractor, for a period of three years after final payment under this contract, agrees to furnish and provide access to all retained materials at the request of the Project Director. Unless otherwise directed by the Project Director, the contractor may retain copies of all the materials.

**Article 11. Governing Law; Forum Selection**

This contract is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. To the extent not otherwise governed by Article 3 of this Appendix, any claim concerning this contract shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

**Article 12. Conflicting Provisions.**

Unless specifically amended and approved by the Department of Law, the terms of this contract supersede any provisions the contractor may seek to add. The contractor may not add additional or different terms to this contract; AS 45.02.207(b)(1). The contractor specifically acknowledges and agrees that, among other things, provisions in any documents it seeks to append hereto that purport to (1) waive the State of Alaska's sovereign immunity, (2) impose indemnification obligations on the State of Alaska, or (3) limit liability of the contractor for acts of contractor negligence, are expressly superseded by this contract and are void.

**Article 13. Officials Not to Benefit.**

Contractor must comply with all applicable federal or State laws regulating ethical conduct of public officers and employees.

**Article 14. Covenant against Contingent Fees.**

The contractor warrants that no person or agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee except employees or agencies maintained by the contractor for the purpose of securing business. For the breach or violation of this warranty, the State may terminate this contract without liability or in its discretion deduct from the contract price or consideration the full amount of the commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

**Article 15. Compliance.**

In the performance of this contract, the contractor must comply with all applicable federal, state, and borough regulations, codes, and laws, and be liable for all required insurance, licenses, permits and bonds.

**Article 16. Force Majeure:**

The parties to this contract are not liable for the consequences of any failure to perform or default in performing, any of their obligations under this Agreement, if that failure or default is caused by any unforeseeable Force Majeure, beyond the control of, and without the fault or negligence of, the respective party. For the purposes of this Agreement, Force Majeure will mean war (whether declared or not), revolution; invasion; insurrection; riot; civil commotion; sabotage; military or usurped power; lightning; explosion; fire; storm; drought; flood; earthquake; epidemic; quarantine; strikes; acts or restraints of governmental authorities affecting the project or directly or indirectly prohibiting or restricting the furnishing or use of materials or labor required; inability to secure materials, machinery, equipment or labor because of priority, allocation or other regulations of any governmental authorities.

## Federal Debarment Certification Form

### Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion Lower Tier Covered Transactions

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 29 CFR Part 98, Section 98.510, Participant's responsibilities. The regulations were published as Part VII of the May 26, 1988 Federal Register (pages 19160-19211).

**(BEFORE COMPLETING CERTIFICATION, READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE WHICH ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CERTIFICATION)**

(1) The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds certifies, by submission of this bid, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds is unable to certify to any of the Statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this Proposal.

---

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

---

Signature

---

Date

## **Federal Debarment Certification Form Instructions**

### **Instructions for Certification**

1. By signing and submitting this Proposal, the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds is providing the certification as set out below.
2. The certification in this class is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the Department of Labor (DOL) may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds shall provide immediate written notice to the person to whom this Proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
4. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "Proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this Proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds agrees by submitting this Proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the DOL.
6. The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds further agrees by submitting this Proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may but is not required to check the List of Parties Excluded from Procurement or Non-procurement Programs.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the DOL may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.