

# STATE OF ALASKA

## INVITATION TO BID (ITB)



### LIQUID HANDLING ROBOT

ITB 230000027

APRIL 14, 2023

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME, DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES, GENE CONSERVATION LABORATORY, IS SOLICITING BIDS FOR A ROBOTIC LIQUID HANDLING INSTRUMENTATION SYSTEM TO REPLACE OUR EXISTING BECKMAN COULTER SINGLE-POD BIOMEK FX

**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 below in order to receive notification of subsequent amendments to the solicitation. Failure to register with the procurement officer may result in the rejection of your offer.

**BIDDER'S NOTICE:** By signature on this form, the bidder certifies that they comply with the following:

- (1) the bidder has a valid Alaska business license or will obtain one prior to award of any contract resulting from this ITB. If the bidder possesses a valid Alaska business license, the license number must be written below or one the following forms of evidence submitted with the bid:
  - a canceled check for the business license fee;
  - a copy of the business license application with a receipt date stamp from the State's business license office;
  - a receipt from the State's business license office for the license fee;
  - a copy of the bidder's valid business license;
  - a sworn notarized affidavit that the bidder has applied and paid for a business license;
- (2) the price(s) submitted was arrived at independently and without collusion, under penalty of perjury, and that the bidder is complying with:
  - the laws of the State of Alaska;
  - the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
  - the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the state and federal government;
  - the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the state and federal government;
  - the bid will remain open and valid for at least 90 days;
  - all terms and conditions set out in this Invitation to Bid (ITB).

If a bidder does not hold an Alaska Business License (1) at the time designated in the ITB for opening the state will disallow the Alaska Bidder Preference. Bids must also be submitted under the name as appearing on the bidder's current Alaska business license in order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference. If a bidder fails to comply with (2) of this paragraph, the state may reject the bid, terminate the contract, or consider the contractor in default.

Kristie Ely Procurement Officer	_____ COMPANY SUBMITTING BID	*DOES YOUR BUSINESS QUALIFY FOR THE ALASKA BIDDER'S PREFERENCE? [ ] YES [ ] NO
	_____ AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	*DOES YOUR BUSINESS QUALIFY FOR THE ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE? [ ] YES [ ] NO
Phone: (907) 465-6178 TDD: (907) 465-6181	_____ PRINTED NAME	*SEE ITB FOR EXPLANATION OF CRITERIA TO QUALIFY
Email: Kristie.ely@alaska.gov	_____ DATE	_____ TELEPHONE NUMBER
_____ ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE NUMBER	_____ FEDERAL TAX ID NUMBER	_____ E-MAIL ADDRESS

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## SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

### SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE ITB

The Department of **FISH AND GAME**, Division of **COMMERICAL FISHERIES, GENE CONSERVATION LABORATORY (GCL)**, is soliciting bids for **A ROBOTIC LIQUID HANDLING INSTRUMENTATION SYSTEM TO REPLACE OUR EXISTING BECKMAN COULTER SINGLE-POD BIOMEK FX.**

### SEC. 1.02 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS

Bids must be received no later than **2pm** Alaska Time on **April 28, 2023**, at which time they will be publicly opened. Late bids or amendments will be disqualified and not opened or accepted for evaluation.

### SEC. 1.03 PRIOR EXPERIENCE

In order for a bid to be considered responsive the bidder must meet these minimum prior experience requirements:

- The contactor must have at least ten (10) years of experience providing liquid handling instruments to clients.
- Bids must include the names and contact information of a minimum of three (3) laboratories that use the respective instruments for high-throughput liquid handling (>2,000 pipetting steps in an eight-hour workday). Pipetting steps include but are not limited to aspirating, dispensing, transferring, and mixing of fluids.

A bidder's failure to meet these minimum prior experience requirements will cause their bid to be considered non-responsive and rejected.

#### **SEC. 1.04 INVITATION TO BID (ITB) REVIEW**

Bidders shall carefully review this ITB for defects and questionable or objectionable material. Comments concerning defects and questionable or objectionable material in the ITB should be made in writing and received by the procurement officer at least ten days before the bid opening date. This will allow time for an amendment to be issued if one is required. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective bid, upon which award cannot be made, and the resultant exposure of bidders' prices.

#### **SEC. 1.05 QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS**

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 ITB. These questions may be answered over the telephone. Other questions may be more complex and may require a written amendment to the ITB. The procurement officer will make that decision.

#### **SEC. 1.06 SITE INSPECTION**

Removed.

#### **SEC. 1.07 SUBMITTING BIDS**

All submissions for ITB 230000027- Liquid Handling Robot

##### **Email Submission**

The preferred method of response submission to this solicitation is via email, sent to the following address:

[dfg.contracting@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.contracting@alaska.gov)

The email submission must contain the ITB number in the subject line. In the body of the email, please indicate the Procurement Officer's name, the Bidder's name, the number of attachments, and the names of the attachments being submitted.

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 bids exceeds this size, the bid must be sent in multiple emails that are each less than 20 megabytes; each email must comply with the requirements above. Please also include an indication of multiple email submissions (1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc).

It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure that the issuing agency has received the bid in full, prior to the

deadline. The Procurement Officer will respond to the email to confirm receipt. If you do not receive a confirmation, it is your responsibility to contact the Procurement Officer to confirm. The State is not responsible for lost, unreadable, or corrupt emails, or missing attachments.

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

### **Paper Submission**

If submitting a bid by mail, Bidder must submit one hard copy of their bid to the procurement officer in a sealed package.

#### **The bid must be addressed as follows:**

Department of Fish and Game  
Division of Administrative Services  
Attention: Kristie Ely, Procurement Officer  
ITB Number: 230000027  
ITB Title: Liquid Handling Robot

#### **If mailing via US Mail, please use the following address:**

PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

If utilizing a delivery service, please use the following address:

1255 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St  
Procurement Section  
Juneau, AK 99801

#### **If faxing, please use the below number:**

907-465-6181

An offeror's failure to submit its bid prior to the deadline will cause the bid to be disqualified.

Late bids or amendments will not be opened or accepted for evaluation.

Oral proposals will not be accepted.

## **SEC. 1.08 BID FORMS**

Bidders shall use the front page of this ITB and any other forms identified in this ITB for submitting bids. All bids must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the bidder to the provisions of the ITB.

### **BIDDER'S CERTIFICATION**

By signature on the bid, the bidder certifies 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 state and federal government;
- D. the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the state and federal government;
- E. all terms and conditions set out in this ITB;
- F. the price(s) submitted was arrived at independently arrived and without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
- G. that the bid will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

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

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Each bid shall include a statement indicating whether or not the company 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 bid 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 bidder.

### SEC. 1.09 PRICES

The bidder shall state prices in the units of issue on this ITB. Prices quoted in bids must be exclusive of federal, state, and local taxes. If the bidder believes that certain taxes are payable by the state, the bidder may list such taxes separately, directly below the bid price for the affected item.

### SEC. 1.10 PRE-BID CONFERENCE

Removed.

### SEC. 1.11 ASSISTANCE TO BIDDERS WITH A DISABILITY

Bidders with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this ITB 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 bids.

### SEC. 1.12 AMENDMENTS TO BIDS

Amendments to or withdrawals of bids will only be allowed if acceptable requests are received prior to the deadline that is set for receipt of bids, in accordance with 2 AAC 12.140. No amendments or withdrawals will be accepted after the deadline unless the delay is due to an error of the contracting agency, in accordance with 2 AAC 12.160.

### SEC. 1.13 AMENDMENTS TO THE ITB

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

### SEC. 1.14 ITB SCHEDULE

The ITB 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 bids, is delayed, the rest of the schedule may be shifted accordingly. All times are Alaska Time.

ACTIVITY	TIME	DATE
Issue Date / ITB Released		4/14/2023
Deadline for Receipt of Bids / Bid Due Date	14:00	4/28/2023
Bid Evaluations Complete		5/2/2023
Notice of Intent to Award		5/3/2023
Contract Issued		5/15/2023

This ITB does not, by itself, obligate the state. The state's obligation will commence when the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game, or the Commissioner's designee. 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. 1.15 ALTERNATE BIDS**

Bidders may only submit one bid for evaluation. In accordance with 2 AAC 12.830 alternate bids (bids that offer something different than what is asked for) will be rejected.

#### **SEC. 1.16 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Bidders shall submit all required technical, specification, and other supporting information with their bid, so that a detailed analysis and determination can be made by the procurement officer that the product offered meets the ITB specifications and that other requirements of the ITB have been met. However, provided a bid meets the requirements for a definite, firm, unqualified, and unconditional offer, the state reserves the right to request supplemental information from the bidder, after the bids have been opened, to ensure that the products or services offered completely meet the ITB requirements. The requirement for such supplemental information will be at the reasonable discretion of the state and may include the requirement that a bidder will provide a sample product(s) so that the state can make a first-hand examination and determination.

A bidder's failure to provide this supplemental information or the product sample(s), within the time set by the state, will cause the state to consider the offer non-responsive and reject the bid.

#### **SEC. 1.17 FIRM, UNQUALIFIED, AND UNCONDITIONAL OFFER**

Bidders must provide enough information with their bid to constitute a definite, firm, unqualified and unconditional offer. To be responsive a bid must constitute a definite, firm, unqualified and unconditional offer to meet all the material terms of the ITB. Material terms are those that could affect the price, quantity, quality, or delivery. Also included as material terms are those which are clearly identified in the ITB and which, for reasons of policy, must be complied with at risk of bid rejection for non-responsiveness.

## SECTION 2. CONTRACT INFORMATION

### SEC. 2.01 CONTRACT TERM

The length of the contract will be for an initial one (1) year warranty agreement term with four (4) one (1) year renewal options and a five (5) year master agreement/contract for supplies, parts and upgrades not included in the maintenance contract.

### SEC. 2.02 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

The administration of this contract is the responsibility of the procurement officer or person appointed by the Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries, Gene Conservation laboratory (GCL).

### SEC. 2.03 CONTRACT FUNDING

Department of Fish and Game, Division of COMMERCIAL FISHERIES, GCL, will not accept bids that exceed \$300,000.00. Bids submitted in that exceed \$300,000.00 will be deemed non-responsive.

ADF&G's master agreement for supplies, parts, and upgrades with the awarded bidder will not exceed \$150,000.00 annually.

### SEC. 2.04 CONTRACT EXTENSION

Unless otherwise provided in this ITB, the state and the successful bidder/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 written notice to the contractor of the intent to cancel the month-to-month extension at least thirty (30) days before the date of cancellation. A month-to-month extension may only be executed by the procurement officer via a written contract amendment.

### SEC. 2.05 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 state 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 required state approvals necessary for the amendment and issued a written contract amendment.

### SEC. 2.06 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractor experience **SHALL NOT** be considered in determining whether the bidder meets the requirements set forth in **SEC. 2.01 PRIOR EXPERIENCE**.

If a bid with subcontractors is selected, the bidder 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.

A bidder's failure to provide this information, within the time set, may cause the state to consider their bid non-responsive and reject it.

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

## SEC. 2.07 JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

## SEC. 2.08 CONTRACT PERFORMANCE LOCATION

The Instrument to be delivered and installed at:

ADFG-GCL

Attn: Zac Grauvogel (907-267-2275), Heather Hoyt (907-267-2231), or Jodi Estrada (907-267-2249)

333 Raspberry Rd

Anchorage, AK 99518

The state **WILL** provide workspace for the contractor. The contractor must provide its own workspace.

The contractor should include in their bid price: transportation, lodging, and per diem costs sufficient to pay for THE TRAVEL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING THE Liquid handling Robot at the above location.

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

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

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 bid as non-responsive, or cancel the contract.

## SEC. 2.09 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. 2.10 SCOPE OF WORK AND SPECIFICATIONS

**Minimum Requirements of Proposed Equipment:**

The liquid handling system will include liquid handling instrumentation and computer hardware and software that will integrate with GCL's existing laboratory protocols to perform SNP genotyping via NextGen sequencing on Illumina's NextSeq platform and microsatellite genotyping via Applied Biosystems' 3730 DNA Analyzer. The system must be capable of independent, hands-off operation during the run of a liquid handling program, allowing the operator to prepare supplies for following runs. Bid must also include installation of the instrument by a qualified technician and hands-on training for performing all the processes named above with telephone and on-site support.

## **I. The instrument**

The liquid handling system will be used for 384-well to 96-well microplate transfers and vice versa, 96-well dilutions, and 384-well to 384-well transfers. The instrument must provide for completely automatic self-calibration. The instrument must include an internal or external controller with all operating systems and controlling software pre-installed and be capable of operating without a network connection, or be compatible with, and the controlling software installed after, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game; Office of Information Technology (OIT) installs its standard OS and security software using an image installation process. The controller must have a user interface equivalent to a monitor, keyboard, and mouse for programming of liquid handling methods. The instrument must be no larger than thirty-four inches deep, eighty-eight inches wide, fifty-five inches high, with weight light enough to be supported by a standard plywood cabinet with a one-inch-thick epoxy resin countertop. The instrumentation should be capable of performing the following tasks:

### **A. Pipetting**

Tip spacing for all the pipetting tasks must conform to the Society for Biomolecular Sciences (SBS) standard dimensions for a 96-well microplate (twelve columns and eight rows with 9mm between well centers). The instrumentation must have a 96-multichannel pipetting head with the capability to load tips on all 96 mandrels, or partial loading of a subsample of tips in multiples of 8 tips in a column, or 12 tips in a row. The instrumentation must provide for tip removal to a trash supply for all pipetting tasks. The trash supply can be the originating tip box or an empty tip box and is preferred by GCL to maximize deck space for labware. All pipetting systems must move in the X, Y, and Z axis of a Cartesian coordinate rectangular system.

Basic pipetting techniques should account for the liquid types of ethanol, water, and DMSO, and provide the ability to develop custom pipetting templates for other specific liquid types.

#### **1. 96-channel pipetting**

The 96-channel pipetting system should be capable of performing the following functions:

- Instrument must be capable of using disposable tips or fixed washable tips. However, disposable tips are preferred.
- 96-channel pipetting from 0.5 microliter ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) to 300 $\mu\text{L}$ .
- 96-channel pipetting to SBS standard 384-well plates from multiple manufacturers.
- Aspirate and dispense accurately at speeds as low as 1  $\mu\text{L}$  per second and as high as 100 $\mu\text{L}$  per second.
- Aspirating a leading air gap prior to aspirating liquids for air blowout after dispensing the liquid.
- Aspirating a trailing air gap after aspirating the liquid to prevent low viscosity liquids from dripping out of the tips.
- Tip touching the sides of labware wells after aspirating and dispensing liquids to assist in removing clinging liquid from the tips.
- Multidispense to different locations from a single aspiration.
- Allow for use of optional low volume sampling tips to enable pipetting volumes below 10  $\mu\text{L}$  and down to 500nL.
- Use multiple disposable tip sizes on a single sampling probe, including approximately 20 $\mu\text{L}$ , 50 $\mu\text{L}$ , and 200 $\mu\text{L}$  tips both filtered and unfiltered.

- In less than twenty minutes complete a series of transfers from each quadrant of seven 384-well plates into three new 384-well plates containing 9.4µL of liquid, using a unique set of tips for each quadrant. Each transfer must aspirate 6.5µL from the source location, dispense 3µL back into the source location, then dispense 0.5µL into the new destination location, and then dispensing the remaining volume back into the source plate. The dispensed liquid in the destination plate then must be mixed 7 times with the 9µL present. After three of the source plates are transferred to the first destination plate, the tips must be washed at a wash station, then two new source plates are transferred to a new destination plate, followed by a second wash step, with the final two source plates transferred to the last destination plate.
- In less than five minutes complete four combination transfers of 19µL from a reservoir and 1µL from each 96-well quadrant of a 384-well plate into the same quadrant of a new 384-well plate using a unique set of tips for each quadrant.
- In less than five minutes complete four combination transfers of 10µL of binding buffer from a reservoir and 11µL of PCR product from each 96-well quadrant of a 384-well plate into a separate 96-well Applied Biosystems™ SequalPrep™ Normalization Plate (SequalPrep Plates) for each quadrant, mixing the two liquids after their transfer, using a unique set of tips for each quadrant.
- In less than ten minutes transfer 20µL or 50µL of buffer from a reservoir into twelve SequalPrep Plates, with a mix step in the SequalPrep Plate, using a unique set of tips for each plate.

## 2. 8-channel column and 12-channel row pipetting

The 8-channel and 12-channel pipetting system should be capable of performing the following functions:

- Accommodate plate-to-plate transfers using 96-well plates and 384-well plates.
- Transfer one or more columns of eight wells in a SBS standard 96-well plate to another set of columns in the same plate or to a set of columns in another plate.
- Transfer one or more rows of twelve wells in a SBS standard 96-well plate to another set of rows in the same plate or to a set of rows in another plate.
- Pipette from one microliter to 230µL in a single aspiration/dispense cycle.
- Aspirate and dispense accurately at speeds as low as 1 µL per second and as high as 100µL per second.
- The pipettor head must be capable of using fixed tips or disposable tips. However, disposable tips are preferred to decrease method run time.
- Must be able to access SBS microplate well-to-well dimensions.
- Must provide for automatic tip loading.
- Allow for use of optional low volume sampling tips to enable pipetting volumes below 10µL and down to 500 nanoliters.
- Use multiple disposable tip sizes on a single sampling probe, including approximately 20µL, 50µL, and 200µL tips, both filtered and unfiltered.

## B. Work Surface (Deck Layout)

The instrumentation must provide for a minimum of forty-two functional labware positions reachable by the pipetting system on the work surface or “deck”, not including positions for a tip loader, tip washing, or tip waste stations if they are needed for proper functioning of the liquid handler. Labware is defined as tips, tip boxes, reservoirs, titer plates, tube racks, and other containers used for liquid handling. Positions must fit labware conforming to SBS-standard dimensions. The 96-channel system must be able to reach fifteen tip boxes and move them to a tip loading station, if needed. The deck must also have a wash station that can accommodate washing a full set of 96 tips at once. *Do not* include any positions or equipment for unlisted specifications, such as orbital shakers, vacuum filtration systems, incubators, barcode readers, etc. Figure 1 offers an example Deck layout.

Figure 1. Example deck where T# positions are tip box or general labware locations, P# positions are for general labware, and WS1 is the wash station.

	TL1	TL6	TL11	P1	P11	P16	P21	P26	WS1
	TL2	TL7	TL12	P2	P12	P17	P22	P27	P31
	TL3	TL8	TL13	P3	P13	P18	P23	P28	P32
	TL4	TL9	TL14	P4	P14	P19	P24	P29	P33
	TL5	TL10	TL15	P5	P15	P20	P25	P30	P34

### C. Safety Features

- Instrumentation must provide a protective barrier between the operator and the instrument's operational space while instrument is moving to prevent injury to the operator. This barrier can be physical such as a Plexiglas shield, or a system designed to detect movement of a foreign body into the instrument's operational space, halting the instrument when the situation occurs, such as a light curtain.
- Instrumentation must provide an emergency stop function to prevent damage to the instrument due to collisions. This function can be physical, such as an emergency switch or button on or near the instrument, or a system designed to detect movement of a foreign body into the instrument's operational space, halting the instrument when the situation occurs, such as a light curtain.

## II. Software

The operating software must be easy to use and provide for simple import/export functions for programs (methods), labware, and liquid handling techniques. The software must provide simulation software for the purpose of method writing on a laptop or desktop PC and then viewing the robotic operation in a simulated form prior to running the optimized method on the liquid handler. The software should operate in a Microsoft Windows operating environment, as well as provide:

- Software license that allows for installation on multiple PCs in addition to the instrument operating PC.
- Simulation options for viewing method development in real time separate from the liquid handling device.
- Software that allows for liquid handling protocols to be delimited by Microsoft Excel worksheets.
- Software should enable users to determine when to dispose of tips and when to reuse them. System should be capable of re-using a tip when performing duplicate transfers.
- Software must allow any combination of labware to be included on deck for use in processing within a single protocol. Labware should include but not be limited to test tubes, microplates, deep well plates, troughs, reservoirs, micro centrifuge vials, etc.
- The software must allow 'drag and drop' functionality for definition of labware on the deck.
- Software should enable users to define pipetting techniques specific for different liquids and be able to use multiple techniques in each program.

- Software must enable users to define customized message boxes before or after protocols, or between tests allowing for easier user instructions and interfacing with other instrumentation.
- For all aspirations and dispenses, software must allow for optionally choosing tip touches, leading and trailing air gaps, and mixing steps.
- Software must check methods for pipetting errors before running on the instrument including, but not limited to, insufficient liquid volumes for designated pipetting, pipetting or movement heights which would result in collisions, and pipetting and movement speeds that exceed instrument tolerances.

### **III. Training\***

Training must be provided to instruct three operators in all aspects of the liquid handling system including:

- Setting up or changing instrument workspace.
- Writing and adapting programs for instrumentation, including developing techniques for handling different liquid types, performing multiple dispenses for a single aspiration step, combining liquids from multiple sources into a single destination, setting dispense, aspirate, mix and spatial movement speeds, and adapting current pipetting methods to the instrument.
- All functional aspects of the instrumentation's software, including importing and exporting of programs, defining labware, manual operation of instrumentation, and running simulations.
- Basic troubleshooting for instrument, software, or program errors.
- Minor instrument repairs.
- Standard maintenance of instrument performed regularly by operators.

\*Training is not required if bidder is submitting a Beckman Coulter iSeries BioMek, as GCL already has two of these systems in the lab.

### **IV. Accessories**

- Bid must include costs for accessories listed in the bid table, including costs for an annual supply of disposable tips.

## **SEC. 2.11 F.O.B. POINT**

The F.O.B. point for this ITB will be GCL Lab, 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518

The contractor will be required to prepare the items for shipping and to ship them to the ultimate destination specified in the state's order. The contractor will be required to prepay the freight charges from the F.O.B. point to the ultimate destination. The contractor may charge-back the freight charges from the F.O.B. point to the ultimate destination as a separate item on the state's invoice. These costs must be billed as a pass-through charge.

## **SEC. 2.12 SHIPPING DAMAGE**

The state will not accept or pay for damaged goods. The contractor must file all claims against the carrier(s) for damages incurred to items in transit from the point of origin to the ultimate destination. The state will provide the contractor with written notice when damaged goods are received. The state will deduct the cost of the damaged goods from the invoice prior to payment. The contractor must file all claims against the carrier(s) for reimbursement of the loss.

### **SEC. 2.13 DELIVERY TIME**

removed.

### **SEC. 2.14 INSPECTION & MODIFICATION - REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNACCEPTABLE DELIVERABLES**

The contractor is responsible for providing all products or the completion of all work set out in the contract. All products or work is subject to inspection, evaluation, and approval by the state. The state may employ all reasonable means to ensure that the work is progressing and being performed in compliance with the contract. The state may instruct the contractor to make corrections or modifications if needed in order to accomplish the contract's intent. The contractor will not unreasonably withhold such changes.

Substantial failure of the contractor to perform the contract may cause the state to terminate the contract. In this event, the state may require the contractor to reimburse monies paid (based on the identified portion of unacceptable products or work received) and may seek associated damages.

### **SEC. 2.15 CONTINUING OBLIGATION OF CONTRACTOR**

Notwithstanding the expiration date of a contract resulting from this ITB, the contractor is obligated to fulfill its responsibilities until warranty, guarantee, maintenance, and parts availability requirements have completely expired.

### **SEC. 2.16 ESTIMATED QUANTITIES**

The quantities referenced in this ITB are the state's estimated requirements and may vary more or less from the quantities actually purchased. The state does not guarantee any minimum or maximum purchase. Orders will be issued throughout the contract period on an as-needed basis.

### **SEC. 2.17 CONTRACT PRICE ADJUSTMENTS**

Removed.

### **SEC. 2.18 INFORMAL DEBRIEFING**

When the contract is completed, an informal debriefing may be performed at the discretion of the procurement officer. If performed, the scope of the debriefing will be limited to the products provided or work performed by the contractor.

### **SEC. 2.19 INDEMNIFICATION**

The contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the contracting agency from and against any claim of, or liability for error, omission or negligent act of the contractor 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 contracting agency. If there is a claim of, or liability for, the joint negligent error or omission of the contractor and the independent negligence of the contracting agency, the indemnification and hold harmless obligation shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis.

"Contractor" and "contracting agency", 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. 2.20 INSURANCE

Without limiting the contractor's indemnification, it is agreed that the 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 procurement officer prior to contract approval 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.

### **Proof of insurance is required for the following:**

- 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 occurrence.
- 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 occurrence.

## SEC. 2.21 MANDATORY REPORTING

The contractor must provide a quarterly usage report to the procurement officer in an electronic format (Excel). The report must contain at least the following information: purchasing entity, description of items and/or services purchased, date of purchase, contract price, retail price, extended contract and retail price, and savings.

These reports are due 30 days after the end of each quarter. The contractor's failure to provide these reports as required may result in contract default action.

<b><u>Reporting Period</u></b>	<b><u>Due Date</u></b>
State Fiscal Quarter 1 (Jul 1 - Sept 30):	Oct 31
State Fiscal Quarter 2 (Oct 1 - Dec 31):	Jan 31
State Fiscal Quarter 3 (Jan 1 - Mar 31):	Apr 30
State Fiscal Quarter 4 (Apr 1 - Jun 30):	Jul 31

Any quarter with zero sales must be reported as zero sales. This may be done via email to the procurement officer.

## **SECTION 3. CONTRACT INVOICING AND PAYMENTS**

### **SEC. 3.01 BILLING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1.**

Invoices must be billed to the ordering agency's address shown on the individual Purchase Order, Contract Award or Delivery Order. The state will make payment after it receives the goods or services and the invoice. Questions concerning payment must be addressed to the ordering agency.

### **SEC. 3.02 PAYMENT FOR STATE PURCHASES**

Payment for agreements under \$500,000 for the undisputed purchase of goods or services provided to a state agency, will be made within 30 days of the receipt of a proper billing or the delivery of the goods or services to the location(s) specified in the agreement, whichever is later. A late payment is subject to 1.5% interest per month on the unpaid balance. Interest will not be paid if there is a dispute or if there is an agreement that establishes a lower interest rate or precludes the charging of interest.

Any single contract payments of \$1 million or higher must be accepted by the contractor via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

### **SEC. 3.03 PROMPT PAYMENT FOR STATE PURCHASES**

Removed.

### **SEC. 3.04 THIRD-PARTY FINANCING AGREEMENTS NOT ALLOWED**

Because of the additional administrative and accounting time required of the state when third party financing agreements are permitted, they will not be allowed under this contract.



## SECTION 4. EVALUATION AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION

### SEC. 4.01 EVALUATION OF BIDS

After bid opening, the procurement officer will evaluate the bids for responsiveness. Bids deemed non-responsive will be eliminated from further consideration. An evaluation may not be based on discrimination due the race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, or political affiliation of the bidder.

### SEC. 4.02 APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES

Certain preferences apply to all state contracts, regardless of their dollar value. The Alaska Bidder and Alaska Veteran preferences are the most common preferences involved in the ITB process. Additional preferences that may apply to this procurement are listed below. Guides that contain excerpts from the relevant statutes and codes, explain when the preferences apply and provide examples of how to calculate the preferences are available at the following website:

<http://doa.alaska.gov/dgs/pdf/pref1.pdf>

- Alaska Products Preference - AS 36.30.332
- Recycled Products Preference - AS 36.30.337
- Local Agriculture and Fisheries Products Preference - AS 36.15.050
- Employment Program Preference - AS 36.30.321(b)
- Alaskans with Disabilities Preference - AS 36.30.321(d)

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development keeps a list of qualified employment programs and individuals who qualify as persons with a disability. As evidence of a business' or an individual's right to the Employment Program or Alaskans with Disabilities preferences, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will issue a certification letter. To take advantage of these preferences, a business or individual must be on the appropriate Division of Vocational Rehabilitation list prior to the time designated for receipt of proposals. Bidders must attach a copy of their certification letter to the proposal. **A bidder's failure to provide this certification letter with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.**

### SEC. 4.03 ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE

An Alaska Bidder Preference of 5% will be applied to the total bid price. The preference will be given to a bidder who:

- 1) holds a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of bids;
- 2) submits a bid for goods or services under the name appearing on the bidder's current Alaska business license;
- 3) has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the bidder, or an employee of the bidder, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the bid;
- 4) is incorporated or qualified to do business under the laws of the state, is a sole proprietorship and the proprietor is a resident of the state, is a limited liability company (LLC) organized under AS 10.50 and all members are residents of the state, or is a partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 and all partners are residents of the state; and

- 5) if a joint venture, is composed entirely of ventures that qualify under (1)-(4) of this subsection.

#### **Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form**

In order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference, the bid must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this ITB. A bidder does not need to complete the Alaska Veteran Preference questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran Preference. A bidder's failure to provide this completed form with their bid will cause the state to disallow the preference.

### **SEC. 4.04 ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE**

An Alaska Veteran Preference of 5%, not to exceed \$5,000, will be applied to the total bid price. The preference will be given to a bidder who qualifies under AS 36.30.990(2) as an Alaska Bidder and is a:

- a) sole proprietorship owned by an Alaska veteran;
- b) partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 if a majority of the partners are Alaska veterans;
- c) limited liability company organized under AS 10.50 if a majority of the members are Alaska veterans; or
- d) corporation that is wholly owned by individuals, and a majority of the individuals are Alaska veterans.

In accordance with AS 36.30.321(i), the bidder must also add value by actually performing, controlling, managing, and supervising the services provided, or for supplies, the bidder must have sold supplies of the general nature solicited to other state agencies, other government, or the general public.

#### **Alaska Veteran Preference Certification**

In order to receive the Alaska Veteran Preference, the bid must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this ITB. A bidder's failure to provide this completed form with their bid will cause the state to disallow the preference.

### **SEC. 4.05 USE OF LOCAL FOREST PRODUCTS**

In a project financed by state money in which the use of timber, lumber and manufactured lumber is required, only timber, lumber and manufactured lumber products originating in this state from Alaska forests shall be used unless the use of those products has been determined to be impractical, in accordance with AS 36.15.010 and AS 36.30.322.

### **SEC. 4.06 LOCAL AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES PRODUCT PREFERENCE**

When agricultural, dairy, timber, lumber, or fisheries products are purchased using state money, a seven percent (7%) preference shall be applied to the price of the products harvested in Alaska, or in the case of fisheries products, the products harvested or processed within the jurisdiction of Alaska, in accordance with AS 36.15.050.

### **SEC. 4.07 ALASKA PRODUCT PREFERENCE**

A bidder that designates the use of an Alaska Product which meets the requirements of the ITB specifications and is designated as a Class I, Class II or Class III Alaska Product by the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCCED) may receive a preference in the bid evaluation in accordance with AS 36.30.332 and 3 AAC 92.010.

To qualify for the preference, the product must have received certification from DCCED, be listed in the current published edition of the Alaska Products Preference List, and the bidder must provide the qualified product on a 100% basis. There are no provisions under Alaska Statutes or Regulations that allow for a product

exchanges/substitutions or permit the product to be co-mingled with other products. Rather, AS 36.30.330 provides for a penalty for failing to use the designated Alaska products.

Products are classified in one of three categories:

- Class I products receive a 3% preference.
- Class II products receive a 5% preference.
- Class III products receive a 7% preference.

When the bids are evaluated, the preference percentage will be deducted from the product price. If a bidder fails to specify the brand being offered, no preference will be given. For more information on the Alaska Product Preference and to see the list of products currently on the Alaska Product Preference List, use the following web link:

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/AlaskaProductPreferenceProgram.aspx>

#### **Brand Offered**

If offering a product that qualifies for the Alaska Product Preference, the bidder must indicate the brand of product they intent to provide. If a bidder is not offering a product that qualifies for the Alaska Product Preference, the bidder does not need to indicate a product brand.

#### **Brand of Product Changes**

During the course of the contract including all renewal options, a contractor that offered a product that qualified for the Alaska Product Preference wishes to change the product brand, the contractor must first provide a written request, along with evidence that the replacement brand also qualifies for the Alaska Product Preference, for approval by the procurement officer. A contract amendment must be issued by the procurement officer to authorize the change.

If a bidder offers a product brand in the original bid that does not qualify for the Alaska Product Preference, a change in the product brand may be made at any time during the course of the contract, including all renewals, as long as the product band continues to meet the required specifications. A contract amendment is not required if the product brand originally offered did not qualify for the Alaska Product Preference.

### **SEC. 4.08 EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM PREFERENCE**

If a bidder qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference and is offering goods or services through an employment program as defined under AS 36.30.990(12), an Employment Program Preference of 15% will be applied to the total bid price.

In accordance with AS 36.30.321(i), the bidder must also add value by actually performing, controlling, managing, and supervising the services provided, or for supplies, the bidder must have sold supplies of the general nature solicited to other state agencies, other government, or the general public.

### **SEC. 4.09 ALASKANS WITH DISABILITIES PREFERENCE**

If a bidder qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference and is a qualifying entity as defined in AS 36.30.321(d), an Alaskans with Disabilities Preference of 10% will be applied to the total bid price.

In accordance with AS 36.30.321(i), the bidder must also add value by actually performing, controlling, managing, and supervising the services provided, or for supplies, the bidder must have sold supplies of the general nature solicited to other state agencies, other government, or the general public.

#### **SEC. 4.10 PREFERENCE QUALIFICATION LETTER**

Regarding the Employment Program Preference and the Alaskans with Disabilities Preference, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development maintains lists companies who qualify for those preferences. As evidence of a company's right to the preferences, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will issue a certification letter. To take advantage of the preferences, a bidder must be on the appropriate Division of Vocational Rehabilitation list at the time the bid is opened and must attach a copy of their certification letter to their bid. The bidder's failure to provide this certification letter with their bid will cause the state to disallow the preference.

#### **SEC. 4.11 EXTENSION OF PRICES**

In case of error in the extension of prices in the bid, the unit prices will govern; in a lot bid, the lot prices will govern.

#### **SEC. 4.12 METHOD OF AWARD**

Award will be made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. In order to be considered responsive, bidders must bid on all items.

#### **SEC. 4.13 CONTRACTOR SELECTION PROCESS**

Once the contracts are established this selection process will be used. When the state needs security services the lowest priced contractor for that location will be contacted first. If, for any reason, the lowest contractor is not available to perform the needed service, the state will contact the next lowest priced contractor for that location. This process will continue until a contractor who can perform the service is located. The location of the contractor initially contacted will be determined by the starting location of the call-out. For instance, if there was a need to transport a person from Anchorage to Fairbanks and then guard the person for two days in Fairbanks, the agency would contact Anchorage contractors, even though a substantial portion of the actual service would be performed in Fairbanks.

#### **SEC. 4.14 NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD**

After the responses to this ITB have been opened and evaluated, a tabulation of the bids will be prepared. This tabulation, called a Notice of Intent to Award, serves two purposes. It lists the name of each company or person that offered a bid and the price they bid. It also provides notice of the state's intent to award a contract(s) to the bidder(s) indicated. A copy of the Notice of Intent will be mailed to each company or person who responded to the ITB. Bidders identified as the apparent low responsive bidders are instructed not to proceed until a Purchase Order, Contract Award, Lease, or some other form of written notice is given by the procurement officer. A company or person who proceeds prior to receiving a Purchase Order, Contract Award, Lease, or some other form of written notice from the procurement officer does so without a contract and at their own risk.

## SECTION 5. GENERAL PROCESS AND LEGAL INFORMATION

### SEC. 5.01 ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES

Prior to the award of a contract, a bidder 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 Alaskans with Disabilities Preference, a bidder must hold a valid Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of bids. Bidders 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 bidder possesses a valid Alaska business license may consist of any one of the following:

- copy of an Alaska business license;
- certification on the bid that the bidder has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the bid;
- 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 bidder has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.

You are not required to hold a valid Alaska business license at the time bids 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 bids, all bidders must hold any other necessary applicable professional licenses required by Alaska Statute.

### SEC. 5.02 AUTHORITY

This ITB is written in accordance with AS 36.30 and 2 AAC 12.

### SEC. 5.03 COMPLIANCE

In the performance of a contract that results from this ITB, the contractor must comply with all applicable federal, state, and borough regulations, codes, and laws; be liable for all required insurance, licenses, permits and bonds; and pay all applicable federal, state, and borough taxes.

### SEC. 5.04 SUITABLE MATERIALS, ETC.

Unless otherwise specified in this ITB, all materials, supplies or equipment offered by a bidder shall be new, unused, and of the latest edition, version, model or crop and of recent manufacture.

## **SEC. 5.05 SPECIFICATIONS**

Unless otherwise specified in this ITB, product brand names or model numbers specified in this ITB are examples of the type and quality of product required, and are not statements of preference. If the specifications describing an item conflict with a brand name or model number describing the item, the specifications govern. Reference to brand name or number does not preclude an offer of a comparable or better product, if full specifications and descriptive literature are provided for the product. Failure to provide such specifications and descriptive literature may be cause for rejection of the offer.

## **SEC. 5.06 CONTRACTOR SITE INSPECTION**

The state may conduct on-site visits to evaluate the bidder's capacity to perform the contract. A bidder must agree, at risk of being found non-responsive and having its bid 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. 5.07 ORDER DOCUMENTS**

Except as specifically allowed under this ITB, an ordering agency will not sign any vendor contract. The state is not bound by a vendor contract signed by a person who is not specifically authorized to sign for the state under this ITB. Unless otherwise specified in this ITB, the State of Alaska Purchase Order, Contract Award and Delivery Order are the only order documents that may be used to place orders against the contract(s) resulting from this ITB.

## **SEC. 5.08 HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

By signature on their bid, the bidder certifies that the bidder 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: <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/>

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

## **SEC. 5.09 RIGHT OF REJECTION**

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

Bidders may not qualify the bid nor restrict the rights of the state. If a bidder does so, the procurement officer may determine the bid to be a non-responsive counter-offer and the bid 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 ITB;
- 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 bid from a debarred or suspended bidder shall be rejected.**

## SEC. 5.10 STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS

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

## SEC. 5.11 DISCLOSURE OF BID CONTENTS

All bid prices become public information at the bid opening. After the deadline for receipt of bids, all other bid 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 other bid information will be held in confidence during the evaluation process and prior to the time a Notice of Intent to Award is issued. Thereafter, bids will become public information.

The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM), or their designee recognizes that some information an offeror submits might be confidential under the United States or the State of Alaska Constitution, a federal statute or regulation, or a State of Alaska statute: i.e., might be confidential business information (CBI). *See, e.g.*, article 1, section 1 of the Alaska Constitution; AS 45.50.910 – 45.50.945 (the Alaska Uniform Trade Secrets Act); *DNR v. Arctic Slope Regional Corp.*, 834 P.2d 134, 137-39 (Alaska 1991). For OPPM or their designee to treat information an offeror submits with its proposal as CBI, the offeror must do the following when submitting their proposal: (1) mark the specific information it asserts is CBI; and (2) for each discrete set of such information, identify, in writing, each authority the offeror asserts make the information CBI. If the offeror does not do these things, the information will become public after the Notice of Intent to Award is issued. If the offeror does these things, OPPM or their designee will evaluate the offeror's assertion upon receiving a request for the information. If OPPM or their designee reject the assertion, they will, to the extent permitted by federal and State of Alaska law, undertake reasonable measures to give the offeror an opportunity to object to the disclosure of the information.

## SEC. 5.12 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. Bids that are conditioned upon the state's approval of an assignment will be rejected as non-responsive.

## SEC. 5.13 FORCE MAJEURE (IMPOSSIBILITY TO PERFORM)

The parties to a contract resulting from this ITB are not liable for the consequences of any failure to perform, or default in performing, any of its obligations under the contract, 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 ITB, 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.

#### **SEC. 5.14     DEFAULT**

In case of default by the contractor, for any reason whatsoever, the state may procurement the goods or services from another source and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting excess cost and may seek other remedies under law or equity.

#### **SEC. 5.15     DISPUTES**

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 – AS 36.30.632.

#### **SEC. 5.16     SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of the contract or agreement 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. 5.17     CONTRACT CANCELLATION**

The state reserves the right to cancel the contract at its convenience upon **60** calendar days written notice to the contractor. The state is only liable for payment in accordance with the payment provisions of this contract for supplies or services provide before the effective date termination.

#### **SEC. 5.18     GOVERNING LAW; FORUM SELECTION**

A contract resulting from this ITB is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. To the extent not otherwise governed by Section 5.15 of this ITB, any claim concerning the contract shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

#### **SEC. 5.19     SOLICITATION ADVERTISING**

Public notice has been provided in accordance with 2 AAC 12.220.

#### **SEC. 5.20     QUALIFIED BIDDERS**

Per 2 AAC 12.875, unless provided for otherwise in the ITB, to qualify as a bidder for award of a contract issued under AS 36.30, the bidder must:

- 1) Add value in the contract by actually performing, controlling, managing, or supervising the services to be provided; or
- 2) Be in the business of selling and have actually sold on a regular basis the supplies that are the subject of the ITB.

If the bidder leases services or supplies or acts as a broker or agency in providing the services or supplies in order to meet these requirements, the procurement officer may not accept the bidder as a qualified bidder under AS 36.30.

#### **SEC. 5.21     FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARIFFS**

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.

## SEC. 5.22 PROTEST

AS 36.30.560 provides that an interested party may protest the content of the ITB.

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 by the issuance of a contract solicitation, the award of a contract, or the failure to award a contract."

If an interested party wishes to protest the content of a solicitation, the protest must be received, in writing, by the procurement officer at least ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of bids.

AS 36.30.560 also provides that an interested party may protest the award of a contract or the proposed award of a contract.

If a bidder wishes to protest the award of a contract or the proposed award of a contract, the protest must be received, in writing, by the procurement officer within ten days after the date the Notice of Intent to Award the contract is issued.

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

Protests filed by telex or telegram are not acceptable because they do not contain a signature. Fax copies containing a signature are acceptable.

The procurement officer will issue a written response to the protest. The response will set out the procurement officer's decision and contain the basis of the decision within the statutory time limit in AS 36.30.580. A copy of the decision will be furnished to the protester by certified mail, fax or another method that provides evidence of receipt.

All bidders will be notified of any protest. The review of protests, decisions of the procurement officer, appeals, and hearings, will be conducted in accordance with the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), Article 8 "Legal and Contractual Remedies."

## SECTION 6. ATTACHMENTS

### SEC. 6.01 ATTACHMENTS

#### **Attachments:**

- 1) Cost Proposal
- 2) References

Bidder must include costs for shipping, installation, and training. GSL has available a JUN-AIR compressor, model number OF302-4m. If bidders liquid handling system requires a compressor and is compatible with this model, please state below and remove cost of compressor from bid.

BID TABLE

ITEM #	QTY	UNIT	Description	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	1	EA	Automated Liquid Handling System		
	System is compatible with pre-existing compressor [ <input type="checkbox"/> Yes [ <input type="checkbox"/> No Cost of compressor is removed from bid cost [ <input type="checkbox"/> Yes [ <input type="checkbox"/> No				
2	1	EA	System Controller		
3	>42	Labware Positions	Work Surface		
4	1	EA	Software		
5	1	EA	Installation		
6	1	EA	Training	\$ [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] N/A	
	Check the N/A box if bidder is submitting a Beckman Coulter I Series BioMek				
7	1	EA	Year two Service Contract		
8	1	EA	Year three Service Contract		
9	1	EA	Year four Service Contract		
10	1	EA	Year five Service Contract		
11	1	EA	Shipping		
12	Applied credit, if applicable, for "trade-in" of current model: Biomek FX, Single Pod, Multichannel AP96			-\$	-\$
13	Include ADF&G costs associated with trade-in:			\$	
ACCESSORIES					
14	500	Pack of 10	96-channel sterile tips 0.5-80uL minimum specifications		
15	4	Pack of 10	96-channel sterile tips 10-230uL minimum specifications		

## REFERENCES

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Laboratory Name</b>	<b>Laboratory Address</b>	<b>Laboratory Contact Point Name</b>	<b>Laboratory Contact Number</b>	<b>Laboratory Contact email</b>
1					
2					
3					

Contractor has provided the necessary evidence to show how the meet minimum requirements out lined in Sec. 1.03- ☐ Yes ☐ No