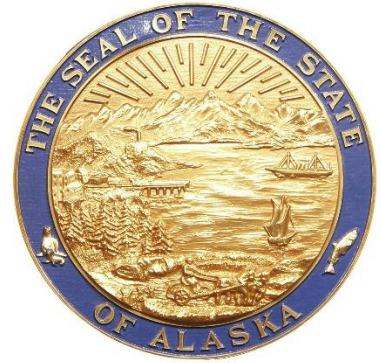


# STATE OF ALASKA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



## ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY OPERATIONS BOARD

RFP 2526H035

ISSUED NOVEMBER 26, 2025

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES (DOT&PF), DIVISION OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION (PMA), IS SOLICITING PROPOSALS TO RESULT IN A SINGLE CONTRACT AWARD FOR COMPREHENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY OPERATIONS BOARD (AMHOB)

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**ISSUED BY:**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION &  
PUBLIC FACILITIES (DOT&PF)  
DIVISION OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT &  
ADMINISTRATION (PMA)

**PRIMARY CONTACT:**

CHRIS HUNT  
PROCUREMENT OFFICER  
[CHRIS.HUNT@ALASKA.GOV](mailto:CHRIS.HUNT@ALASKA.GOV)  
(907) 465-8448

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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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## **INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS**

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

The Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), Division of Program Management and Administration (PMA), is soliciting proposals to result in a single contract award to a qualified firm to provide comprehensive administrative support services for the Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board (AMHOB), established under AS 19.65.110–19.65.180. The intent of this contract is to ensure the efficient, transparent, and independent administration of the AMHOB’s statutory responsibilities.

### **SEC. 1.02 BUDGET**

Approval or continuation of a contract resulting from this RFP is contingent upon legislative appropriation.

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

Proposals must be received no later than 2:00 PM prevailing Alaska Standard Time on December 19, 2025 as indicated by postmark or email timestamp and late proposals will not be considered.

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

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

- A minimum of one (1) year of experience in government communications and stakeholder engagement.

These minimum prior experience requirements will be demonstrated by submission of resumes and Attachment #11 Demonstration of Required Minimum Prior Experience Form with their proposal.

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 RFP. These questions may be answered over the telephone. Other questions may be more

complex and may require a written amendment to the RFP. The procurement officer will make that decision.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER: Chris Hunt

PHONE 907-465-8448

EMAIL ADDRESS: [chris.hunt@alaska.gov](mailto:chris.hunt@alaska.gov)

FAX: 907-465-3124

## SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

If submitting a hard copy proposal, Offerors must submit one hard copy of their proposal to the procurement officer in a sealed package. The cost proposal included with the package must be sealed separately from the rest of the proposal and must be clearly identified. The sealed proposal package(s) must be addressed as follows:

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
Division of Program Management and Administration  
Attention: Chris Hunt  
Request for Proposal (RFP) Number: 2526H035

RFP Title: Administrative Support Services for the Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board

If using U.S. mail, please use the following address:

PO Box 112500  
3132 Channel Drive, Room 350  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2500

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

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
Attention: Chris Hunt  
3132 Channel Drive, Room 350  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

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

**Please take into consideration that due to weather, scheduling, and location there is no overnight delivery service to Juneau, Alaska.**

### Electronic Proposal Submission:

If submitting a proposal via email, the technical proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to [dotstatewideprocurement@alaska.gov](mailto:dotstatewideprocurement@alaska.gov) as separate, clearly labeled attachments, such as "Vendor A – Technical Proposal.pdf" and "Vendor A – Cost Proposal.pdf". The email must contain the RFP 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 **15mb (megabytes)**. If the email containing the proposal exceeds this size, the proposal must be sent in

multiple emails that are each less than 15 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 with enough 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) 465-8447 to confirm that the proposal has been received. The state is not responsible for unreadable, corrupt, or missing attachments.

Faxed or oral proposals **will not be accepted**.

## **SEC. 1.08 ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY**

Offerors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this RFP 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. 1.09 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. 1.10 AMENDMENTS TO THE RFP**

If an amendment is issued before the deadline for receipt of proposals, the amendment will be posted on the State of Alaska Online Public Notice (OPN) website. The link to the posting of the amendment will be provided to all who were notified of the RFP and to those who have registered with the procurement officer after receiving the RFP from the OPN.

After receipt of proposals, if there is a need for any substantial clarification or material change in the RFP, 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. 1.11 RFP SCHEDULE**

RFP schedule set out herein represents the state'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 Standard Time.

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Issue Date / RFP Released	N/A	November 26 2025
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals / Proposal Due Date	2:00 PM	December 19, 2025
Initial Proposal Evaluation Committee Meeting	N/A	December 23, 2025
Interviews (week of)	Will be Scheduled	December 29, 2025
Proposal Evaluations Complete	N/A	January 2, 2026
Notice of Intent to Award	N/A	January 2, 2026
Contract Issued	N/A	January 13, 2026

This RFP 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 Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), 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. 1.12 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.

### **SEC. 1.13 NEWS RELEASES**

News releases related to this RFP will not be made without prior approval of the project director.

## **SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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

Though DOT&PF has a seat on this advisory Board, the board operates separately from DOT&PF and requires a significant amount of dedicated administration and coordination. This contract is needed to ensure the efficient, transparent, and independent administration of the AMHOB's statutory responsibilities, and all actions comply with AS 19.65.110–19.65.180, AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), and the Alaska Open Meetings Act.



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

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

The contractor will provide comprehensive administrative support to the AMHOB, including but not limited to:

**1. Meeting Administration and Logistics**

- Schedule, organize, and coordinate all regular and special meetings in compliance with the Alaska Open Meetings Act.
- Arrange and manage meeting locations, technology platforms, and public notice postings.
- Prepare, distribute, and archive agendas, minutes, and official records.
- Manage all logistics for in-person and virtual meetings, including room reservations, teleconference setup, and public access.

**2. Board Member Coordination**

- Coordinate Board member travel, lodging, and reimbursements in accordance with State travel policy.
- Provide Board communication and scheduling support.
- Maintain current records of Board membership, terms, and contact information.

**3. Information and Document Management**

- Manage public correspondence, record requests, and publication of materials on the AMHOB website.
- Maintain a document repository for meeting materials, reports, and Board actions.
- Facilitate preparation of the Board's annual reports and recommendations to the Commissioner and Legislature.

**4. Agency and Public Interface**

- Serve as the primary administrative contact for the Board.
- Coordinate with DOT&PF, AMHS, and other agencies as needed for information and data requests.
- Ensure that all formal requests for information or materials are properly documented and submitted through established channels.

**5. Meeting Facilitation and Reporting**

- Provide professional meeting facilitation and recordkeeping services.
- Draft meeting summaries, action items, and follow-up correspondence.
- Support the Chair in the timely submission of official communications and reports required under statute.

**6. Compliance and Performance Standards**

- Ensure all actions comply with AS 19.65.110–19.65.180, AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), and the Alaska Open Meetings Act.
- Maintain confidentiality and neutrality in all administrative functions.

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

The length of the contract will be from the date of the award, approximately January 15 2026 through December 31, 2026. This contract contains four (4) one (1) year renewal options to be exercised solely by the State.

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

### **SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES**

The contractor will be required to provide the following deliverables:

- A. Annual calendar of meetings and deadlines.
- B. Meeting notices, agendas, and minutes.
- C. Travel coordination records.
- D. Annual summary of Board actions and recommendations.
- E. Quarterly administrative reports to DOT&PF.

The AMHOB will provide the contractor with all documentation and information necessary to complete the required deliverables. This may include, but is not limited to, AMHOB member names, traveler details, meeting schedules, email addresses, and any other relevant records.

The AMHOB will also identify all deliverable deadlines, as well as any requirements for draft review and approval. If a review process is required, AMHOB will specify the individuals responsible for providing feedback and final approval.

All electronic deliverables will be submitted in digital PDF format, with any associated data also provided in a tabular format (CSV or XLS).

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

This contract is a Fixed price with adjustments.

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

The state will make monthly payment at the end of each month for deliverables provided during the previous month, and deliverables are received, and approved by the project director.

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

The state is eligible to receive a 5% discount for all invoices paid within 15 business days from the date of receipt of the commodities or services and/or a correct invoice, whichever is later. The discount shall be taken on the full invoice amount. The state shall consider payment being made as either the date a printed warrant is issued or the date an electronic funds transfer (EFT) is initiated.

**SEC. 3.07 CONTRACT PAYMENT**

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) 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.

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

**SEC. 3.08 CONTRACT PRICE ADJUSTMENTS**

**Consumer Price Index (CPI):** Contract prices will remain firm through December 31, 2026.

The Contractor or State may request price adjustments, no sooner than 12 months from the Contract execution date, and no more than once per contract year. Contractors must submit a request to the State at least thirty (30) days prior to the end of the current term. All Requests must be in writing and must be received 30 days prior to the Contract renewal date.

- a. If the Contractor or State fail to request a CPI price adjustment 30 days prior to the Contract renewal date, the adjustment will be effective 30 days after the State or Contractor receives their written request.
- b. Price adjustments will be made in accordance with the percentage change in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for All Urban Consumers, All Items, Urban Alaska.
- c. The price adjustment rate will be determined by comparing the percentage difference between the CPI in effect for the base year reported HALF1 (January through June 2025); and each HALF1 thereafter. The percentage difference between those two CPI issues will be the price adjustment rate. No retroactive contract price adjustments will be allowed. All price adjustments must be approved by the Procurement Officer prior to the implementation of the

adjusted pricing. Approval shall be in the form of a Contract Amendment issued by the Procurement Officer.

- d. Approval for all price increases is dependent upon full compliance with the terms of the Contract including reporting requirements.

### **SEC. 3.09 LOCATION OF WORK**

The location(s) the work is to be performed, completed, and managed is the contractor's place of business, however, the contractor will have presence to operate teleconference and streaming technology at in person meetings.

The state will not provide workspace for the contractor. The contractor must provide its own workspace.

By signing 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. 3.10 THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

The contractor must provide, on an annual basis, a Type 2 Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) SOC 1, SOC 2, or SOC 3 report(s). Failure to provide these reports may be treated as a material breach and may be a basis for a finding of default.

### **SEC. 3.11 SUBCONTRACTORS**

Subcontractors will not be allowed.

### **SEC. 3.12 JOINT VENTURES**

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

### **SEC. 3.13 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. 3.14 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. 3.15 CONTRACT PERSONNEL**

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

**SEC. 3.16 INSPECTION & MODIFICATION - REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNACCEPTABLE DELIVERABLES**

The contractor is responsible for the completion of all work set out in the contract. All work is subject to inspection, evaluation, and approval by the project director. The state may employ all reasonable means to ensure that the work is progressing and being performed in compliance with the contract. The project director or procurement officer 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 work received) and may seek associated damages.

**SEC. 3.17 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 Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) or the Commissioner's designee.

**SEC. 3.18 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).

Additional information that the contractor shall hold as confidential during the performance of services under this contract include:

Though not specifically known at the time of this solicitation, some meeting materials or board staffing matters may be confidential. Any information to be held confidential will be communicated by the project director to the contractor in writing.

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. 3.19 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.

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## SEC. 3.20 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 procurement 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.

## SEC. 3.21 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

- a. 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 the remaining work.
- b. 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.

This clause does not restrict the state's termination rights under the contract provisions of Appendix A, attached in **SECTION 7. ATTACHMENTS**.

## SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

### SEC. 4.01 RFP SUBMITTAL FORMS

This RFP contains Submittal Forms, which must be completed by the offeror and submitted as part of their proposal. An electronic copy of the forms is posted along with this RFP.

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

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

### SEC. 4.02 SPECIAL FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

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

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

**Page Limits:** Some Submittal Forms listed below have maximum page limit requirements. Offerors must not exceed the maximum page limits. Note, the page limit applies to the front side of a page only (for example, '1 Page' implies that the offeror can only provide a response on one side of a piece of paper). Any pages exceeding the maximum page limit will be discarded and will not be included in the evaluations (for example, the maximum page limit is 3 pages, but the Offeror submits 5 pages for that submittal form. Only pages 1-3 will be evaluated. Pages 4 and 5 would be discarded by the Procurement Officer before sending to the proposal evaluation committee for evaluation.).

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

Any Submittal Form submitted as part of a proposal that is not compliant with the instructions above may be a basis for finding the proposal non-responsive and thus rejected.

### SEC. 4.03 OFFEROR INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM A)

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



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

- a) the laws of the State of Alaska;
- b) the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- c) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- d) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- e) all terms and conditions set out in this RFP;
- f) a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
- g) that the offers will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

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

The Submittal Form also requests the following information:

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

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

#### **SEC. 4.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM B)**

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

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

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

The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. Submission forms shall not exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

**Offerors must provide resumes for those personnel with names and title that will be assigned to complete the project as a separate attachment to Submittal Form B. Resumes will not count against the maximum page limits for this evaluation criteria.**

#### **SEC. 4.05 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM C)**

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

The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. Submission forms shall not exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

#### **SEC. 4.06 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM D)**

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

The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. Submission forms shall not exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

#### **SEC. 4.07 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT (SUBMITTAL FORM E)**

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

The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. Submission forms shall not exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

#### **SEC. 4.08 COST PROPOSAL (SUBMITTAL FORM F)**

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

## **SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION**

### **SEC. 5.01 SUMMARY OF EVALUATION PROCESS**

The state will use the following steps to evaluate and prioritize proposals:

- 1) Proposals will be assessed for overall responsiveness and responsibility. Proposals deemed non-responsive or non-responsible will be eliminated from further consideration.
- 2) A proposal evaluation committee (PEC), made up of at least three state employees or public officials, will evaluate the Technical portion of all responsive proposals.
- 3) The Submittal Forms, from each responsive proposal, will be sent to the PEC. No cost information will be shared or provided to the PEC.
- 4) The PEC will independently evaluate and score the documents based on the degree to which they meet the stated evaluation criteria.
- 5) After independent scoring, the PEC will have a meeting, chaired by the procurement officer, where the PEC may have a group discussion prior to finalizing their scores.
- 6) The evaluators will submit their final individual scores to the procurement officer, who will then compile the scores and calculate awarded points as set out in Section 5.03.
- 7) The procurement officer will calculate scores for cost proposals as set out in Section 5.08 and add those scores to the awarded points along with factoring in any Alaska preferences.
- 8) The procurement officer shall inform the PEC of the initial scores and determine which Offerors are eligible to move forward with interviews based on a natural score break. The state reserves the right to interview all responsive Offerors if it is in the state's best interest to do so.
- 9) The procurement officer will provide the PEC with the interview evaluation forms.
- 10) After interviews with proposed personnel, PEC members will score each Offeror using the interview evaluation forms and will provide their interview scores to the procurement officer. If needed, the PEC may also hold a new PEC meeting to allow discussion regarding the interview scoring. If held, this PEC discussion shall be limited to the scores awarded specifically for the interview scoring phase. As with the initial PEC meeting, all PEC should be in attendance.

Like the initial PEC meeting, the PEC has the opportunity to discuss the merits of each Interviewee, and the PEC members may adjust their initial interview score based on the discussion. Scoring will remain independent for each PEC member. Cost will not be a discussion item during this meeting.

The procurement officer is responsible for running this meeting. Any changes to scores must be justified on each PEC member's score sheet. If scores are changed as a result of this discussion, the initial interview score should be removed and the new score should be entered accompanied by written justification for the new score. All score changes shall be documented by the procurement officer. At the end of the PEC meeting scoring of the interview phase is final and PEC members shall provide all score sheets to the procurement officer for final tabulation.

- 11) The procurement officer may ask for best and final offers from offerors susceptible for award and revise the cost scores accordingly.
- 12) The state will then conduct any necessary negotiations with the highest scoring offeror and award a contract if the negotiations are successful.

## SEC. 5.02 EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated based on their overall value to state, considering both cost and non-cost factors as described below. Note: 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.

Overall Criteria	Weight
Responsiveness	Pass/Fail

Qualifications Criteria		Weight
Experience and Qualifications	(Submittal Form B)	100
Understanding of the Project	(Submittal Form C)	100
Methodology Used for the Project	(Submittal Form D)	100
Management Plan for the Project	(Submittal Form E)	100
Interviews		100
Total		500

Cost Criteria		Weight
Cost Proposal	(Submittal Form F)	400
Total		400

Preference Criteria		Weight
Alaska Offeror Preference (if applicable)		100
Total		100

**TOTAL EVALUATION POINTS AVAILABLE: 1000**

## SEC. 5.03 SCORING METHOD AND CALCULATION

Each Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) member will individually evaluate and score each responsive proposal using the criteria set out in Sections 5.04 through 5.08 and assign a single score of 1 through 10, with 10 representing the highest score and 1 representing the lowest score. Using only whole numbers, PEC members should start with a score of 5 on each section. The score may either increase or decrease depending on the offeror's response to each question for that section. As an example, if the Offeror provided responses over and above the evaluation questions in a section, they would receive a higher score. However, if the Offeror's response fails to address all questions of a section or demonstrates some lack of understanding or competency as it relates to a question for that section, the Offeror would then receive a lower score.

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

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

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

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

**Offeror 1** was awarded 75 points:

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

**Offeror 2** was awarded 50 points:

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

**Offeror 3** was awarded 100 points:

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

## SEC. 5.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated against the following questions:

### 1) *Questions regarding the personnel:*

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

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

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

## **SEC. 5.05 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT**

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated against the following questions:

- 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. 5.06 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT**

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated against the following questions:

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

## **SEC. 5.07 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT**

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated against the following questions:

- 1) How well does the management plan support all of the project requirements and logically lead to the deliverables required in the RFP?

- 2) How well is accountability completely and clearly defined?
- 3) Is the organization of the project team clear?
- 4) How well does the management plan illustrate the lines of authority and communication?
- 5) To what extent does the offeror already have the hardware, software, equipment, and licenses necessary to perform the contract?
- 6) Does it appear that the offeror can meet the schedule set out in the RFP?
- 7) Has the offeror gone beyond the minimum tasks necessary to meet the objectives of the RFP?
- 8) To what degree is the proposal practical and feasible?
- 9) To what extent has the offeror identified potential problems?

## **SEC. 5.08 INTERVIEWS**

The PEC will conduct interviews with the personnel assigned to fill the position and accomplish the work identified in the Scope of Services from the Offerors who have scored above the natural point break with the highest ranking. Offerors should plan for the Account Manager and Assistant Manager personnel assigned to fill the position to be available virtually for the interview. The state will not be responsible for reimbursing any costs incurred by Offerors for attending interviews.

The PEC will ask identical, pre-determined questions to all Offerors, and discussion will be moderated by the procurement officer to ensure equitable opportunity for discussion. All Offerors will be afforded the same amount of time for interviews.

The interview is a required part of the RFP process for those Offerors scoring above the natural point break. An Offeror's failure to respond to the requirements of this section shall cause their proposal to be determined non-responsive and rejected.

This portion of the Offeror's proposal will be evaluated against the following questions:

1. Tell us your experience assisting another government agency with communications and public meetings.
2. What kind of streaming, social, and telecom technology do you have experience with?
3. What special skillsets likely distinguish you from other providers?

## **SEC. 5.09 CONTRACT COST (COST PROPOSAL)**

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

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

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

**Step 1**

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

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

**Step 2**

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

**Offeror #1 receives 400 points.**

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

**Offeror #2 receives 374.3 points.**

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

**Offeror #3 receives 336.8 points.**

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

## **SEC. 5.10 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE**

Per 2 AAC 12.260, 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, which will be added to the offeror's overall evaluation score.

**Example:**

**Step 1**

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

1000 Total Points Available in RFP x 10% Alaska Offeror preference = 100 Points for the preference

**Step 2**

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



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Offeror #1	830 points	No Preference	0 points
Offeror #2	740 points	Alaska Offeror Preference	100 points
Offeror #3	800 points	Alaska Offeror Preference	100 points

**Step 3**

Add the applicable Alaska Offeror preference amounts to the offerors' scores:

Offeror #1	830 points
Offeror #2	840 points (740 points + 100 points)
<b>Offeror #3</b>	<b>900 points (800 points + 100 points)</b>

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

**SEC. 5.11 SEC. 5.10 SHORTLISTING**

After proposals have been prioritized, the State may shortlist and interview from the top highest-ranking offerors. The State may increase or decrease the number of offerors in this list based on the competitiveness of the proposals and/or from feedback from the Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC)

**SEC. 5.12 SEC. 5.12 INTERVIEWS OF KEY PERSONNEL**

The shortlisted offeror(s) based on the RFP proposal evaluation will be invited to participate in individual interviews.

Offerors must be available for interviews on dates listed in **Section 1.11, RFP Schedule**.

As part of this portion of the process, the State will conduct videoconference interviews with the key personnel from each of the shortlisted offerors, as identified below (the State reserves the right to request additional personnel):

**1) CONTRACT/PROJECT MANAGER**

The individuals that will be interviewed must be the same individuals that are identified in **Submittal Form B** of the offeror's proposal.

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## SECTION 6. GENERAL PROCESS AND LEGAL INFORMATION

### SEC. 6.01 INFORMAL DEBRIEFING

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

### SEC. 6.02 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. 6.03 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. 6.04 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. 6.05 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 RFP and proposal. Discussions will be limited to specific sections of the RFP 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. 6.06 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 RFP, 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. 6.07 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 in the Procurement Section conference room on the 3rd floor of the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Building in Juneau, Alaska.

If the contract negotiations take place in Juneau, Alaska, the offeror will be responsible for their travel and per diem expenses.

## **SEC. 6.08 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. 6.09 OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION**

After the completion of contract negotiation, the procurement officer will issue a written Notice of Intent to Award and send copies of that notice to all offerors who submitted proposals. The notice will set out the names of all offerors and identify the offeror selected for award.

## **SEC. 6.10 PROTEST**

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

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 proposals.

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 an offeror 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 proposal 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 offerors 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."

## **SEC. 6.11 APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES**

Certain preferences apply to all state contracts, regardless of their dollar value. The Alaska Bidder, Alaska Veteran, and Alaska Offeror preferences are the most common preferences involved in the RFP 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:

### [Application Of Preferences](#)

- 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)
- Alaska Veteran's Preference - AS 36.30.321(f)
- Alaska Military Skills Program Preference – AS 36.30.321(l)

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. 6.12 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 RFP. An offeror does not need to complete the Alaska Veteran Preference or Alaska Military Skills Program questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran or Alaska Military Skills Program Preferences. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

### **SEC. 6.13 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 RFP. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

**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 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

The contractor will be required to sign the state's Standard Contract Form for Goods and Non-Professional Services (form SCF.DOC/Appendix A). This form is attached with the RFP for your review. The contractor must comply with the contract provisions set out in this attachment. No alteration of these provisions will be permitted.

**SEC. 6.15 QUALIFIED OFFERORS**

Per 2 AAC 12.875, unless provided for otherwise in the RFP, 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 RFP.

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. 6.16 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT**

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

## **SEC. 6.17 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 RFP and will not affect the proposal evaluations.

## **SEC. 6.18 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. 6.19 RIGHT OF REJECTION**

Offerors must comply with all of the terms of the RFP, 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 RFP.

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

Minor informalities that:

- do not affect responsiveness;
- are merely a matter of form or format;
- do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other offers;
- do not change the meaning or scope of the RFP;
- 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 it is not in the best interest of the State.

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

## **SEC. 6.20 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. 6.21 DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS**

This section governs the ownership, return, and disclosure of any offer or other record an offeror submits in response to this request for proposals. (Herein, any reference to “Record” includes all such records and the offer; any reference to “Law” includes any federal or State of Alaska (State) law, including any court or administrative order or rule.)

1. All Records belong to the State.
2. The State has sole discretion regarding whether to return any Record. In exercising this discretion, the State will comply with all Laws.
3. Unless a notice of intent to award is issued, the State will, to the extent permitted by Law, consider all Records confidential and not subject to the Alaska Public Records Act (APRA).
4. If and when a notice of intent to award is issued, the State will consider nonconfidential any Record unless, at the time of submission, the offeror undertook the following protective measures:
  - a. marked information confidential;
  - b. for any information marked confidential, identified the authority that makes that specific information confidential; and
  - c. committed, in writing, to explain in detail, including with affidavits and briefs, why each authority applies in any court or administrative proceeding in which any nondisclosure is challenged.
5. If the offeror did not undertake each protective measure, the State will not consider any information in a Record confidential: the State will disclose the entire Record without any redaction in response to an APRA or other request or, if it chooses, in the absence of a request and the State will disclose the entire Record without notifying the offeror.
6. If the offeror undertook each protective measure, the State will withhold the information marked confidential to the following extent:
  - a. the State agrees that the Law protects the information; and
  - b. if the nondisclosure is challenged, the offeror fulfills its commitment to explain, including with affidavits and briefs, how each authority applies to the information marked confidential.

7. The State will only notify an offeror of a request for the Record and of a planned release if the offeror undertook each protective measure, but the State disagrees that the marked information is protected. If there is such a disagreement, then before releasing the Record, the State will, to the extent permitted by Law and practicable, notify the offeror that it will disclose the information unless the offeror convinces the State not to or obtains an order prohibiting disclosure.

## **SEC. 6.22 ASSIGNMENT**

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.

## **SEC. 6.23 FORCE MAJEURE (IMPOSSIBILITY TO PERFORM)**

The parties to a contract resulting from this RFP 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 RFP, 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. 6.24 DISPUTES**

A contract resulting from this RFP 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. 6.25 SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of the contract or agreement is 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. 6.26 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Proposals must comply with Section 6.20 Right of Rejection. However, if the state fails to identify or detect supplemental terms or conditions that conflict with those contained in this RFP or that diminish the state's rights under any contract resulting from the RFP, 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 RFP, the term or condition of the RFP 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. 6.27 SOLICITATION ADVERTISING**

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

## **SEC. 6.28 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.

## **SECTION 7. ATTACHMENTS**

### **SEC. 7.01 ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachments:**

- 1) Proposal Evaluation Form

**Note: Attachments 2-7, Submittal Forms A-F are also provided electronically with the RFP posting.**

- 2) **Submittal Form A. Offeror Information and Certifications (Completed and submitted with bid)**
- 3) **Submittal Form B. Experience and Qualifications (Completed and submitted with bid)**
- 4) **Submittal Form C. Understanding of the Project (Completed and submitted with bid)**
- 5) **Submittal Form D. Methodology Used for the Project (Completed and submitted with bid)**
- 6) **Submittal Form E. Management Plan for the Project (Completed and submitted with bid)**
- 7) **Submittal Form F. Cost Proposal (Completed and submitted with bid)**
- 8) **Standard Contract Form & Appendix A**
- 9) **Appendix B1 Indemnity and Insurance**
- 10) **Notice of Intent to Award (NOIA)**
- 11) **Demonstration of Required Minimum Prior Experience Form**

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## ATTACHMENT #1 PROPOSAL EVALUATION FORM

All proposals will be reviewed for responsiveness and then evaluated using the criteria set out herein.

Offeror Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evaluator Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Review: \_\_\_\_\_  
RFP Number: 2526H035 \_\_\_\_\_

### EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SCORING

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS USED TO SCORE THIS PROPOSAL IS 1000

#### 5.04 Experience and Qualifications—100 Points

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?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- b) Are resumes complete and do they demonstrate backgrounds that would be desirable for individuals engaged in the work the project requires?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- c) How extensive is the applicable education and experience of the personnel designated to work on the project?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2) Questions regarding the firm**

- a) How well has the firm demonstrated experience in completing similar projects on time and within budget?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- b) How successful is the general history of the firm regarding timely and successful completion of projects?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- c) If a subcontractor will perform work on the contract, how well do they measure up to the evaluation used for the offeror?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

---

**EVALUATOR'S POINT TOTAL FOR EVALUATED SECTION 5.04:** \_\_\_\_\_

**5.05 Understanding of the Project—100 Points**

**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?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 2) How well has the offeror identified pertinent issues and potential problems related to the project?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 3) To what degree has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the deliverables the state expects it to provide?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 4) Has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the state's time schedule and can meet it?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**EVALUATOR'S POINT TOTAL FOR EVALUATED SECTION 5.05:** \_\_\_\_\_

**5.06 Methodology Uses for the Project—100 Points**

**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 RFP?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2) How well does the methodology match and achieve the objectives set out in the RFP?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3) Does the methodology interface with the time schedule in the RFP?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**EVALUATOR'S POINT TOTAL FOR EVALUATED SECTION 5.06:** \_\_\_\_\_



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**5.07 Management Plan for the Project—100 Points****Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:**

- 1) How well does the management plan support all of the project requirements and logically lead to the deliverables required in the RFP? To what degree is the proposal practical and feasible?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2) How well is accountability completely and clearly defined?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3) Is the organization of the project team clear?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4) How well does the management plan illustrate the lines of authority and communication?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5) To what extent does the offeror already have the hardware, software, equipment, and licenses necessary to perform the contract?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 6) Does it appear that the offeror can meet the schedule set out in the RFP?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 7) Has the offeror gone beyond the minimum tasks necessary to meet the objectives of the RFP?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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8) To what degree is the proposal practical and feasible?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9) To what extent has the offeror identified potential problems?

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EVALUATOR'S POINT TOTAL FOR EVALUATED SECTION 5.07:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **5.09 Contract Cost — 400 Points**

Overall, a minimum of 40 percent of the total evaluation points will be assigned to cost.

#### **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 5.09.

### **5.10 Alaska Offerors Preference-100 Points**

Per 2 AAC 12.260, 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, which will be added to the offeror's overall evaluation score.

## SUBMITTAL FORM A – Offeror Information

*Revised March 13, 2024*

### PROJECT INFORMATION

RFP NUMBER: 2526H035

PROJECT NAME: Administrative Support Services for the Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board

### 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 RFP.	True   False
2	The offeror confirms that it has the financial strength to perform and maintain the services required under this RFP.	True   False
3	The offeror accepts the terms and conditions set out in the RFP 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 will not support or participate in a boycott of Israel. Failure to comply with this requirement may cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive or cancel the contract.	True   False
14	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
15	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
16	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
17	The offeror is not (now or in the past) been involved in bankruptcy or reorganized proceeding.	True   False
18	Offeror certifies they comply with the laws of the State of Alaska.	True   False
19	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

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

Indicate below whether or not the firm or any individuals that will work 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 services to be provided by the offeror.

Does the offeror, or any individuals that will work on this contract, have a possible conflict of interest?

☐ Yes ☐ No

*\* Failure to answer may be grounds for disqualification.*

If “Yes”, please provide additional information regarding the nature of that conflict:

**FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS**

Indicate below all known federal requirements that apply to the proposal, proposal evaluation, or contract:

**SIGNATURE**

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

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## SUBMITTAL FORM B – Experience and Qualifications

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: This Submittal Form must not identify the offeror's proposed costs and must not exceed five (5) pages (reference RFP section 4.02).

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## SUBMITTAL FORM C – Understanding of the Project

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: This Submittal Form must not identify the offeror's proposed costs and must not exceed five (5) pages (reference RFP section 4.02).

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## SUBMITTAL FORM D – Methodology Used for the Project

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: This Submittal Form must not identify the offeror's proposed costs and must not exceed five (5) pages (reference RFP section 4.02).



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## SUBMITTAL FORM E – Management Plan for the Project

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: This Submittal Form must not identify the offeror's proposed costs and must not exceed five (5) pages (reference RFP section 4.02).

## SUBMITTAL FORM F – Cost Proposal

**Complete the following worksheet and submit this page separate from your proposal**

This Cost Proposal must be submitted in response to this Request for Proposal. A failure to submit this Cost Proposal may result in the proposal submission being considered non-responsive. Any changes to this Cost Proposal other than completion may result in the offeror's proposal being determined to be conditioned and will be declared non-responsive and rejected.

Offerors must complete and submit all portions of this Cost Proposal. Failure to do so may result in the proposal being declared non-responsive and rejected.

Offerors shall include in the cost proposed all costs associated with completing all tasks and deliverables described in the Scope of Work and Deliverables section 3.03 of the RFP, including but not limited to labor, administration, overhead, materials, and profit.

The State guarantees no minimum or maximum order. The Hourly rate proposed will be memorialized as the contracted rates for the resulting contract.

Administrative Support Services for the Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board All Tasks and Deliverables)

Estimated Number Hours (Qty)	Hourly Billing Rate (Price)	Total Cost (Qty x Price)
100	\$	\$

**ATTACHMENT #8 STANDARD CONTRACT FORM & APPENDIX A**

STATE OF ALASKA					
STANDARD CONTRACT FORM			GOODS AND NON-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES		
The parties' contract comprises this Standard Contract Form as well as its referenced Articles and their associated Appendices					
1.Contract #		2.Contract Title			
3.VSS Vendor #		4.IRIS Transaction ID #		5.AK Business License #	
<b>This contract is between the State of Alaska,</b>					
6.Department of		7.Division		hereafter the State, and	
8.Contractor				hereafter the Contractor	
9.Mailing Address: Street or P.O. Box					
City		State		Zip Code+4	
Point of Contact:				Email Address	
10.					
<b>ARTICLE 1. Appendices:</b> Appendices referred to in this contract and attached to it are considered part of it. <b>ARTICLE 2. Performance of Contract</b> 2.1: Appendix A (General Conditions), Items 1 through 20, govern contract performance. 2.2: Appendix B sets forth the indemnification and insurance provisions of this contract. 2.3: Appendix C sets forth the scope of work/services to be performed by the Contractor. <b>ARTICLE 3. Period of Performance:</b> The Period of Performance for this contract begins on _____ and ends on December 31, 2026. There are four (4) one (1) year renewal options available under this contract to be exercised solely by the state. <b>ARTICLE 4. Consideration:</b> 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 Agency Contract Number and send the billing to:					
11.Department of		Attn:		Division of	
Mailing Address: Street of P.O. Box					
City		State		Zip Code+4	
Point of Contact				Email Address	
<b>12. CONTRACTOR</b>			<b>13. CONTRACTING AGENCY</b>		
Name of Firm:			Department		Division
Signature of Authorized Representative				Signature of Procurement Officer	
Printed or Typed Name of Authorized Representative				Printed or Typed Name of Procurement Officer	
Date				Date	

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## **APPENDIX A GENERAL CONDITIONS-**

### **1. Inspections and Reports:**

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

### **2. Suitable Materials, etc.:**

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

### **3. 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

### **4. Default:**

In case of default by the Contractor, for any reason whatsoever, the State of Alaska may procure 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.

### **5. 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 Procurement Officer.

### **6. Contract Disclosure:**

Except as otherwise protected by law, this contract and any amendment is a public record subject to disclosure under, for example, the Alaska Public Records Act. The contractor does not assert that any information in the contract is protected under federal or State of Alaska law.

### **7. No Additional Work or Material:**

No claim for additional supplies or 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 Procurement Officer.

### **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.

### **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.

### **10. 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.

### **11. Conflicting Provisions:**

Unless specifically amended and approved by the State of Alaska, 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) seek to limit liability of the Contractor for acts of Contractor negligence, are expressly superseded by this contract and are void.

**12. Officials Not to Benefit:**

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

**13. Contract Prices:**

Contract prices for commodities must be in U.S. funds and include applicable federal duty, brokerage fees, packaging, and transportation cost to the FOB point so that upon transfer of title the commodity can be utilized without further cost. Prices for services must be in U.S. funds and include applicable federal duty, brokerage fee, packaging, and transportation cost so that the services can be provided without further cost.

**14. Contract Funding:**

Contractors are advised that funds are available for the initial purchase and/or the first term of the contract. Payment and performance obligations for succeeding purchases and/or additional terms of the contract are subject to the availability and appropriation of funds.

**15. 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.

**16. Contract Extension:**

Unless otherwise provided, the State and the Contractor agree: (1) that any holding over 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) to provide written notice to the other party of the intent to cancel such month-to-month extension at least thirty (30) days before the desired date of cancellation.

**17. Severability:**

If any provision of the contract is 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.

**18. Continuing Obligation of Contractor:**

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

**19. Termination.**

- a. 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 a breach of contract by the Contractor, the State is liable only for payment in accordance with the payment provisions of this contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.
- b. 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.

**20. 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.

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## ATTACHMENT #9 APPENDIX B1 INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

### APPENDIX B<sup>1</sup> INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

#### Article 1. 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.

#### Article 2. Insurance

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.

**2.1 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.

**2.2 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.

**2.2 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.

**ATTACHMENT #10 NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD (NOIA)****STATE OF ALASKA**

Department of NAME

Division of NAME

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD A CONTRACT****THIS IS NOT AN ORDER****DATE ISSUED:****RFP NUMBER:** 2526H035**RFP SUBJECT:** ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY OPERATIONS BOARD**PROCUREMENT OFFICER:****SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

This is notice of the state's intent to award a contract. The figures shown below are a tabulation of the bids received with the apparent low bidder indicated. A bidder who wishes to protest this Notice of Intent must file the protest with the procurement officer within ten calendar days following the date of this notice. If the tenth day falls on a weekend or holiday, the last day of the protest period is the first working day following the tenth day. **The bidder identified below as being the lowest responsive and responsible bidder is instructed not to proceed until a contract award or other form of notice to proceed is given by the procurement officer.** If the bidder proceeds prior to receiving a contract award or other form of notice to proceed, the bidder does so without a contract and at their own risk. AS 36.30.365.

LEGEND:     @     =     AWARD TO BIDDER  
               YES     =     RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER  
               NO     =     NON-RESPONSIVE OR NON-RESPONSIBLE BIDDER  
               ?     =     BID NOT EVALUATED BECAUSE THERE WAS A LOWER RESPONSIVE BID

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Total Bid Price</u>	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Award</u>

**SUMMARY**

## ATTACHMENT #11 DEMONSTRATION OF REQUIRED MINIMUM PRIOR EXPERIENCE FORM

In order for offers to be found responsive, offerors must provide evidence in writing that clearly demonstrates how that they meet these minimum prior experience requirements: Proposers may attach additional pages if necessary to answer the questions posed. If additional pages are added, please add continuation to proposer's response and the item number for the continuation to the header of the additional pages.

1. Provide a description of how your firm specifically meets the following requirement:

- a. A minimum of one (1) year of experience in government communications and stakeholder engagement.

**Proposer's response to a.** A minimum of one (1) year of experience in government communications and stakeholder engagement., **item a above:**