

STATE OF ALASKA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



AVTEC CAMPUS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM RFP 2027-0700-0059

ISSUED 08/07/2026

THE ALASKA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER (AVTEC) IS SEEKING PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED VENDORS TO PROVIDE A CLOUD-BASED STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIS), DATA MIGRATION OF THE OLD SYSTEM, AND IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES. THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROCUREMENT IS TO ACQUIRE A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION THAT SUPPORTS THE FULL STUDENT LIFECYCLE, INCLUDING ADMISSIONS, ENROLLMENT, ACADEMIC RECORDS, FINANCIAL AID, ATTENDANCE, GRADING, STUDENT HOUSING, REPORTING, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS. THE SELECTED SOLUTION WILL REPLACE AVTEC'S EXISTING SYSTEM AND PROVIDE A SECURE, MODERN, AND SCALABLE PLATFORM THAT IMPROVES OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, ENHANCES REPORTING AND COMPLIANCE, AND SUPPORTS THE INSTITUTION'S CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS.

ISSUED BY:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF ALASKA VOCATIONAL
TECHNICAL CENTER (AVTEC)

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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 **LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**, Division of **ALASKA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER (AVTEC)**, is soliciting proposals from qualified vendors to provide a cloud-based Student Information System (SIS) and implementation services.

SEC. 1.02 BUDGET

Department of **LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**, Division of **AVTEC**, estimates a budget of between **\$450,000.00** and **\$650,000.00** dollars for completion of this project. Proposals priced at more than **\$650,000.00** will be considered non-responsive.

Payment for the contract is subject to funds already appropriated and identified.

SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be received no later than **2:00 PM** prevailing Alaska Standard Time on **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026**, as indicated by postmark or email timestamp and late proposals will not be considered.

SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE AND COMPLIANCE

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

- **MINIMUM REQUIREMENT 1:**

The offeror must have a minimum of Five (5) years of experience providing commercially available Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) Student Information System (SIS) Solutions.

Experience must demonstrate the experience and capability to support an institution of approximately 700-800 enrolled students annually and more than 1,000 applications each year.

Additionally, experience shall include the ability of the SaaS and SIS Solutions to enable the following functions: Admissions, Accounting, Student Services, Financial Aid, Residence Life, Student Records, Emergency Communications, Academic Records and Transcripts.

- **MINIMUM REQUIREMENT 2:**

The Offeror must have successfully implemented a Student Information System for at least three (3) educational institutions within the past five (5) years. The offeror shall provide client names, project descriptions, implementation dates and contact information for references.

- **MINIMUM REQUIREMENT 3:**

The offeror must demonstrate experience implementing and supporting a Student Information System that includes data migration from an existing SIS, user training, and ongoing technical support. All potential Offerors must complete the SOA Security Plan (ISP-162 and ISP-123, attached). The qualified bidder shall complete and submit the Security Plan as a separate attachment to the proposal. The Department will evaluate the completed Security Plan and

conduct a risk assessment in accordance with ISP-191 prior to proposal evaluations. If the proposal passes the Security Plan/Risk Assessment, it will then proceed to be evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria.

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 cannot 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: **KATHY O'ROURKE**

PHONE **907-269-4867** – **KATHY.OROOURKE@ALASKA.GOV**

SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

If submitting a proposal via email, the technical proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to **DOL.VENDOR.RESPONSE@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 **20mb (megabytes)**. If the email containing the proposal exceeds this size, the proposal must be sent in multiple emails that are each less than 20 megabytes and each email must comply with the requirements described above.

Please note that email transmission is not instantaneous. 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 **907-269-4867** to confirm that the proposal has been received. The state is not responsible for unreadable, corrupt, or missing attachments.

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.

ACTIVITY	TIME	DATE
Issue Date / RFP Released	2:00 pm	08/7/2026
Pre-Proposal Conference	2:00 pm	8/18/2026
Deadline for Questions	2:00 pm	8/20/2026
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals / Proposal Due Date	2:00 pm	9/9/2026
Proposal Evaluations Complete (estimate)	2:00 pm	9/14/2026
Notice of Intent to Award	2:00 pm	9/16/2026
Contract Issued	2:00 pm	10/01/2026

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 **LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**, 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.

SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SEC. 2.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to provide a modern Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) Student Information System (SIS) solution to replace its existing student information system.

AVTEC has utilized its current Student Information System (SIS), Anthology, for more than ten years to support institutional operations and manage various aspects of the student lifecycle, including admissions, enrollment, student records, financial aid, accounting, academic records, transcripts, career placement and tracking, and related administrative functions. AVTEC requires a qualified contractor to provide and implement a modern Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) Student Information System to replace the existing Anthology system. The project includes the migration of historical student data, implementation of all required system functionality, user training, and transition support to ensure a successful deployment with minimal disruption to operations.

AVTEC is a statewide workforce training institution that provides specialized occupational training programs, including Apprenticeship, Maritime, Short-Term Courses, and Long-Term Courses. AVTEC's educational environment differs from a traditional higher education institution and requires a flexible system capable of supporting varying program structures, enrollment processes, academic schedules, student records requirements, and reporting needs.

AVTEC serves approximately 700–800 students annually and receives more than 1,000 applications each year. The selected solution must support AVTEC's current operational needs while providing the flexibility and scalability necessary to accommodate future growth and evolving institutional requirements.

The selected Student Information System will serve as a centralized platform for managing the student lifecycle from initial inquiry and application through enrollment, academic progress, completion, graduation, and post-completion reporting. The solution must provide comprehensive functionality to support AVTEC's administrative, academic, and student service operations while improving data accessibility, accuracy, reporting capabilities, and compliance efforts.

Because AVTEC is transitioning from an existing SIS environment, a critical component of this procurement will be the successful migration of historical student data from Anthology into the new system. The selected contractor must support a structured transition process that minimizes disruption to ongoing operations while preserving the accuracy, accessibility, and integrity of historical student records needed for institutional reporting, compliance, and recordkeeping purposes.

The selected contractor will provide a complete solution that includes implementation services, system configuration, data migration, testing, user training, documentation, ongoing technical support, and software maintenance throughout the contract term. Most of the implementation activities are expected to be

performed remotely; however, AVTEC may require limited onsite activities for implementation planning, training, system configuration support, or other project-related activities as needed.

The selected solution will store and process sensitive student information, including personally identifiable information and educational records. The State requires the selected contractor to maintain appropriate security controls and comply with applicable privacy, security, and data protection requirements.

AVTEC's goal is to have the new Student Information System fully implemented, tested, and operational by July 1, 2027. AVTEC anticipates an implementation and transition period of approximately four (4) to nine (9) months to allow sufficient time for system configuration, data migration, testing, training, and successful deployment.

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK

The Department of **LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AVTEC**, is soliciting proposals for **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**.

The Department requires a qualified contractor to provide and implement a comprehensive Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) Student Information System (SIS) that supports AVTEC's academic, administrative, and student service operations.

The contractor will provide a commercially available SaaS Student Information System; perform project planning, system configuration, data migration from the existing Anthology system, testing, implementation, user training, and go-live support; and provide ongoing software maintenance, technical support, and system updates throughout the contract term.

Helpful informational material that will be provided to the contractor includes information regarding AVTEC's current operating environment, student population, program offerings, existing business processes, current Student Information System, project objectives, implementation timeline, and functional, technical, security, and data migration requirements as identified in this solicitation.

The goal of this project is to successfully replace AVTEC's existing Student Information System with a modern, secure, and scalable SaaS solution that improves operational efficiency, enhances data management and reporting capabilities, supports the institution's current and future operational needs, and is fully implemented and operational by July 1, 2027.

1. General Requirements

The Contractor shall provide a commercially available, fully hosted Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) Student Information System (SIS) that supports AVTEC's academic, administrative, and student service operations. The Contractor shall furnish all labor, project management, software, licensing, implementation services, data migration, training, documentation, technical support, maintenance, and other resources necessary to successfully implement and support the proposed solution throughout the contract term.

The Contractor shall be responsible for providing all resources necessary to deliver a complete and operational Student Information System solution, including but not limited to:

- Providing all software licenses, subscriptions, hosting services, and required system components.
- Providing qualified personnel with experience implementing SaaS Student Information Systems.
- Providing project management and coordination with AVTEC stakeholders.
- Identifying implementation risks and recommending mitigation strategies.
- Providing timely communication regarding project status, issues, and required decisions.
- Ensuring the proposed solution meets applicable State, federal, and industry requirements.

The proposed solution shall be a fully integrated system capable of supporting AVTEC's current operational needs while providing flexibility to accommodate future institutional growth.

The ideal student information and administration system should provide comprehensive support across all phases of the student lifecycle and institutional operations, including the following capabilities:

2. Admissions Management

Support the complete admissions process for all program types, including Apprenticeship, Maritime, Short-Term Courses, and Long-Term Courses. Functionality should include application processing, document management, test result tracking, and applicant communication/contact tracking.

3. Flexible Program Configuration

Allow for flexible setup and management of academic terms, courses, and programs to accommodate evolving institutional needs.

4. Fee Management

Provide configurable fee structures, with the ability to assign and manage fees at the course, term, and program levels.

5. Financial Aid/Accounting Administration and Compliance

Manage financial aid processing and accounting, including the import and administration of ISIR and COD data. The system should track and apply funding sources toward tuition, fees, supplies, and other educational expenses while providing robust reporting tools to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal regulations.

6. Attendance Tracking

Enable comprehensive attendance monitoring and reporting throughout the duration of each course.

7. Grade Management

Provide instructors with secure access to enter and manage student grades within the system.

8. Academic Records and Transcripts

Generate official transcripts and maintain complete academic records for current and former students.

9. Graduate Placement Tracking

Track employment and placement outcomes for graduates to support institutional reporting requirements and accreditation standards.

10. Student Housing and Residential Life Management

Include residential life functionality, such as housing assignments, resident rosters, housing payments, and related administrative processes.

11. Emergency Communication Capabilities

Support emergency SMS messaging and notification functions to meet the communication needs of residential students and staff.

12. Implementation and Project Management: Requirements for implementation planning, project milestones, configuration, testing, go-live preparation, and post-implementation support.

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- 13. Data Migration:** Specific requirements for migrating historical student data from Anthology, including data mapping, validation, testing, and ensuring records are retained and accessible in the new system.
- 14. System Integrations:** Any required integrations with existing systems, including financial aid, accounting, communication tools, authentication systems, or other State/campus systems.
- 15. Reporting and Compliance:** Additional requirements related to standard and custom reporting, accreditation reporting, regulatory compliance, and data exports.
- 16. Security and System Administration:** SaaS hosting requirements, security standards, user roles and permissions, data protection, and audit capabilities.
- 17. Training and Support:** Vendor expectations for administrator training, user training, documentation, ongoing support, maintenance, and system updates throughout the contract term.
- 18. Contract Deliverables and Acceptance Criteria:** Defining key project deliverables and milestones to ensure successful implementation and acceptance of the system.
- 19. Project Completion:** The Contractor shall complete implementation, data migration, testing, training, and production deployment such that the Student Information System is fully operational no later than **July 1, 2027**.

SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM

The initial term of the contract will begin on the date of award, anticipated to be approximately **October 1, 2026**, and will continue through **June 30, 2028** (~21 months), with four (4) one-year (12 month) renewal options, resulting in a potential contract term through **June 30, 2032**.

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:

- 1) A Project Management Plan, including the implementation methodology, project schedule, milestones, communication plan, risk management approach, and go-live strategy.
- 2) A fully configured, hosted, and operational Student Information System (SIS) that supports admissions for all program types including Apprenticeship, Maritime, Short-Term Course, and Long-Term Course. Functionality includes application tracking, test result tracking, and applicant communications/contact tracking. SIS also needs to include enrollment, student records, attendance, grading, transcripts, financial aid administration, fee management, residence life, emergency communications, graduate placement tracking, and reporting.
- 3) A flexible program configuration – allows for flexible setup and management of academic terms, course, and programs to accommodate evolving institutional needs.
- 4) A completed data migration from the existing Anthology system, including data extraction, mapping, conversion, validation, testing, reconciliation, and verification of historical student records.

- 5) Fully implemented and tested integrations with required State, campus, and third-party systems, including financial aid, accounting, authentication, and communication platforms.
- 6) Standard and custom reports, data export capabilities, and compliance reporting necessary to support institutional operations, accreditation, and applicable state and federal reporting requirements.
- 7) A secure SaaS solution configured with user roles, permissions, authentication, audit logging, backup and disaster recovery capabilities, and safeguards to protect student information.
- 8) Completion of system configuration, testing, user acceptance testing (UAT), issue resolution, production deployment, and successful go-live.
- 9) Administrator and end-user training, training materials, user documentation, and system administration documentation.
- 10) Ongoing technical support, software maintenance, system updates, and customer support services throughout the contract term in accordance with the contracted service levels.

IT Security Review and Approval: The Contractor's solution shall be subject to review by the State's information technology and security representatives. The Contractor shall cooperate with the State's security review process and provide documentation necessary to verify compliance with applicable State security requirements. System implementation and production deployment shall not occur until required security reviews and approvals have been completed.

The proposed Student Management System and all associated hosting, support, and provided services shall comply with all applicable requirements of IRS Publication 1075, IRC §6103(I)(13), ISP 191, The Higher Education Act, the SAIG agreement, and applicable Education Department security requirements. The vendors proposal will be evaluated in part by their risk assessment performed according to ISP 191.

As part of the RFP response, the bidder shall provide a signed statement of compliance with the above security requirements. **Submittal Form G** is provided for the offeror's signature. The bidder shall identify any exceptions, limitations, or areas of non-compliance and provide proposed remediation plans and timelines on Submittal Form G.

The SOA Security Plan (ISP-162 and ISP-123) will be a required attachment to this proposal. The qualified bidder shall complete and submit the Security Plan as a separate attachment to the proposal. The Department will evaluate the completed Security Plan and conduct a risk assessment in accordance with ISP-191 prior to proposal evaluations. If the proposal passes the Security Plan/Risk Assessment, it will then proceed to be evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria detailed in Section 4.03 through 4.08.

All data entered into, generated by, or maintained within the system on behalf of the State of Alaska shall remain the sole property of the State. The Contractor shall not retain or use State data after contract expiration or termination except as required by law or expressly authorized by the State.

This contract is a **FIRM FIXED PRICE** – Professional Services Contract.

SEC. 3.04 PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES

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

SEC. 3.05 CONTRACT PAYMENT

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of **LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** 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. Late payments are 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. 3.06 LOCATION OF WORK

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.

All Services required under this Contract shall be performed within the United States or its territories. The Contractor shall not perform, and shall not permit any subcontractor, consultant, affiliate, parent company, subsidiary, or other third party performing Services on the Contractor's behalf to perform, any portion of the Services outside the United States or its territories.

This requirement applies to all Services performed under the Contract, including remote, administrative, technical, support, maintenance, hosting, and other services provided in connection with the Contract. The Contractor shall identify in its proposal the location(s) from which the Services will be performed and all subcontractors, affiliates, or other third parties proposed to perform Services under the Contract.

The Contractor shall remain responsible for compliance with this requirement throughout the term of the Contract and shall not transfer or delegate performance of any portion of the Services to an entity or individual located outside the United States or its territories.

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

SEC. 3.07 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.08 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 **LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** or the Commissioner's designee.

SEC. 3.09 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 under this contract may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Student education records and academic history.
- Personally identifiable information (PII) of applicants, current students, and former students.
- Social Security numbers and tax information, if contained within student records.
- Financial aid information and related records.
- Student financial and accounting information.
- Admissions application information and supporting documentation.
- User account information, access credentials, and system access details.
- AVTEC business processes, procedures, and internal operational information.
- Data migration files, data extracts, and system configuration information.
- System security information, including authentication methods, access controls, and technical documentation.
- Reports, data sets, and other information generated from AVTEC systems.

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. 3.10 INDEMNIFICATION

Article 1. Indemnification

The contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the State of Alaska 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 State of Alaska for a claim for, or liability for, the independent negligence of the State of Alaska. If there is a claim of, or liability for, the joint negligent error or omission of the contractor and the independent negligence of the State of Alaska, the indemnification and hold harmless obligation shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis. "Contractor" and "State of Alaska", 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 State of Alaska's selection, administration, monitoring, or controlling of the contractor and in approving or accepting the contractor's work.

SEC. 3.11 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Without limiting the contractor's indemnification, it is agreed that the contractor shall purchase at its own expense and maintain in force at all times during the performance of services under this agreement the following policies of insurance. Where specific limits are shown, it is understood that they shall be the minimum acceptable limits. If the contractor's policy contains higher limits, the State of Alaska 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. If the insurer does not notify the State of Alaska on policy cancellation it shall be the contractor's responsibility to notify the State of Alaska of such cancellation.

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. All

policies for general liability shall be primary and non-contributing with any insurance that may be carried by the State of Alaska.

The contractor shall require and verify that all subcontractors maintain insurance meeting all requirements stated herein, and contractor shall ensure that the State is an additional insured on insurance required from subcontractors.

Policies written on a “claims-made” basis must have a two (2) year tail of coverage, or an unbroken continuation of coverage for two (2) years from the completion of the contract requirements.

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 Employers Liability with limits of at least \$1,000,000. Also, where applicable, the contractor shall provide and maintain 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 of Alaska.

2.2 Commercial General Liability Insurance including:

- \$2,000,000 General Aggregate
- \$2,000,000 Products/Completed Operations
- \$1,000,000 Personal & Advertising Injury
- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
- \$ 5,000 Medical Payments

The policy must name the State of Alaska as an “additional insured” and the actual policy endorsement shall accompany each Certificate of Insurance. The policy shall be endorsed to waive all rights of subrogation against the State of Alaska by reason of any payment made for claims under this coverage. This policy endorsement shall accompany each Certificate of Insurance

2.3 Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance: covering all vehicles used by the contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$1,000,000 combined single limit per claim, to include: owned, hired, and non-owned. The policy must name the State of Alaska as an “additional insured” and the actual policy endorsement shall accompany each Certificate of Insurance. The policy shall be endorsed to waive all rights of subrogation against the State of Alaska by reason of any payment made for claims under this coverage. This policy endorsement shall accompany each Certificate of Insurance.

2.4 Cyber/Privacy Liability Insurance with limits not less than **\$5,000,000**. The Cyber Coverage shall include, but not be limited to, first-party coverage (data restoration, business interruption, forensic investigation, and crisis management), third-party coverage (regulatory fines, legal defense costs, and media liability), cyber extortion/ransomware (ransom payments and negotiation services), data theft, and privacy and notification (HIPAA violations, breach notification expenses, credit monitoring, and compliance with state and federal laws). Vendor shall maintain continuous coverage for the duration of the agreement and for 2 years following termination.

2.5 Professional Liability Insurance: covering all errors, omissions or negligent acts in the performance of professional services under this agreement. Limits required per the following schedule:

Contract Amount	Minimum Required Limits
Under \$100,00.00	\$300,000.00 per Claim / Annual Aggregate
\$100,000.00 to \$499,999.00	\$500,000.00 per Claim / Annual Aggregate
\$500,000.00 to \$999,999.00	\$1,000,000.00 per Claim / Annual Aggregate
\$1,000,000.00 and over	Refer to Risk Management

SEC. 3.12 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	
Submittal Form B – Experience and Qualifications	7
Submittal Form C – Understanding of the Project	7
Submittal Form D – Methodology Used for the Project	7
Submittal Form E – Management Plan for the Project	7
Submittal Form F – Cost Proposal (Note* use your own formatting)	
Submittal Form G – Security Requirements Signature Page	
SOA Security Plan - (ISP-162 and ISP-123 – submit as a separate document)	

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.

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. Note* - Organizational charts will not count towards maximum page limit (see section 4.2 for page limits).

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.

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 may ask for best and final offers from offerors susceptible for award and revise the cost scores accordingly.

- 9) 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)	12.5
Understanding of the Project	(Submittal Form C)	12.5
Methodology Used for the Project	(Submittal Form D)	12.5
Management Plan for the Project	(Submittal Form E)	12.5
Total		50

Cost Criteria		Weight
Cost Proposal	(Submittal Form F)	40
Total		40

Preference Criteria		Weight
Alaska Offeror Preference (if applicable)		10
Total		100

TOTAL EVALUATION POINTS AVAILABLE: 100

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 5.07 and assign a single score of 1 through 12.5, with 12.5 representing the highest score and 1 representing the lowest score. PEC members should start with a score of 6 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:

The following scoring example uses a 1,5,10 scoring method. This is an example only.

Offeror Total Score

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

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
Offeror 1	10	5	5	10	30	75
Offeror 2	5	5	5	5	20	50
Offeror 3	10	10	10	10	40	100

Offeror 1 was awarded 75 points:

Offeror Total Score (30)

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

Offeror 2 was awarded 50 points:

Offeror Total Score (20)

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

Offeror 3 was awarded 100 points:

Offeror Total Score (40)

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

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 and have they included an organization chart

mapping personnel titles and responsibility level? Note* - The Organizational chart and resumes will not count towards the maximum page limit (see section 4.02 for maximum page limits).

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

2) *Questions regarding the firm /contractor*

- 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?

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 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:

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

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. 5.09 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:

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)
Offeror #3	900 points (800 points + 100 points)

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

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 virtually via Teams or Zoom.

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.

SEC. 6.14 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. 6.15 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The contractor will be required to sign the state's Standard Agreement Form for 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 without prior written approval from the Department of Law, and the state reserves the right to reject a proposal that is non-compliant or takes exception with the contract terms and conditions stated in the Agreement. Any requests to change language in this document (adjust, modify, add, delete, etc.), must be set out in the offeror's proposal in a separate document. Please include the following information with any change that you are proposing:

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

SEC. 6.16 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. 6.17 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT

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

SEC. 6.18 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. 6.19 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. 6.20 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. 6.21 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. 6.22 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. 6.23 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. 6.24 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. 6.25 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. 6.26 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. 6.27 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Proposals must comply with Section 6.08 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. 6.28 SOLICITATION ADVERTISING

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

SEC. 6.29 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 contact price and shall take appropriate action as directed by the procurement officer.

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- **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) Cost Proposal (Submittal Form F)
- 2) Submittal Forms A – E
- 3) Offeror’s Checklist
- 4) Standard Contract Form for Goods and Non-Professional Services
- 5) Submittal Form G (Security Requirements Signature page)
- 6) SOA System Security Plan (ISP-162 and ISP-123)