

STATE OF ALASKA INFORMAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (IRFP)



DNA ANALYSIS SERVICES IRFP 24ABI0520A

ISSUED OCTOBER 30, 2024

SNAPSHOT DNA ANALYSIS SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

ISSUED BY:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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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.

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE IRFP

The Department of Public Safety, Division of Administrative Services, on behalf of the Alaska Criminal Intelligence Center, is soliciting proposals for snapshot DNA services for law enforcement investigations on an as-needed basis. A more detailed description including scope of work is provided in Section 3.

SEC. 1.02 BUDGET

Payment for the contract is subject to funds already appropriated and identified for the initial term. Continuation of a contract resulting from this IRFP is contingent upon legislative appropriation.

SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be received no later than **4:00PM** prevailing Alaska Time on **November 12, 2024**. Late proposals or amendments will be disqualified and not opened or accepted for evaluation.

SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE

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

- Established state and/or federal accreditation that has been maintained and will be maintained for the duration of this contract. These accreditations must include International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards and Forensic Science Standard Practices (FSSP) that are incorporated into the vendor's standard operating procedures (SOP).
- Provided services similar to those in this solicitation to at least three law enforcement agencies of a similar or larger size to the Department of Public Safety

In order to prove prior experience, offerors shall provide accreditation certificates with their proposal and three completed Client Reference Forms to be considered responsive. At minimum, two of the three Client Reference Forms must be from law enforcement agencies.

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 that decision.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER: Dawn Rifenberick – PHONE 907-269-6635

SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

Offerors must submit one copy of their proposal via email. The technical proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to **dps.das.solicitations@alaska.gov** as separate, clearly labeled attachments, such as "Vendor A – Technical Proposal.pdf" and "Vendor A – Cost Proposal.pdf" (Vendor A is the name of the offeror). 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. Similar to 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 at (907) 269-6635 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.

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 accordingly. All times are Alaska Time.

- Issue IRFP **October 30, 2024**
- Deadline for Receipt of Proposal **November 12, 2024,**
- Proposal Evaluation Committee complete evaluation **the week of November 18, 2024,**
- State of Alaska issues Notice of Award the week of November 25, 2024,
- State of Alaska issues contract with start date of **December 1, 2024**

This IRFP 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 Public Safety, 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. 1.13 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 mission of the Alaska Criminal Intelligence Center (AKCIC) is to collect, evaluate, analyze, and disseminate information and intelligence data regarding criminal and terrorist activity in the State of Alaska while following appropriate privacy and civil liberties safeguards to ensure that information privacy and other legal rights of individuals and organizations are protected. AKCIC provides intelligence with respect to missing persons using data collection, analysis, and forensic genetic genealogy to identify unidentified human remains and return them to next of kin.

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK

The Department of Public Safety, Alaska State Troopers, is soliciting proposals for the processing of samples for its unidentified remains and missing persons investigations. Alaska has a significant number of contaminated samples and older cases that are challenging to process due to extreme weather conditions and vast area of responsibility.

The Contractor is to provide Snapshot DNA Analysis Services on an as-needed basis for law enforcement investigations requiring DNA analysis. Services may include DNA Processing, Mixture Deconvolution, Genetic Genealogy Screening, Genetic Genealogy Analysis, Phenotyping, Kinship Inference, and phenotypic forensic art enhancements. Offeror must be able to process challenging sample types including, but not limited to, highly degraded samples, contaminated samples, minimal remains for processing, low amounts of DNA, high amounts of non-human DNA, and mixed samples.

The Contractor must be able to evaluate and provide single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) array and whole genome sequencing (WGS) using technology that is current with industry standards and maintained with industry and equipment manufacturer standards.

(a) GENERAL SCOPE

The Contractor shall follow and maintain a documented quality control policy that is consistent with or exceeds the following minimum standards:

- Conformance to national industry standards
- Processing time for WGS, SNP, or DNA profile shall not exceed 60 days depending on complexity of sample. This includes processing and preparation of profiles for upload to any DNA website such as GED Match and/or FTDNA
- Results must be usable and prepared for upload into the above noted websites for use in investigative genetic genealogy (IGG). These reports and information will be provided to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) in a manner that is secure and consistent with security standards befitting legal challenges and dissemination to legal entities. This includes documentation of chain of custody (COC), mail tracking and records of receipt and mailing, as well as documentation of distribution of materials to DPS and the medical examiner's (ME) office or to third party processors. In addition, a record of the technician or employee processing the samples must be documented in case of court subpoena
- Results and corresponding information must be admissible in court, including a documented COC process for each sample
- Contractor must have an available expert witness for court testimony should the contractor's lab or the state be subpoenaed. The contractor must have a policy in place for who will testify in court. Should the contractor ever have be subpoenaed in court, documentation of court case will be provided to DPS if requested. Usual and customary fees for travel, expert witness fees, and Per Diem fees will be negotiated outside of this contract.
- Communication to DPS must be clear and timely as part of this contract. DPS expects a response from the contracted agency within two business days. This includes but is not limited to when the sample is received, the likelihood of success with testing before any costs will be incurred, before any dissemination to third party processors or companies and explanation of what is being performed and

provided to the third party, notice of unsuccessful attempts, and return of any remaining sample. In addition, recommendations regarding the sample or ability to test the sample for future use will be provided to DPS within two business days of receipt or discovery of inability to process the sample. A main point of contact with the successful bidder will be provided. Any change of this point of contact will be provided within two business days of the change.

- Biomaterial must be handled in a manner that allows for reevaluation, including a confrontation clause challenge, and resampling if necessary. Excess material that is not used by the lab will be returned to DPS if it is not utilized for DPS testing purposes. Guidance on preferred sampling areas or likelihood of a sample producing a successful result, will be provided by the successful bidder.
- The owner of the results of testing, subsequent data, and any remaining evidence will be the sole property of DPS. Any information retained in addition to DPS by the successful bidder will be noted and record of retention provided to DPS. Any remaining biomaterial will be returned to DPS according to previously specified procedures.
- Samples must be stored according to industry standard for different sample types
- Preferred but not required: experience working with international industry standards, specifically Canada

(b) REQUEST AND PROCESSING

The following process will be standard for test requests unless otherwise agreed upon on a case-by-case basis:

1. DPS will present a case to the Contractor and request the Contractor's input on what material would be best for testing from what is available
2. DPS will send the sample to the Contractor for analysis on the level of sample degradation to determine if DPS would like to proceed with the testing. Shipping will be at DPS's expense.
3. If DPS approves the testing, the Contractor shall process the sample with any requested testing.
4. If any sample remains after the testing, the Contractor shall send the sample back to DPS at the Contractor's expense. If the entire sample is consumed during testing, the Contractor shall indicate this clearly in the report. The Contractor shall also send back any unused sample requested by the state at the Contractor's expense. All shipping will be tracked with certified or similar tracking procedures depending on the carrier utilized. Copies of the COC record shall be provided with all samples returned to the state.

(c) ACRONYM KEY

COC – Chain of Custody

DPS – Department of Public Safety (AK)

FSSP – Forensic Science Standard Practices

IGG – Investigative Genetic Genealogy

ISO – International Organization for Standardization

ME – Medical Examiner

SNP – Single Nucleotide Polymorphism

SOP – Standard Operating Procedures

WGS – Whole Genome Sequencing

SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE

The length of the initial term of the contract will be from the date of award, approximately December 1, 2024, for approximately one year, with three, one-year renewal options to be exercised as the state's sole discretion.

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 written 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 written contract amendment.

SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES

The contractor will be required to provide the following deliverables:

- A. Execute the Scope of Work in Section 3.01 including
 - A. Respond to desired material requests within two business days of request from the state
 - B. Confirm receipt of any sample received and store the samples according to industry standards
 - C. Complete all approved testing within three business days of receiving the approval to proceed
 - D. Submit test results in a report format within five business days from completing the test
 - E. Maintain a documented quality control policy

SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE

This contract is a firm, fixed price contract.

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 CONTRACT PAYMENT

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety 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. 3.07 LOCATION OF WORK

The location the work is to be performed, completed and managed is the contractor's place of business. 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. 3.08 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors may be used to perform work 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. **All subcontractors, including any added throughout the life of the contract, must first be approved for use by the state.** Subcontractors shall adhere to the same COC and tracking procedures required of the Contractor, and the state shall be notified when a sample is being outsourced for testing.

Subcontractor experience shall not 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. 3.09 JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.10 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. 3.11 F.O.B. POINT

All goods purchased through this contract will be F.O.B. final destination. Unless specifically stated otherwise, all prices offered must include the delivery costs to any location within the State of Alaska.

SEC. 3.12 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. 3.13 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 Public Safety or the Commissioner's designee.

SEC. 3.14 NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

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 systems, security tools, IP addresses, etc.).

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. 3.15 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 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. 3.16 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. 3.17 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

If the project director or procurement officer 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 contract provisions of Appendix A, attached in **SECTION 8. ATTACHMENTS**.

SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

SEC. 4.01 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

The state discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals, however, in order for the state to evaluate proposals fairly and completely, offerors must follow the format set out in this IRFP and provide all information requested.

SEC. 4.02 INTRODUCTION

Proposals must include the complete name and address of offeror's firm and the name, mailing address, lab address, and telephone number of the person the state should contact regarding the proposal.

Proposals must confirm that the offeror will comply with all provisions in this IRFP; and, if applicable, provide notice that the firm qualifies as an Alaskan bidder. Proposals must be signed by a company officer empowered to bind the company. An offeror's failure to include these items in the proposals may cause the proposal to be determined to be non-responsive and the proposal may be rejected.

SEC. 4.03 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT

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

SEC. 4.04 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT

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. Methodology statements should include, at minimum, an explanation of Chain of Custody policy, how samples are processed and stored, and a sample report.

SEC. 4.05 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Offerors must provide an organizational chart specific to 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 and provide the following information about each person listed:

Offerors must provide three completed Client Reference Forms for similar projects the offeror's firm has completed.

SEC. 4.06 COST PROPOSAL

Cost proposals must include an itemized list of 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.

SEC. 4.07 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.

SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS USED TO SCORE THIS PROPOSAL IS 100

SEC. 5.01 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (10%)

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. 5.02 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (10%)

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. 5.03 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (30%)

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. 5.04 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 6.11.

Converting Cost to Points

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 through the method set out in Section 6.15.

SEC. 5.05 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE (10%)

If an offeror qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference, the offeror will receive an Alaska Offeror Preference. The preference will be 10% of the total available points. This amount will be added to the overall evaluation score of each Alaskan offeror.

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 virtually.

If the contract negotiations take virtually, the offeror will be responsible for having the technology to complete the negotiations, such as a computer and/or phone.

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 (NIA) and send copies to all offerors. The NIA will set out the names of all offerors and identify the proposal selected for award.

SEC. 6.09 PROTEST

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 PREFERENCES

Certain preferences apply to all contracts for professional services, regardless of their dollar value. The Alaska Bidder, Alaska Veteran, and Alaska Offeror preferences are the most common preferences involved in the IRFP 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 **Department of Administration, Division of Shared Service's** web site:

<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. Offerors must attach a copy of their certification letter to the proposal. **An offeror's failure to provide this certification letter with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.**

Sec. 6.11 ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE

An Alaska Bidder Preference of 5% will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who:

- 1) holds a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals;
- 2) submits a proposal for goods or services under the name appearing on the offeror's current Alaska business license;
- 3) has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the offeror, or an employee of the offeror, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the proposal;
- 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 proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this IRFP. An offeror does not need to complete the Alaska Veteran Preference questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran Preference. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.12 ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE

An Alaska Veteran Preference of 5%, not to exceed \$5,000, will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror 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 proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this IRFP. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.13 ALASKA MILITARY SKILLS PROGRAM PREFERENCE

An Alaska Military Skills Program Preference of 2%, not to exceed \$5,000, will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who qualifies under AS 36.30.990(2) as an Alaska bidder and:

- A. Employs at least one person who is currently enrolled in, or within the previous two years graduated from, a United States Department of Defense SkillBridge or United States Army career skills program for service members or spouses of service members that offers civilian work experience through specific industry training, pre-apprenticeships, registered apprenticeships, or internships during the last 180 days before a service member separates or retires from the service; or
- B. has an active partnership with an entity that employs an apprentice through a program described above.

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 Military Skills Program Preference Certification

In order to receive the Alaska Military Skills Program Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this RFP. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.14 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE

2 AAC 12.260(e) provides Alaska offerors a 10% overall evaluation point preference. Alaska bidders, as defined in AS 36.30.990(2), are eligible for the preference. An Alaska offeror will receive 10 percent of the total available points added to their overall evaluation score as a preference.

SEC. 6.15 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:

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

SEC. 6.16 EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES

(a) FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS

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 100 points to cost. This means that the lowest cost will receive the maximum number of points.

Offeror #1 receives 40 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, 40 points.

Offeror #2 receives 37.4 points.

$$\$40,000 \text{ lowest cost} \times 40 \text{ maximum points for cost} = 1,600,000 \div \$42,750 \text{ cost of Offeror \#2's proposal} = 37.4$$

Offeror #3 receives 33.7 points.

$$\$40,000 \text{ lowest cost} \times 40 \text{ maximum points for cost} = 1,600,000 \div \$47,500 \text{ cost of Offeror \#3's proposal} = 33.7$$

(b) ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE

STEP 1

Determine the number of points available to qualifying offerors under this preference.

100 Total Points Available in IRFP x 10% Alaska offerors preference = 10 Points for the Preference

STEP 2

Determine which offerors qualify as Alaska bidders and thus, are eligible for the Alaska offerors preference. For the purpose of this example, presume that all of the proposals have been completely evaluated based on the evaluation criteria in the IRFP. The scores at this point are:

Offeror #1	83 points	No Preference	0 points
Offeror #2	74 points	Alaska Offerors Preference	10 points
Offeror #3	80 points	Alaska Offerors Preference	10 points

STEP 3

Add the applicable Alaska offerors preference amounts to the offeror’s scores:

Offeror #1	83 points	
Offeror #2	84 points	(74 points + 10 points)
Offeror #3	90 points	(80 points + 10 points)

STEP 4

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

SECTION 7. GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION

SEC. 7.01 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The contractor will 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). 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 QUALIFIED OFFERORS

Per 2 AAC 12.875, unless provided for otherwise in the IRFP, to qualify as an offeror for award of a contract issued under AS 36.30, the offeror 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 IRFP.

If the offeror 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 offeror as a qualified offeror under AS 36.30.

SEC. 7.03 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT

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

SEC. 7.04 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. 7.05 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. 7.06 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 counter-offer 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. 7.07 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. 7.08 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.

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. 7.09 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. 7.10 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. 7.11 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. 7.12 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Proposals must comply with **SEC. 7.06 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. 7.13 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 contact 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 (attached separately)
- 2) Offeror Information & Alaska Bidder Certification Form
- 3) Client Reference Form
- 4) Notice of Award Sample
- 5) Standard Agreement Form - Appendix A Sample

Offeror Information

PROJECT INFORMATION

IRFP NUMBER: _____
PROJECT NAME: _____

OFFEROR INFORMATION

Company Name: _____
Address: _____
Tax ID: _____
Alaska Business License #: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Provide contact information for the individual that can be contacted for clarification regarding this proposal:

Name _____
Title _____
Address _____
Email _____
Telephone _____

CRITICAL TEAM MEMBERS

Provide the names of all critical team members that will be assigned to this contract. Note: These individuals cannot be removed or replaced from this project, or their positions, unless approved in writing the project director or procurement officer.

Name of Position 1 _____
Name of Position 2 _____
Name of Position 3 _____
Name of Position 4 _____

ADDENDA ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The offeror acknowledges receipt of the following amendments and has incorporated the requirements of such amendments into their proposal. Failure to identify and sign for all amendments may subject the offeror to disqualification. The offeror must list all amendments (by number), then initial and date to confirm that you have received and incorporated them into your proposal (add more rows as necessary).

Number	Initials & Date

Number	Initials & Date

Number	Initials & Date

CERTIFICATIONS

No	Criteria	Response*
1	The offeror is presently engaged in the business of providing the services & work required in this IRFP.	True False
2	The offeror confirms that it has the financial strength to perform and maintain the services required under this IRFP.	True False
3	The offeror accepts the terms and conditions set out in the IRFP and agrees not to restrict the rights of the state.	True False
4	The offeror confirms that they can obtain and maintain all necessary insurance as required on this project.	True False
5	The offeror certifies that all services provided under this contract by the contractor and all subcontractors shall be performed in the United States.	True False
6	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.	True False
7	Offeror complies with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government.	True False
8	Offeror complies with the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government.	True False
9	Offeror complies with the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964.	True False
10	The offeror can provide (if requested) financial records for the organization for the past three years.	True False
11	The offeror has not had any contracts terminated by the State of Alaska (within the past five years).	True False
12	The offeror certifies that it is not currently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for award by any public or federal entity.	True False
13	The offeror certifies that they do not have any governmental or regulatory action against their organization that might have a bearing on their ability to provide services to the state.	True False
14	The offeror certifies, within the last five years, they have not been convicted or had judgment rendered against them for: fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, false statements, or tax evasion.	True False
15	The offeror does not have any judgments, claims, arbitrations or suits pending/outstanding against your company in which an adverse outcome would be material to the company.	True False
16	The offeror is not (now or in the past) been involved in bankruptcy or reorganized proceeding.	True False
17	Offeror certifies they comply with the laws of the State of Alaska.	True False
18	Offeror confirms their proposal will remain valid and open for at least 90 days.	True False

** Failure to answer or answering “False” may be grounds for disqualification. For any “False” responses, provide clarification (up to 250 word maximum for each “False” clarification) below (add rows as necessary).*

Section	Clarification

ALASKA PREFERENCES

If you wish to claim any Alaska Preferences, please complete the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form that follows the below signature section.

SIGNATURE

This proposal must be signed by a company officer empowered to bind the company.

Printed Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

Signature _____



ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE CERTIFICATION

AS 36.30.321(A) / AS 36.30.990(2)

BUSINESS NAME: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Alaska Bidder Preference: Do you believe that your firm qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
Alaska Veteran Preference: Do you believe that your firm qualifies for the Alaska Veteran Preference?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
Please list any additional Alaska Preferences below that you believe your firm qualifies for.					
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

To qualify for and claim the Alaska Bidder Preference you must answer **YES** to all questions below in the Alaska Bidder Preference Questions section. To qualify for and claim the Alaska Veteran Preference, you must answer **YES** to these questions as well as answer **YES** to all the questions in the Alaska Veteran Preference section. A signed copy of this form must be included with your bid or proposal no later than the deadline set for receipt of bids or proposals.

If you are submitting a bid or proposal as a **JOINT VENTURE**, all members of the joint venture must complete and submit this form before the deadline set for receipt of bids or proposals. [AS 36.30.990\(2\)\(E\)](#)

If the procuring agency is unable to verify a response, the preference may not be applied. Knowingly or intentionally making false or misleading statements on this form, whether it succeeds in deceiving or misleading, constitutes misrepresentation per [AS 36.30.687](#) and may result in criminal penalties.

Alaska Bidder Preference Questions:

1) Does your business hold a current Alaska business license per [AS 36.30.990\(2\)\(A\)](#)?

YES NO

If YES, enter your current **Alaska business license number:** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

2) Is your business submitting a bid or proposal under the name appearing on the Alaska business license noted in **Question 1** per [AS 36.30.990\(2\)\(B\)](#)?

YES NO

3) Has your business maintained a **place of business** within the state **staffed by the bidder or offeror** or an employee of the bidder or offeror for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the bid or proposal per [AS 36.30.990\(2\)\(C\)](#)?

YES NO

If YES, please complete the following information:

A. Place of Business

Street Address: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

City: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

ZIP: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

“Place of business” is defined as a location at which normal business activities are conducted, services are rendered, or goods are made, stored, or processed; a post office box, mail drop, telephone, or answering service does not, by itself, constitute a place of business per [2 AAC 12.990\(b\)\(3\)](#).

Do you certify that the **Place of Business** described in **Question 3A** meets this definition?

YES NO

B. The bidder or offeror, or at least one employee of the bidder or offeror, must be a resident of the state under [AS 16.05.415\(a\)](#) per [2 AAC 12.990\(b\)\(7\)](#).

1) Do you certify that the bidder or offeror OR at least one employee of the bidder or offeror is physically present in the state with the intent to remain in Alaska indefinitely and to make a home in the state per [AS 16.05.415\(a\)\(1\)](#)?

YES NO

2) Do you certify that that the resident(s) used to meet this requirement has maintained their domicile in Alaska for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the deadline set for receipt of bids or proposals per [AS 16.05.415\(a\)\(2\)](#)?

YES NO

3) Do you certify that the resident(s) used to meet this requirement is claiming residency ONLY in the state of Alaska per [AS 16.05.415\(a\)\(3\)](#)?

YES NO

4) Do you certify that the resident(s) used to meet this requirement is NOT obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another state, territory, or country per [AS 16.05.415\(a\)\(4\)](#)?

YES NO

4) Per [AS 36.30.990\(2\)\(D\)](#), is your business (**CHOOSE ONE**):

A. **Incorporated** or **qualified to do business under the laws of the state**?

YES NO

If YES, enter your current **Alaska corporate entity number**: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

B. A **sole proprietorship** AND the proprietor is a resident of the state?

YES NO

C. A **limited liability company** organized under AS 10.50 **AND** all members are residents of the state?

YES NO

Please identify each member by name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

D. A **partnership** under former AS 32.05, AS 32.06, or AS 32.11 **AND** all partners are residents of the state?

YES NO

Please identify each member by name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Alaska Veteran Preference Questions:

1) Per [AS 36.30.321\(F\)](#), is your business (**CHOOSE ONE**):

A. A **sole proprietorship** owned by an Alaska veteran?

YES NO

B. A **partnership** under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 **AND** a majority of the partners are Alaska veterans?

YES NO

C. A **limited liability company** organized under AS 10.50 **AND** a majority of the members are Alaska veterans?

YES NO

D. A **corporation** that is wholly owned by individuals, **AND** a majority of the individuals are Alaska veterans?

YES NO

Per [AS 36.30.321\(F\)\(3\)](#) “**Alaska veteran**” is defined as an individual who:

(A) Served in the

(i) Armed forces of the United States, including a reserve unit of the United States armed forces; or

(ii) Alaska Territorial Guard, the Alaska Army National Guard, the Alaska Air National Guard, or the Alaska Naval Militia; and

(B) Was separated from service under a condition that was not dishonorable.

Do you certify that the individual(s) indicated in **Question 1A, 1B, 1C, or 1D** meet this definition and can provide documentation of their service and discharge if necessary?

YES NO

SIGNATURE

By signature below, I certify under penalty of law that I am an authorized representative of [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) and all information on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Printed Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

Signature _____

CLIENT REFERENCE FORM

- A complete and separate Client Reference Form must be provided for each reference.
- Offeror must complete the first part of the Client Reference Form, filling in the information for Company (Offeror) Name, Company (Offeror) Address, and the Name of Project.
- A responsible party of the organization for which the services were provided (the Client) must provide the reference information.
- The person providing the reference must sign and date the form.
- The Client Reference Form(s) must be submitted with the Offeror's proposal.
- The State may contact the reference to verify the information given within the Client Reference Form and within the proposal. If the State finds erroneous information, points may be deducted or the proposal may be rejected.
- If all questions are not answered on the Client Reference Form, if information is missing, or if the form is not signed, points may be deducted or the proposal may be rejected.
- If a proposal is submitted without a Client Reference Form, points may be deducted or the proposal may be rejected.

Client Reference Form

Offeror Information

Company Name (Offeror):	Company (Offeror) Address:
Name of Project:	

Client Information

Organization Name (Client):	Organization Address:
Person Providing the Reference:	Title:
Phone Number:	Email address:
Reference <u>Signature</u> & Date:	

The person providing the reference, as identified above, must provide the following information. This person must be a responsible party of the organization for which the work was performed. This person should have comprehensive knowledge about the project and the company's (Offeror) role and responsibilities within the project.

Reference Remarks

1. Briefly describe the services provided by the company identified above.

2. Rate each of the following concerning this company's performance using the ratings below:

- S – Strongly Agree/Very Positive
- A – Agree/Positive
- N – Neutral
- D – Disagree/ Negative
- F – Failed

Rating

- _____ A. This company ensured the project deliverables were completed on time and within the agreed budget.
- _____ B. This company provided the appropriate resources to the project.
- _____ C. This company was knowledgeable in providing the services.
- _____ D. The business relationship with this company was positive and cooperative, versus negative and adversarial.
- _____ E. This company provided open, timely communications, and was responsive to our needs and requirements.
- _____ F. I would choose to work with this company again.

Additional Comments:

STATE OF ALASKA

Department of Public Safety
Division of Administrative Services



NOTICE OF AWARD OF A CONTRACT

THIS IS NOT AN ORDER

DATE ISSUED:

IRFP NUMBER:

IRFPSUBJECT:

PROCUREMENT OFFICER:

SIGNATURE: _____

This is notice of the state's award of a contract. The figures shown here are a tabulation of the offers received. The responsible and responsive offeror whose proposal was determined in writing to be the most advantageous is indicated. **The offeror identified here as submitting the most advantageous proposal is instructed not to proceed until a contract, or other form of notice is given by the contracting officer.** A company or person who proceeds prior to receiving a contract, Contract Award, or other form of notice of Award does so without a contract and at their own risk. AS 36.30.365.

LEGEND: @ = MOST ADVANTAGEOUS
YES = RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE OFFEROR
NO = NON-RESPONSIVE OR NON-RESPONSIBLE OFFEROR

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Total Score</u>	<u>Most Advantageous</u>

STANDARD AGREEMENT FORM FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The parties' contract comprises this Standard Agreement Form, as well as its referenced Articles and their associated Appendices

1. Agency Contract Number	2. Contract Title	3. Agency Fund Code	4. Agency Appropriation Code
5. Vendor Number	6. IRIS GAE Number (if used)	7. Alaska Business License Number	

This contract is between the State of Alaska,

8. Department of	Division	hereafter the State, and
------------------	----------	--------------------------

9. Contractor	hereafter the contractor
---------------	--------------------------

Mailing Address	Street or P.O. Box	City	State	ZIP+4
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10. **ARTICLE 1. Appendices:** Appendices referred to in this contract and attached to it are considered part of it.

ARTICLE 2. Performance of Service:

2.1 Appendix A (General Provisions), Articles 1 through 16, governs the performance of services under this contract.

2.2 Appendix B sets forth the liability and insurance provisions of this contract.

2.3 Appendix C sets forth the services to be performed by the contractor.

ARTICLE 3. Period of Performance: The period of performance for this contract begins _____, and ends _____.

ARTICLE 4. Considerations:

4.1 In full consideration of the contractor's performance under this contract, the State shall pay the contractor a sum not to exceed \$_____ in accordance with the provisions of Appendix D.

4.2 When billing the State, the contractor shall refer to the Authority Number or the Agency Contract Number and send the billing to:

11. Department of	Attention: Division of
-------------------	------------------------

Mailing Address	Attention:
-----------------	------------

12. CONTRACTOR		14. CERTIFICATION: I certify that the facts herein and on supporting documents are correct, that this voucher constitutes a legal charge against funds and appropriations cited, that sufficient funds are encumbered to pay this obligation, or that there is a sufficient balance in the appropriation cited to cover this obligation. I am aware that to knowingly make or allow false entries or alternations on a public record, or knowingly destroy, mutilate, suppress, conceal, remove, or otherwise impair the verity, legibility or availability of a public record constitutes tampering with public records punishable under AS 11.56.815-.820. Other disciplinary action may be taken up to and including dismissal.
Name of Firm		
Signature of Authorized Representative	Date	
Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Representative		
Title		

13. CONTRACTING AGENCY		Signature of Head of Contracting Agency or Designee	Date		
Department/Division	Date				
Signature of Procurement Officer				Typed or Printed Name	
Typed or Printed Name of Procurement Officer				Title	
Title					

NOTICE! This contract has no effect until signed by the head of the contracting agency, procurement officer or designee.

**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, 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, 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.

- 5.1 The Procurement Officer, 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 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.
- 5.2 The Procurement Officer may also, by written notice, terminate this contract under Administrative Order 352 if the contractor supports or participates in a boycott of the State of Israel.

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.