

STATE OF ALASKA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



STATEWIDE EQUITY PROJECT- FUNDING FORMULA

RFP 2027-1600-0122

ISSUED 10/07/2026

THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF SENIOR AND DISABILITIES SERVICES, EARLY INTERVENTION/INFANT LEARNING PROGRAM (STATE ILP) IS SOLICITING PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED VENDORS REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GRANTEE FUNDING FORMULA METHODOLOGY.

ISSUED BY:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF SENIOR AND DISABILITIES SERVICES

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OFFERORS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RETURN THIS FORM.

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

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE RFP

The State of Alaska, Department of Health (DOH), Division of Senior and Disabilities Services (SDS), Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (State ILP) is soliciting proposals from qualified vendors regarding the

development of a grantee funding formula methodology that will be used by the State in the next competitive funding cycle, fiscal year 2029 (FY29), to guide the distribution of state and federal grant funds to 15 regional ILP grantees. The formula will consider actual and potential revenue sources available to programs; regional cost differences; travel expenses; population and enrollment numbers; intensity of services provided by each region; and other factors to be determined.

SEC. 1.02 BUDGET

Department of Health, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services, estimates a maximum budget of \$200,000.00. Proposals priced at more than \$200,000.00 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 1:00 PM prevailing Alaska Time on 10/07/2026. Late proposals or amendments will be disqualified and not opened or accepted for evaluation.

SEC. 1.04 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

To be considered responsive for this RFP, an offeror must meet the mandatory minimum requirements that are provided in **Submittal Form F – Mandatory Requirements**. **Failure to meet all these requirements will result in immediate disqualification.**

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 and least ten days before the deadline for receipt of proposals. 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.

SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

Offerors must submit their proposals via email. The technical proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to doh.procurement.proposals@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.

Please note that email transmission is not instantaneous. The state recommends sending it enough ahead of time to ensure the email is delivered by the deadline for receipt of proposals.

It is the offeror's responsibility to contact the above email address 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, it 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 State of Alaska Online Public Notice website.

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 Time.

ACTIVITY	TIME	DATE
Issue Date / RFP Released		10/07/2026
Pre-Proposal Conference	2:00 PM	10/14/2026
Deadline to Submit Questions	1:00 PM	10/19/2026
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals / Proposal Due Date	1:00 PM	10/28/2026
Proposal Evaluations Complete		Week of 11/5/2026
Notice of Intent to Award		Week of 11/12/2026
Contract Issued		Week of 11/19/2026

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 Health, 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 PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 2:00 pm, Alaska Time, on October 14, 2026. The purpose of the conference is to discuss the RFP. Questions that can be answered by directing offerors to the RFP can be answered in the teleconference any additional questions are to be submitted in writing and will be answered via an amendment to the RFP posting. A Questions and Answers Amendment will be posted after the teleconference and will contain the official answers.

Participants may join the meeting using the following:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/265195393117659?p=RZ4CLAOCBoDYgsDUGJ>

Meeting ID: 265 195 393 117 659

Passcode: 3f8W3jx7

Or call in (audio only):

Dial in by phone

[+1 907-202-7104](tel:+19072027104), [245995443#](tel:+1245995443) United States, Anchorage

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 245 995 443#

To obtain the greatest benefit from this meeting, offerors are strongly encouraged to have their direct supervisory personnel/critical project team members attend (in lieu of executives, business development, or sales personnel). Offerors with a disability needing accommodation should contact the procurement officer prior to the date set for the pre-proposal conference so that reasonable accommodation can be made.

SEC. 1.13 ALTERNATE PROPOSALS

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

SEC. 1.14 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

Fifteen regional ILP programs provide early intervention services dedicated to helping families with children experiencing developmental delays. Currently, the State ILP team distributes federal and state funds to these programs with consideration to factors including program size, enrollment numbers, population data, Medicaid enrollment, and travel costs. However, while these factors are considered, they have not been developed into a structured funding formula.

Each program, especially those smaller and in rural locations, faces significant challenges unique to its geographic location, therefore establishing a funding formula will allow ILP to distribute federal and state funds based on each program's needs, the cost of operating the program, and geographic differences. ILP's goal is to create a funding methodology that will include all factors that impact the cost of administering an early intervention program in Alaska and provides an equitable method of distributing funds. The funding formula should consider each programs population of birth to 3-year-olds, their amount of referrals, months of services to enrolled children, geographic differentials, and travel requirements. Additionally, the funding formula should look at how much revenue each program has the potential to generate through public and private insurance, Medicaid Administrative Claiming funds, and Targeted Case Management billing.

Developing a comprehensive and accurate funding formula requires specialized expertise in financial modeling, revenue maximization through both public and private means, cost and data analysis, and public policy. Additionally, hiring a contractor ensures an objective, outside analysis. The State ILP team does not have the background and technical resources needed to design a formula of this complexity, while also providing ongoing technical support and management to programs. However, this RFP is looking for a partner that complements the state ILP team and works closely and collaboratively with us.

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK

The Department of Health, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services, is soliciting proposals from a qualified offeror to collect and analyze data to support an equitable funding formula across the 15 current ILP programs, consider and be familiar with Alaska’s unique geographical and regional complexities, and consider and be familiar with ILP funding sources such as Federal Part C funding, AK State General Funds, Medicaid, and Private Insurance. They will ensure multiple opportunities for the state ILP team and stakeholder input and make appropriate revisions based on input.

The successful offeror will submit a concise, comprehensive, and easy-to-read, funding formula methodology report and spreadsheet describing the rationale and data sources for the funding formula. They will also provide a guidance document and support to the ILP State team to implement the funding formula.

SEC. 3.02 DELIVERABLES

The contractor will be required to provide the following deliverables:

Deliverable 1

Submit a list of all planned stakeholder meetings within a month of the contract being implemented.

Deliverable 2

Submit a list of all completed stakeholder meetings notes within a week of occurrence.

Deliverable 3

Submit a schedule of all planned meetings with the State ILP team within a month of the contract being implemented.

Deliverable 4

After every meeting, submit notes within a week detailing what was discussed, action items to accomplish before the next meeting and who is responsible.

Deliverable 5

Develop and submit a funding formula methodology spreadsheet based on the collected data to be used in FY29 and in the future. A draft version should be submitted to the State ILP team within nine months of the contract being implemented. The final version should be submitted by October 31, 2027.

Deliverable 6

Submit a concise, comprehensive, and easy-to-read, funding formula methodology report describing the rationale and data sources for the funding formula. A draft version should be submitted to the State ILP team within nine months of the contract execution. The final version should be submitted by October 31, 2027.

Deliverable 7

Provide a guidance document and support to the State ILP team to implement the funding formula. This should be submitted by October 31, 2027.

SEC. 3.03 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE

The length of the contract will be from the date of award for approximately one year.

Any extension of the contract beyond the exercised renewal options will be upon mutual agreement between the State and the contractor and effected with a contract amendment processed by the procurement officer and signed by both parties. All other terms and conditions of the contract, including those previously amended, shall remain in full force and effect. Unless otherwise agreed to by both parties, the procurement officer will provide written notice to the contractor of the intent to cancel an extension at least 30 days before the desired date of cancellation.

SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE

This contract is a firm fixed price contract as identified in Submittal Form G- Cost Proposal.

SEC. 3.05 PAYMENT PROCEDURES

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

SEC. 3.06 CONTRACT PAYMENT

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Health or the Commissioner's designee. 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.

For agreements over \$500,000, under no conditions will the state be liable for the payment of any interest charges associated with the cost of the contract. 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.

SEC. 3.07 ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

The State of Alaska prefers vendors receive payment via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The contractor may review information concerning the EFT process and access the Electronic Payment Agreement Form for Vendors at the following link: <https://doa.alaska.gov/dof/vendor.html>.

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

SEC. 3.08 LOCATION OF WORK

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

Travel to other locations will not be required.

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. 3.09 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.10 JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.11 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. 3.12 CONTRACT PERSONNEL

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

SEC. 3.13 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 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. 3.14 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 Health or the Commissioner's designee.

SEC. 3.15 NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

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

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

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

The following information shall not be considered confidential information: information previously known to be public information when received from the other party; information freely available to the general public; information which now is or hereafter becomes publicly known by other than a breach of confidentiality hereof;

or information which is disclosed by a party pursuant to subpoena or other legal process and which as a result becomes lawfully obtainable by the general public.

SEC. 3.16 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. 3.17 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.

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.

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

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.

SEC. 3.18 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

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

The procurement officer may also, by written notice, terminate the 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 their proposal. An electronic copy of the forms is posted along with this RFP. Offerors shall not re-create these forms, create their own forms, or edit the format structure of the forms unless permitted to do so.

Unless otherwise specified in this RFP, the Submittal Forms shall be the offeror's entire proposal. Do not include any links or marketing information in the proposal or it may be removed by the procurement officer prior to the proposals being sent to the proposal evaluation committee (PEC).

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

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).

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

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

SEC. 4.03 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 items listed in the Certifications section of the Submittal Form. If the offeror fails to comply with these items, the state reserves the right to disregard the proposal, consider the contractor in default, or terminate the contract.

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) Alaska preference qualifications.

An offeror's failure to provide this information may cause the proposal to be considered non-responsive and rejected.

SEC. 4.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (SUBMITTAL FORM B)

Offerors must provide detail in their specific experience working with Early Intervention Part C state or regional programs or other health and education programs.

Offerors must provide detail in their specific experience developing funding allocation methodologies for state or federal grant funds.

Offerors must also provide detail on the primary project manager's specific experience in projects of a similar nature along with the directly related experience of the overall project team identified in Submittal Form A.

Finally, offerors must provide a description of the organization of the project team and the individual(s) responsible and accountable for the completion each component and deliverable of the RFP.

SPECIAL NOTE: The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

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

Offerors must provide detail that demonstrates their understanding of the requirements of the project and how to meet the state's needs.

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that illustrate their understanding of funding allocation methodologies for state or federal grant funds and revenue.

This section must provide the following information about each person listed

- (a) title
- (b) resume
- (c) location(s) where work will be performed

SPECIAL NOTE: The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02) however resumes will not count against the set page limit.

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

Offerors must provide detail that demonstrates the methodology they will employ and how the methodology will serve to accomplish the work and meet the state's needs.

Offerors must provide a detailed narrative explaining how they will complete the work required to develop a new grantee funding formula. The formula must provide an equitable method of distributing federal and state grant funds while including all factors that impact the cost of administering an Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program in Alaska. It must take into account revenue that each regional Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program is able to generate through public and private insurance, Medicaid Administrative Claiming funds, Targeted Case Management billing, and local grants.

SPECIAL NOTE: The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

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

Offerors must provide detail that demonstrates the management plan they intend to follow and how the plan will serve to accomplish the work and meet the state's needs.

Offerors must also identify any potential issues, risks, or problems they foresee with this project and how they will address them.

Offerors must describe how the project team will meet with regional early intervention/infant learning program stakeholders such as regional programs, community organizations, parents, and the ILP state team and how this information will be used towards the funding allocation methodology.

SPECIAL NOTE: The offeror shall not disclose their costs in this Submittal Form. This Submittal Form cannot exceed the page limit (as described in Section 4.02).

SEC. 4.08 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS (SUBMITTAL FORM F)

Offerors must complete and submit this Submittal Form.

SEC. 4.09 COST PROPOSAL (SUBMITTAL FORM G)

Offerors must complete and submit this Submittal Form.

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. Proposals deemed non-responsive 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 specific parts of the 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
Mandatory Requirements Compliance (Submittal Form F)	Pass/Fail

Technical Criteria		Weight
Experience and Qualifications	(Submittal Form B)	200
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
Total		500

Cost Criteria	Weight
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Cost Proposal	(Submittal Form G)	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 5.07 and assign a single score of 1, 5, or 10, with 10 representing the highest score, 5 representing the average score, and 1 representing the lowest score. 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 score of 10. 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 score of 1.

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

- 1) Maximum Points Available / Maximum Combined PEC Score Possible
- 2) Combined PEC Score x Result of 1)

Example (Maximum Points Available 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:

Maximum Points Available (100)
 _____ = 2.5
 Maximum Combined PEC Score Possible (40)

Combined PEC Score (30) x 2.5 = Points Awarded (75)

Offeror 2 was awarded 50 points:

$$\frac{\text{Maximum Points Available (100)}}{\text{Maximum Combined PEC Score Possible (40)}} = 2.5$$

Combined PEC Score (20) x 2.5 = Points Awarded (50)

Offeror 3 was awarded 100 points:

$$\frac{\text{Maximum Points Available (100)}}{\text{Maximum Combined PEC Score Possible (40)}} = 2.5$$

Combined PEC Score (40) x 2.5 = Points Awarded (100)

SEC. 5.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated based on the information they provided in response to Section 4.04 and the level of experience it demonstrates.

SEC. 5.05 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated based on how well the offeror demonstrates their understanding of the project requirements in response to section 4.05 and how it meets the state's needs.

SEC. 5.06 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated based on how well the offeror demonstrates their methodology for the project requirements in response to section 4.06 and how it meets the state's needs.

SEC. 5.07 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT

This portion of the offeror's proposal will be evaluated based on how well the offeror demonstrates their management plan for the project requirements in response to section 4.07 and how it meets the state's needs.

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 lowest cost x 400 maximum points for cost = 16,000,000 ÷ \$42,750 cost of Offeror #2's proposal = 374.3

Offeror #3 receives 336.8 points.

\$40,000 lowest cost x 400 maximum points for cost = 16,000,000 ÷ \$47,500 cost of Offeror #3's proposal = 336.8

SEC. 5.09 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:

<https://oppm.doa.alaska.gov/policy-oversight/policy-resources/user-guide-matrixes/>

- 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. 5.10 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 questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran Preference. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 5.11 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. 5.12 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.

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.

In addition, proof of graduation of the qualifying employee from an eligible program as described in AS 36.30.321(l) must be provided to the procurement officer at time of proposal submission. Offerors must provide clarification or additional information requested by the procurement officer related to the preference not later than 5:00 PM Alaska Time one (1) business day following the date of the request. Failure to provide sufficient documentation will result in the offeror not receiving the Military Skills Program Preference.

SEC. 5.13 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 top scoring offeror.

SEC. 5.14 COST REASONABLENESS

Prior to entering into contract negotiations, the procurement officer may perform a cost reasonableness assessment of all shortlisted proposals in the following manner:

- If the highest ranked offeror's cost proposal is within 5% of the next highest ranked offeror's cost proposal, the state will proceed to invite the highest ranked offeror to contract negotiations.
- If the highest ranked offeror's cost proposal is 5% or more higher than the next highest ranked offeror's cost proposal, the state reserves the right to invite the second highest ranked offeror to contract negotiations.

SEC. 5.15 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

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 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. 5.16 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 list the names of all offerors and identify the offeror(s) selected for award.

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** 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 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The contractor will be required to sign the state's Standard Agreement Form for Professional Services. This form is attached with the RFP for your review. The contractor must comply with the Appendix A 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. 6.04 BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (BAA)

The State has a standard BAA that is included in contracts that involve Personal Health Information (PHI) covered under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA) Act. This BAA will be included in the fully executed contract and is attached along with this RFP as HIPAA BAA. Similar to Section 6.03, any request to change language in this document must be set out in the offeror's proposal in a separate document, and no alteration of these provisions will be permitted without prior written approval from both DOH Security Office and the Department of Law.

SEC. 6.05 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. 6.06 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT

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

SEC. 6.07 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. 6.08 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. 6.09 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 counter-offer and the proposal may be rejected.

Minor informalities that:

- do not affect responsiveness;
- are merely a matter of form or format;
- do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other offers;
- do not change the meaning or scope of the 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 to be in its best interest. **A proposal from a debarred or suspended offeror shall be rejected.**

SEC. 6.10 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. 6.11 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 and subject to the APRA any Record unless, at the time of submission, the offeror undertook the following protective measures in their proposal (considering page limits in Section 4.02 of the RFP, the offeror may set out in a separate document):
 - 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. 6.12 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. Proposals that are conditioned upon the state's approval of an assignment will be rejected as non-responsive.

SEC. 6.13 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. 6.14 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. 6.15 SOLICITATION ADVERTISING

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

SEC. 6.16 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. 6.17 CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS

Prior to the contract negotiation period detailed in RFP Section 5.15, 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. 6.18 DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS

Prior to the contract negotiation period detailed in RFP Section 5.15, 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. 6.19 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 tariff, 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 tariff, 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 tariff, 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 tariff, 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 tariff, 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 tariff, 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 to the contract price under this clause unless the amount of the adjustment exceeds \$250.

SEC. 6.20 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.

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."

SECTION 7. ATTACHMENTS

SEC. 7.01 ATTACHMENTS

Attachments:

- 01 - Submittal Forms A – F
- 02 – Submittal Form G - Cost Proposal
- 03 - Standard Agreement Form - Appendix A
- 04 - HIPAA BAA