

**State of Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES**

**RETURN TO:**  
Department of Economic Development  
245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 002  
Lincoln, NE 68521  
(402)-471-3749

<b>SOLICITATION NUMBER</b>	<b>RELEASE DATE</b>
RFP 114045 O3	November 9, 2022
<b>OPENING DATE AND TIME</b>	<b>PROCUREMENT CONTACT</b>
December 21, 2022 2:00 p.m. Central Time	Lori Cole

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!  
SCOPE OF SERVICE**

The State of Nebraska (State), Department of Economic Development, is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) Number 114045 O3 for the purpose of selecting qualified Nebraska non-profit entities to provide services necessary to carry out the grant functions of the InternNE grant program. A more detailed description can be found in Section V. The resulting contract may not be an exclusive contract as the State reserves the right to contract for the same or similar services from other sources now or in the future.

The term of the contract will be two (2) years commencing upon execution of the contract by the State and the Bidder (Parties). The Contract includes the option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement of the Parties. The State reserves the right to extend the period of this contract beyond the termination date when mutually agreeable to the Parties.

ALL INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CAN BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET AT:  
<http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-602.04, State contracts in effect as of January 1, 2014, and contracts entered into thereafter, must be posted to a public website. The resulting contract, the solicitation, and the successful Bidder's proposal or response will be posted to a public website managed by DAS, which can be found at <http://statecontracts.nebraska.gov>.

In addition and in furtherance of the State's public records Statute (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712 et seq.), all proposals or responses received regarding this solicitation will be posted to the State Purchasing Bureau public website.

**These postings will include the entire proposal or response. Bidder must request that proprietary information be excluded from the posting. The Bidder must identify the proprietary information, mark the proprietary information according to state law, and submit the proprietary information in a separate container or envelope marked conspicuously using an indelible method with the words "PROPRIETARY INFORMATION". The Bidder must submit a detailed written document showing that the release of the proprietary information would give a business advantage to named business competitor(s) and explain how the named business competitor(s) will gain an actual business advantage by disclosure of information. The mere assertion that information is proprietary or that a speculative business advantage might be gained is not sufficient. (See Attorney General Opinion No. 92068, April 27, 1992) THE SUPPLIER MAY NOT ASSERT THAT THE ENTIRE PROPOSAL IS PROPRIETARY. COST PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED PROPRIETARY AND ARE A PUBLIC RECORD IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA. The State will then determine, in its sole discretion, if the disclosure of the information designated by the bidder as proprietary would 1) give advantage to business competitors and, 2) serve no public purpose. The bidder will be notified of the State's decision. Absent a determination by the State that the information may be withheld pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05(3)), the State will consider all information a public record subject to disclosure. If the State determines it is required to release proprietary information, the bidder will be informed. It will be the bidder's responsibility to defend the bidder's asserted interest in non-disclosure.**

If the agency determines it is required to release proprietary information, the Bidder will be informed. It will be the Bidder's responsibility to defend the Bidder's asserted interest in non-disclosure.

**To facilitate such public postings, with the exception of proprietary information, the State of Nebraska reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to copy, reproduce, publish, post to a website, or otherwise use any contract, proposal, or response to this solicitation for any purpose, and to authorize others to use the documents. Any individual or entity awarded a contract, or who submits a proposal or response to this solicitation, specifically waives any copyright or other protection the contract, proposal, or response to the solicitation may have; and, acknowledges that they have the ability and authority to enter into such waiver. This reservation and waiver is a prerequisite for submitting a proposal or response to this solicitation, and award of a contract. Failure to agree to the reservation and waiver will result in the proposal or response to the solicitation being found non-responsive and rejected.**

**Any entity awarded a contract or submitting a proposal or response to the solicitation agrees not to sue, file a claim, or make a demand of any kind, and will indemnify and hold harmless the State and its employees, volunteers, agents, and its elected and appointed officials from and against any and all claims, liens, demands, damages, liability, actions, causes of action, losses, judgments, costs, and expenses of every nature, including investigation costs and expenses, settlement costs, and attorney fees and expenses, sustained or asserted against the State, arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to the posting of the contract or the proposals and responses to the solicitation, awards, and other documents.**

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Acceptance Test Procedure:** Benchmarks and other performance criteria, developed by the State of Nebraska or other sources of testing standards, for measuring the effectiveness of products or services and the means used for testing such performance.

**Addendum:** Something to be added or deleted to an existing document; a supplement.

**Agency:** Any state agency, board, or commission other than the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska State colleges, the courts, the Legislature, or any other office or agency established by the Constitution of Nebraska.

**Agent/Representative:** A person authorized to act on behalf of another.

**Amend:** To alter or change by adding, subtracting, or substituting.

**Amendment:** A written correction or alteration to a document.

**Appropriation:** Legislative authorization to expend public funds for a specific purpose. Money set apart for a specific use.

**Automated Clearing House: (ACH)** Electronic network for financial transactions in the United States

**Award:** All purchases, leases, or contracts which are based on competitive proposals will be awarded according to the provisions in the solicitation.

**Best and Final Offer (BAFO):** In a competitive proposal, the final offer submitted which contains the Bidder's most favorable terms for price.

**Bid Bond:** An insurance agreement, accompanied by a monetary commitment, by which a third party (the surety) accepts liability and guarantees that the Bidder will not withdraw the bid.

**Bidder:** A Bidder who submits a proposal in response to a written solicitation.

**Breach:** Violation of a contractual obligation by failing to perform or repudiation of one's own promise.

**Business:** Any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, joint-stock company, joint venture, or any other private legal entity.

**Business Day:** Any weekday, except State-recognized holidays.

**Calendar Day:** Every day shown on the calendar including Saturdays, Sundays, and State/Federal holidays.

**Cancellation:** To call off or revoke a purchase order without expectation of conducting or performing it at a later time.

**Central Processing Unit (CPU):** Any computer or computer system that is used by the State to store, process, or retrieve data or perform other functions using Operating Systems and applications software.

**Change Order:** Document that provides amendments to an executed purchase order or contract.

**Collusion:** An agreement or cooperation between two or more persons or entities to accomplish a fraudulent, deceitful, or unlawful purpose.

**Competition:** The effort or action of two or more commercial interests to obtain the same business from third parties.

**Confidential Information:** Unless otherwise defined below, "Confidential Information" shall also mean proprietary trade secrets, academic and scientific research work which is in progress and unpublished, and other information which if released would give advantage to business competitors and serve no public purpose (see Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-712.05(3)). In accordance with Nebraska Attorney General Opinions 92068 and 97033, proof that information is proprietary requires identification of specific, named competitor(s) who would be advantaged by release of the information and the specific advantage the competitor(s) would receive.

**Contract:** An agreement between two or more parties creating obligations that are enforceable or otherwise recognizable at law; the writing that sets forth such an agreement.

**Contract Administration:** The management of the contract which includes and is not limited to; contract signing, contract amendments and any necessary legal actions.

**Contract Award:** Occurs upon execution of the State document titled "Service Contract Award" by the proper authority.

**Contract Management:** The management of day to day activities at the agency which includes and is not limited to ensuring deliverables are received, specifications are met, handling meetings and making payments to the Bidder.

**Contract Period:** The duration of the contract.

**Bidder:** An individual or entity lawfully conducting business in the State, or licensed to do so, who seeks to provide goods or services under the terms of a written solicitation.

**Copyright:** A property right in an original work of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression, giving the holder the exclusive right to reproduce, adapt and distribute the work.

**Critical Program Error:** Any Program Error, whether or not known to the State, which prohibits or significantly impairs use of the Licensed Software as set forth in the documentation and intended in the contract.

**Customer Service:** The process of ensuring customer satisfaction by providing assistance and advice on those products or services provided by the Bidder.

**Default:** The omission or failure to perform a contractual duty.

**Deviation:** Any proposed change(s) or alteration(s) to either the terms and conditions or deliverables within the scope of the written solicitation or contract.

**Evaluation:** The process of examining an offer after opening to determine the Bidder's responsibility, responsiveness to requirements, and to ascertain other characteristics of the offer that relate to determination of the successful award.

**Evaluation Committee:** Committee(s) appointed by the requesting agency that advises and assists the procuring office in the evaluation of proposals (offers made in response to written solicitations).

**Extension:** Continuance of a contract for a specified duration upon the agreement of the parties beyond the original Contract Period. Not to be confused with "Renewal Period".

**Foreign Corporation:** A foreign corporation that was organized and chartered under the laws of another state, government, or country.

**HBCU:** A historically black college or university.

**Interested Party:** A person, acting in their personal capacity, or an entity entering into a contract or other agreement creating a legal interest therein.

**Internship:** The employment of a Student in a professional or technical position for a limited period of time, by a business in Nebraska, in which the Student (a) gains valuable work experience, (b) increases knowledge that assists with career decision-making, and (c) assists the business in accelerating short-term business objectives.

**Invalid Proposal:** A proposal that does not meet the requirements of the solicitation or cannot be evaluated against the other proposals.

**Late Proposal:** An offer received after the Opening Date and Time.

**Mandatory/Must:** Required, compulsory, or obligatory.

**May:** Discretionary, permitted; used to express possibility.

**Module (see System):** A collection of routines and data structures that perform a specific function of software.

**Must:** See Mandatory/Must and Shall/Will/Must.

**Open Market Purchase:** Authorization may be given to an agency to purchase items above direct purchase authority due to the unique nature, price, quantity, location of the using agency, or time limitations by the AS Materiel Division, State Purchasing Bureau.

**Opening Date and Time:** Specified date and time for the public opening of received, labeled, and sealed formal proposals.

**Operating System:** The control program in a computer that provides the interface to the computer hardware and peripheral devices, and the usage and allocation of memory resources, processor resources, input/output resources, and security resources.

**Outsourcing:** The contracting out of a business process which an organization may have previously performed internally or has a new need for, to an independent organization from which the process is purchased back.

**Performance Bond:** An insurance agreement, accompanied by a monetary commitment, by which a third party (the surety) accepts liability and guarantees that the Bidder fulfills any and all obligations under the contract.

**Platform:** A specific hardware and Operating System combination that is different from other hardware and Operating System combinations to the extent that a different version of the Licensed Software product is required to execute properly in the environment established by such hardware and Operating System combination.

**Point of Contact (POC):** The person designated to receive communications and to communicate.

**Pre-Proposal Conference:** A meeting scheduled for the purpose of clarifying a written solicitation and related expectations.

**Product:** Something that is distributed commercially for use or consumption and that is usually (1) tangible personal property, (2) the result of fabrication or processing, and (3) an item that has passed through a chain of commercial distribution before ultimate use or consumption.

**Project:** The total scheme, program, or method worked out for the accomplishment of an objective, including all documentation, commodities, and services to be provided under the contract.

**Proposal:** An offer, bid, or quote submitted by a Bidder/vendor in a response to a written solicitation

**Proprietary Information:** Proprietary information is defined as trade secrets, academic and scientific research work which is in progress and unpublished, and other information which if released would give advantage to business competitors and serves no public purpose (see Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05(3)). In accordance with Attorney General Opinions 92068 and 97033, proof that information is proprietary requires identification of specific named competitor(s) advantaged by release of the information and the demonstrated advantage the named competitor(s) would gain by the release of information.

**Protest/Grievance:** A complaint about a governmental action or decision related to a solicitation or resultant contract, brought by a Bidder who has timely submitted a proposal response in connection with the award in question, to AS Materiel Division or another designated agency with the intention of achieving a remedial result.

**Public Proposal Opening:** The process of opening correctly submitted offers at the time and place specified in the written solicitation and in the presence of anyone who wished to attend.

**Recommended Hardware Configuration:** The data processing hardware (including all terminals, auxiliary storage, communication, and other peripheral devices) to the extent utilized by the State as recommended by the Bidder.

**Release Date:** The date of public release of the written solicitation to seek offers.

**Renewal Period:** Optional contract periods subsequent to the original Contract Period for a specified duration with previously agreed to terms and conditions. Not to be confused with Extension.

**Request for Proposal (RFP):** A written solicitation utilized for obtaining competitive offers.

**Responsible Bidder:** A Bidder who has the capability in all respects to perform fully and lawfully all requirements with integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance.

**Responsive Bidder:** A Bidder who has submitted a proposal which conforms to all requirements of the solicitation document.

**Shall/Will/Must:** An order/command; mandatory.

**Should:** Expected; suggested, but not necessarily mandatory.

**Software License:** Legal instrument with or without printed material that governs the use or redistribution of licensed software.

**Sole Source – Services:** A service of such a unique nature that the Bidder selected is clearly and justifiably the only practical source to provide the service. Determination that the Bidder selected is justifiably the sole source is based on either the uniqueness of the service or sole availability at the location required.

**Specifications:** The detailed statement, especially of the measurements, quality, materials, and functional characteristics, or other items to be provided under a contract.

**Statutory:** These clauses are controlled by state law and are not subject to negotiation.

**Student:** Any person who: (a) is in 11th or 12th grade in public or private high school; or (b) enrolled in a college, university, or other institution of higher education; or (c) applies for an Internship within twelve months following graduation from a college, university, or other institution of higher education.

**Sub Contractor:** Individual or entity with whom the Bidder enters a contract to perform a portion of the work awarded to the Bidder.

**System (see Module):** Any collection or aggregation of two (2) or more Modules that is designed to function, or is represented by the Bidder as functioning or being capable of functioning, as an entity.

**Termination:** Occurs when either Party, pursuant to a power created by agreement or law, puts an end to the contract prior to the stated expiration date. All obligations which are still executory on both sides are discharged but any right based on prior breach or performance survives.

**Third Party:** Any person or entity, including but not limited to fiduciaries, shareholders, owners, officers, managers, employees, legally disinterested persons, and sub-Bidders or agents, and their employees. It shall not include any entity or person who is an interested Party to the contract or agreement.

**Trade Secret:** Information, including, but not limited to, a drawing, formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, code, or process that (a) derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being known to, and not being ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (b) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy (see Neb. Rev. Stat. §87-502(4)).

**Trademark:** A word, phrase, logo, or other graphic symbol used by a manufacturer or Bidder to distinguish its product from those of others, registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

**Underserved student populations:** For the purposes of the InternNE grant, students attending the following: (1) Nebraska schools serving high school students where 35% or more of the total students qualify for free or reduced lunch; (2) Nebraska public postsecondary colleges, universities or institutions of higher education where 35% or more of the total students are Pell Grant recipients; (3) Nebraska private nonprofit, four year post-secondary colleges, universities or institutions where 35% or more of the total students are Pell Grant recipients.

**Upgrade:** Any change that improves or alters the basic function of a product or service.

**Vendor Performance Report:** A report completed by the using agency and submitted to State Purchasing Bureau documenting products or services delivered or performed which exceed or fail to meet the terms of the purchase order, contract, and/or solicitation specifications.

**Vendor:** Inclusive term for any Bidder or Bidder

**Will:** See Mandatory/Shall/Will/Must.

**Work Day:** See Business Day.





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**ACRONYM LIST**

**BAFO** – Best and Final Offer

**COI** – Certificate of Insurance

**CPU** – Central Processing Unit

**DAS** – Department of Administrative Services

**RFP** – Request for Proposal

**SPB** – State Purchasing Bureau

**I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE**

**A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The solicitation is designed to solicit proposals from qualified Bidder who will be responsible for providing for the purpose of selecting qualified Nebraska non-profit entities to provide services necessary to carry out the grant functions of the InternNE grant program at a competitive and reasonable cost. Terms and Conditions, Project Description and Scope of Work, Proposal instructions, and Cost Proposal Requirements may be found in Sections II through VI.

Proposals shall conform to all instructions, conditions, and requirements included in the solicitation. Prospective Bidders are expected to carefully examine all documents, schedules, and requirements in this solicitation, and respond to each requirement in the format prescribed. Proposals may be found non-responsive if they do not conform to the solicitation.

**B. PROCURING OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF AND EVALUATORS**

Procurement responsibilities related to this solicitation reside with State Department of Economic Development. The point of contact (POC) for the procurement is as follows:

Name: Lori A. Cole  
Agency: Department of Economic Development  
Address: 245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 002  
Lincoln, NE 68521  
RFP # 114045 O3  
Telephone: 402-471-3746

E-Mail: [lori.a.cole@nebraska.gov](mailto:lori.a.cole@nebraska.gov)

From the date the solicitation is issued until the Intent to Award is issued, communication from the Bidder is limited to the POC listed above. After the Intent to Award is issued, the Bidder may communicate with individuals the State has designated as responsible for negotiating the contract on behalf of the State. No member of the State Government, employee of the State, or member of the Evaluation Committee is empowered to make binding statements regarding this solicitation. The POC will issue any answers, clarifications or amendments regarding this solicitation in writing. Only the SPB or awarding agency can award a contract. Bidders shall not have any communication with, or attempt to communicate or influence any evaluator involved in this solicitation.

The following exceptions to these restrictions are permitted:

1. Contact made pursuant to pre-existing contracts or obligations;
2. Contact required by the schedule of events or an event scheduled later by the solicitation POC; and
3. Contact required for negotiation and execution of the final contract.

*The State reserves the right to reject a Bidder's proposal, withdraw an Intent to Award, or terminate a contract if the State determines there has been a violation of these procurement procedures.*

**C. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

The State expects to adhere to the procurement schedule shown below, but all dates are approximate and subject to change.

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>DATE/TIME</b>
1.	Release Request for Proposal	November 9, 2022
2.	Last day to submit written questions	November 23, 2022
3.	State responds to written questions through Request for Proposal "Addendum" and/or "Amendment" to be posted to the Internet at: <a href="http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html">http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html</a>	December 7, 2022
4.	Proposal opening Location: Department of Economic Development 245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 002 Lincoln, NE 68521	December 21, 2022  2:00 p.m.  Central Time
5.	Review for conformance of mandatory requirements	December 21, 2022
6.	Evaluation period	December 21, 2022– January 18, 2023
7.	"Oral Interviews/Presentations and/or Demonstrations" (if required)	TBD
8.	Post "Letter of Intent to Contract" to Internet at: <a href="http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html">http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html</a>	January 20, 2023
9.	Contract finalization period	January 20, 2023 – February 20, 2023
10.	Contract award	February 20, 2023
11.	Bidder start date	February 20, 2023

**D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of any solicitation provision must be submitted in writing to Department of Economic Development and clearly marked "RFP Number 114045 O3; for the purpose of selecting qualified Nebraska non-profit entities to provide services necessary to carry out the grant functions of the InternNE grant program Questions". The POC is not obligated to respond to questions that are received late per the Schedule of Events.

Bidders should present, as questions, any assumptions upon which the Bidder's proposal is or might be developed. Proposals will be evaluated without consideration of any known or unknown assumptions of a Bidder. The contract will not incorporate any known or unknown assumptions of a Bidder.

It is preferred that questions be sent via e-mail to [lori.a.cole@nebraska.gov](mailto:lori.a.cole@nebraska.gov), but may be delivered by hand or by U.S. Mail. It is recommended that Bidders submit questions using the following format.

Solicitation Section Reference	Solicitation Page Number	Question

Written answers will be posted at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html> per the Schedule of Events.

**E. SECRETARY OF STATE/TAX COMMISSIONER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS (Statutory)**

All Bidders must be authorized to transact business in the State of Nebraska and comply with all Nebraska Secretary of State Registration requirements. The Bidder who is the recipient of an Intent to Award will be required to certify that it has complied and produce a true and exact copy of its current (within ninety (90) calendar days of the intent to award) Certificate or Letter of Good Standing, or in the case of a sole proprietorship, provide written documentation of sole proprietorship and complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>. This must be accomplished prior to execution of the contract.

**F. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING**

The State reserves the right to reject proposals, withdraw an intent to award or award, or terminate a contract if a Bidder commits or has committed ethical violations, which include, but are not limited to:

1. Offering or giving, directly or indirectly, a bribe, fee, commission, compensation, gift, gratuity, or anything of value to any person or entity in an attempt to influence the bidding process;
2. Utilize the services of lobbyists, attorneys, political activists, or consultants to influence or subvert the bidding process;
3. Being considered for, presently being, or becoming debarred, suspended, ineligible, or excluded from contracting with any state or federal entity;
4. Submitting a proposal on behalf of another Party or entity; and
5. Collude with any person or entity to influence the bidding process, submit sham proposals, preclude bidding, fix pricing or costs, create an unfair advantage, subvert the proposal, or prejudice the State.

The Bidder shall include this clause in any subcontract entered into for the exclusive purpose of performing this contract.

Bidder shall have an affirmative duty to report any violations of this clause by the Bidder throughout the bidding process, and throughout the term of this contract for the successful Bidder and their Sub Contractors.

**G. DEVIATIONS FROM THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

The requirements contained in the solicitation (Sections II thru VI) become a part of the terms and conditions of the contract resulting from this solicitation. Any deviations from the solicitation in Sections II through VI must be clearly defined by the Bidder in its proposal and, if accepted by the State, will become part of the contract. Any specifically defined deviations must not be in conflict with the basic nature of the solicitation, requirements, or applicable state or federal laws or statutes. "Deviation", for the purposes of this solicitation, means any proposed changes or alterations to either the contractual language or deliverables within the scope of this solicitation. The State discourages deviations and reserves the right to reject proposed deviations.

**H. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

Bidders should submit one proposal marked on the first page: "ORIGINAL". If multiple proposals are submitted, the State will retain one copy marked "ORIGINAL" and destroy the other copies. The Bidder is solely responsible for any

variance between the copies submitted. Proposal responses should include the completed Form A, "Bidder Proposal Point of Contact". Proposals must reference the RFP number and be sent to the specified address. Please note that the address label should appear as specified in Section I B. on the face of each container or Bidder's proposal response packet. If a recipient phone number is required for delivery purposes, 402-471-3746 should be used. The RFP number should be included in all correspondence. The State will not furnish packaging and sealing materials. It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure the solicitation is received in a sealed envelope or container and submitted by the date and time indicated in the Schedule of Events. Sealed proposals must be received in the State Purchasing Bureau by the date and time of the proposal opening per the Schedule of Events. No late proposals will be accepted.

The Request for Proposal form must be manually signed in an indelible manner and returned by the proposal opening date and time along with the Bidder's Request for Proposal along with any other requirements as stated in the Request for Proposal document in order for the Bidder's Request for Proposal response to be evaluated.

It is the responsibility of the Bidder to check the website for all information relevant to this Request for Proposal to include addenda and/or amendments issued prior to the opening date. Website address is as follows: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>.

Emphasis should be concentrated on conformance to the solicitation instructions, responsiveness to requirements, completeness, and clarity of content. If the Bidder's proposal is presented in such a fashion that makes evaluation difficult or overly time consuming the State reserves the right to reject the proposal as non-conforming.

By signing the "Request for Proposal for Contractual Services" form, the Bidder guarantees compliance with the provisions stated in this solicitation.

The State shall not incur any liability for any costs incurred by Bidders in replying to this solicitation, in the demonstrations and/or oral presentations, or in any other activity related to bidding on this solicitation.

The Technical and Cost Proposals Template should be presented in separate sections (loose-leaf binders are preferred) on standard 8 ½" x 11" paper, except that charts, diagrams and the like may be on fold-outs which, when folded, fit into the 8 ½" by 11" format. Pages may be consecutively numbered for the entire proposal, or may be numbered consecutively within sections. Figures and tables should be numbered consecutively within sections. Figures and tables should be numbered and referenced in the text by that number. They should be placed as close as possible to the referencing text.

**I. PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS**

The State shall not incur any liability for any costs incurred by Bidders in replying to this solicitation, including any activity related to bidding on this solicitation.

**J. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

Violation of the terms and conditions contained in this solicitation or any resultant contract, at any time before or after the award, shall be grounds for action by the State which may include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Rejection of a Bidder's proposal;
2. Withdrawal of the Intent to Award;
3. Withdrawal of the Award;
4. Negative Vendor Performance Report(s)
5. Termination of the resulting contract;
6. Legal action; and
7. Suspension of the Bidder from further bidding with the State for the period of time relative to the seriousness of the violation, such period to be within the sole discretion of the State.

**K. PROPOSAL CORRECTIONS**

A Bidder may correct a mistake in a proposal prior to the time of opening by giving written notice to the State of intent to withdraw the proposal for modification or to withdraw the proposal completely. Changing a proposal after opening may be permitted if the change is made to correct a minor error that does not affect price, quantity, quality, delivery, or contractual conditions. In case of a mathematical error in extension of price, unit price shall govern.

**L. LATE PROPOSALS**

Proposals received after the time and date of the proposal opening will be considered late proposals. Late proposals will be returned unopened, if requested by the Bidder and at Bidder's expense. The State is not responsible for proposals that are late or lost regardless of cause or fault.

**M. PROPOSAL OPENING**

The opening of proposals will be public and the Bidders will be announced. Proposals **WILL NOT** be available for viewing by those present at the proposal opening. Proposals will be posted to the State Purchasing Bureau website once an Intent to Award has been posted to the website. Information identified as proprietary by the submitting Bidder, in accordance with the solicitation and state statute, will not be posted. If the state determines submitted information should not be withheld, in accordance with the [Public Records Act](#), or if ordered to release any withheld information, said information may then be released. The submitting Bidder will be notified of the release and it shall be the obligation of the submitting Bidder to take further action, if it believes the information should not be released. (See RFP signature page for further details) Bidders may contact the State to schedule an appointment for viewing proposals after the Intent to Award has been posted to the website. Once proposals are opened, they become the property of the State of Nebraska and will not be returned.

**N. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

The proposals will first be examined to determine if all requirements listed below have been addressed and whether further evaluation is warranted. Proposals not meeting the requirements may be rejected as non-responsive. The requirements are:

1. Original Request for Proposal for Contractual Services form signed using an indelible method;
2. Clarity and responsiveness of the proposal;
3. Completed Corporate Overview;
4. Completed Sections II through VI;
5. Completed Technical Approach; and
6. Completed State Cost Proposal Template.

**O. EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Proposals are evaluated by members of an Evaluation Committee(s). The Evaluation Committee(s) will consist of individuals selected at the discretion of the State. Names of the members of the Evaluation Committee(s) will not be published prior to the intent to award.

Any contact, attempted contact, or attempt to influence an evaluator that is involved with this solicitation may result in the rejection of this proposal and further administrative actions.

**P. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS**

All proposals that are responsive to the solicitation will be evaluated. Each evaluation category will have a maximum point potential. The State will conduct a fair, impartial, and comprehensive evaluation of all proposals in accordance with the criteria set forth below. Areas that will be addressed and scored during the evaluation include:

1. Corporate Overview should include but is not limited to:
  - a. the ability, capacity, and skill of the Bidder to deliver and implement the system or project that meets the requirements of the solicitation;
  - b. the character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience, and efficiency of the Bidder;
  - c. whether the Bidder can perform the contract within the specified time frame;
  - d. the quality of vendor performance on prior contracts;
  - e. such other information that may be secured and that has a bearing on the decision to award the contract;
2. Technical Approach; and,
3. Cost Proposal.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-161 allows the quality of performance of previous contracts to be considered when evaluating responses to competitively bid solicitations in determining the lowest responsible bidder.** Information obtained from any Vendor Performance Report (See Terms & Conditions, Section H) may be used in evaluating responses to solicitations for goods and services to determine the best value for the State.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. §73-107 allows for a preference for a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone.** When a state contract is to be awarded to the lowest responsible Bidder, a resident disabled veteran or a business located in a designated enterprise zone under the Enterprise Zone Act shall be allowed a preference over any other resident or nonresident Bidder, if all other factors are equal.

**Resident disabled veterans means any person (a) who resides in the State of Nebraska, who served in the United States Armed Forces, including any reserve component or the National Guard, who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), and who possesses a disability rating letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing a service-connected disability or a disability determination from the United States Department**

**of Defense and (b)(i) who owns and controls a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, more than fifty percent of the stock is owned by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection and (ii) the management and daily business operations of the business are controlled by one or more persons described in subdivision(a) of this subsection. Any contract entered into without compliance with this section shall be null and void.**

Therefore, if a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone submits a proposal in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §73-107 and has so indicated on the solicitation cover page under "Bidder must complete the following" requesting priority/preference to be considered in the award of this contract, the following will need to be submitted by the Bidder within ten (10) business days of request:

1. Documentation from the United States Armed Forces confirming service;
2. Documentation of discharge or otherwise separated characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions);
3. Disability rating letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing a service-connected disability or a disability determination from the United States Department of Defense; and
4. Documentation which shows ownership and control of a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, more than fifty percent of the stock is owned by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection; and the management and daily business operations of the business are controlled by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection.

Failure to submit the requested documentation within ten (10) business days of notice will disqualify the Bidder from consideration of the preference.

Evaluation criteria weighting will be released with the solicitation.

**Q. ORAL INTERVIEWS/PRESENTATIONS AND/OR DEMONSTRATIONS**

The State may determine after the completion of the Technical and Cost Proposal evaluation that oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations are required. Every Bidder may not be given an opportunity to interview/present and/or give demonstrations; the State reserves the right, in its discretion, to select only the top scoring Bidders to present/give oral interviews. The scores from the oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations will be added to the scores from the Technical and Cost Proposals. The presentation process will allow the Bidders to demonstrate their proposal offering, explaining and/or clarifying any unusual or significant elements related to their proposals. Bidders' key personnel, identified in their proposal, may be requested to participate in a structured interview to determine their understanding of the requirements of this proposal, their authority and reporting relationships within their firm, and their management style and philosophy. Only representatives of the State and the presenting Bidder will be permitted to attend the oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations. A written copy or summary of the presentation, and demonstrative information (such as briefing charts, et cetera) may be offered by the Bidder, but the State reserves the right to refuse or not consider the offered materials. Bidders shall not be allowed to alter or amend their proposals.

Once the oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations have been completed, the State reserves the right to make an award without any further discussion with the Bidders regarding the proposals received.

Any cost incidental to the oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations shall be borne entirely by the Bidder and will not be compensated by the State.

**R. PRICES**

Prices quoted shall be net, including transportation and delivery charges fully prepaid by the Bidder, F.O.B. destination named in the solicitation. No additional charges will be allowed for packing, packages, or partial delivery costs. When an arithmetic error has been made in the extended total, the unit price will govern.

All prices, costs, and terms and conditions outlined in the proposal shall remain fixed and valid commencing on the opening date of the proposal until the contract terminates or expires.

Bidder represents and warrants that all prices for services, now or subsequently specified are as low as and no higher than prices which the Bidder has charged or intends to charge customers other than the State for the same or similar products and services of the same or equivalent quantity and quality for delivery or performance during the same periods of time. If, during the term of the contract, the Bidder shall reduce any and/or all prices charged to any customers other than the State for the same or similar products or services specified herein, the Bidder shall make an equal or equivalent reduction in corresponding prices for said specified products or services.



All prices set forth in the contract and all prices in addition, which the Bidder may charge under the terms of the contract, do not and will not violate any existing federal, state, or municipal law or regulations concerning price discrimination and/or price fixing. Bidder agrees to hold the State harmless from any such violation. Prices quoted shall not be subject to increase throughout the contract period unless specifically allowed by these specifications.

**The State reserves the right to deny any requested price increase. No price increases are to be billed to any State Agencies prior to written amendment of the contract by the parties.**

**The State will be given full proportionate benefit of any decreases for the term of the contract.**

**S. DISCOUNTS**

Prices quoted shall be inclusive of ALL trade discounts. Cash discount terms of less than thirty (30) days will not be considered as part of the proposal. Cash discount periods will be computed from the date of receipt of a properly executed claim voucher or the date of completion of delivery of all items in a satisfactory condition, whichever is later.

**T. COST CLARIFICATION**

The State reserves the right to review all aspects of cost for reasonableness and to request clarification of any proposal where the cost component shows significant and unsupported deviation from industry standards or in areas where detailed pricing is required.

**U. BEST AND FINAL OFFER**

If best and final offers (BAFO) are requested by the State and submitted by the Bidder, they will be evaluated (using the stated BAFO criteria), scored, and ranked by the Evaluation Committee. The State reserves the right to conduct more than one Best and Final Offer. The award will then be granted to the highest scoring Bidder. However, a Bidder should provide its best offer in its original proposal. Bidders should not expect that the State will request a best and final offer.

**V. REFERENCE AND CREDIT CHECKS**

The State reserves the right to conduct and consider reference and credit checks. The State reserves the right to use third parties to conduct reference and credit checks. By submitting a proposal in response to this solicitation, the Bidder grants to the State the right to contact or arrange a visit in person with any or all of the Bidder's clients. Reference and credit checks may be grounds to reject a proposal, withdraw an intent to award, or rescind the award of a contract.

**W. AWARD**

The State reserves the right to evaluate proposals and award contracts in a manner utilizing criteria selected at the State's discretion and in the State's best interest. After evaluation of the proposals, or at any point in the solicitation process, the State of Nebraska may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Amend the solicitation;
2. Extend the time of or establish a new proposal opening time;
3. Waive deviations or errors in the State's solicitation process and in Bidder proposals that are not material, do not compromise the solicitation process or a Bidder's proposal, and do not improve a Bidder's competitive position;
4. Accept or reject a portion of or all of a proposal;
5. Accept or reject all proposals;
6. Withdraw the solicitation;
7. Elect to rebid the solicitation;
8. Award single lines or multiple lines to one or more Bidders; or,
9. Award one or more all-inclusive contracts.

The solicitation does not commit the State to award a contract. Once intent to award decision has been determined, it will be posted to the Internet at:

<http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

Any protests must be filed by a Bidder within ten (10) business days after the intent to award decision is posted to the Internet. Grievance and protest procedure is available on the Internet at:

<http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

- X. ALTERNATE/EQUIVALENT PROPOSALS**  
Bidder may offer proposals which are at variance from the express specifications of the solicitation. The State reserves the right to consider and accept such proposals if, in the judgment of the Materiel Administrator, the proposal will result in goods and/or services equivalent to or better than those which would be supplied in the original proposal specifications. Bidder must indicate on the solicitation the manufacturer's name, number and shall submit with their proposal, sketches, descriptive literature and/or complete specifications. Reference to literature submitted with a previous proposal will not satisfy this provision. Proposals which do not comply with these requirements are subject to rejection. In the absence of any stated deviation or exception, the proposal will be accepted as in strict compliance with all terms, conditions and specification, and the Bidder shall be held liable therefore.
- Y. LUMP SUM OR "ALL OR NONE" PROPOSALS**  
The State reserves the right to purchase item-by-item, by groups or as a total when the State may benefit by so doing. Bidders may submit a proposal on an "all or none" or "lump sum" basis, but should also submit a proposal on an item-by-item basis. The term "all or none" means a conditional proposal which requires the purchase of all items on which proposals are offered and Bidder declines to accept award on individual items; a "lump sum" proposal is one in which the Bidder offers a lower price than the sum of the individual proposals if all items are purchased, but agrees to deliver individual items at the prices quoted.
- Z. EMAIL SUBMISSIONS**  
SPB will not accept proposals by email, electronic, voice, or telephone proposals except for one-time purchases under \$50,000.00.
- AA. REJECTION OF PROPOSALS**  
The State reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, wholly or in part, in the best interest of the State.
- BB. RESIDENT BIDDER**  
Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 73-101.01 through 73-101.02, a Resident Bidder shall be allowed a preference against a Non-resident Bidder from a state which gives or requires a preference to Bidders from that state. The preference shall be equal to the preference given or required by the state of the Nonresident Bidders. Where the lowest responsible bid from a resident Bidder is equal in all respects to one from a nonresident Bidder from a state which has no preference law, the resident Bidder shall be awarded the contract. The provision of this preference shall not apply to any contract for any project upon which federal funds would be withheld because of the provisions of this preference.

**II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Bidders should complete Sections II through VI as part of their proposal.** Bidder is expected to read the Terms and Conditions and should initial either accept, reject, or reject and provide alternative language for each clause. The Bidder should also provide an explanation of why the Bidder rejected the clause or rejected the clause and provided alternate language. By signing the solicitation, Bidder is agreeing to be legally bound by all the accepted terms and conditions, and any proposed alternative terms and conditions submitted with the proposal. The State reserves the right to negotiate rejected or proposed alternative language. If the State and Bidder fail to agree on the final Terms and Conditions, the State reserves the right to reject the proposal. The State of Nebraska is soliciting proposals in response to this solicitation. The State of Nebraska reserves the right to reject proposals that attempt to substitute the Bidder’s commercial contracts and/or documents for this solicitation.

The Bidders should submit with their proposal any license, user agreement, service level agreement, or similar documents that the Bidder wants incorporated in the Contract. The State will not consider incorporation of any document not submitted with the Bidder’s proposal as the document will not have been included in the evaluation process. These documents shall be subject to negotiation and will be incorporated as addendums if agreed to by the Parties.

If a conflict or ambiguity arises after the Addendum to Contract Award have been negotiated and agreed to, the Addendum to Contract Award shall be interpreted as follows:

1. If only one Party has a particular clause then that clause shall control;
2. If both Parties have a similar clause, but the clauses do not conflict, the clauses shall be read together;
3. If both Parties have a similar clause, but the clauses conflict, the State’s clause shall control.

**A. GENERAL**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The contract resulting from this solicitation shall incorporate the following documents:

1. Request for Proposal and Addenda;
2. Amendments to the solicitation;
3. Questions and Answers;
4. Bidder’s proposal (Solicitation and properly submitted documents);
5. The executed Contract and Addendum One to Contract, if applicable; and,
6. Amendments/Addendums to the Contract.

These documents constitute the entirety of the contract.

Unless otherwise specifically stated in a future contract amendment, in case of any conflict between the incorporated documents, the documents shall govern in the following order of preference with number one (1) receiving preference over all other documents and with each lower numbered document having preference over any higher numbered document: 1) Amendment to the executed Contract with the most recent dated amendment having the highest priority, 2) executed Contract and any attached Addenda, 3) Amendments to solicitation and any Questions and Answers, 4) the original solicitation document and any Addenda, and 5) the Bidder’s submitted Proposal.

Any ambiguity or conflict in the contract discovered after its execution, not otherwise addressed herein, shall be resolved in accordance with the rules of contract interpretation as established in the State of Nebraska.

**B. NOTIFICATION**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Bidder and State shall identify the contract manager who shall serve as the point of contact for the executed contract.

Communications regarding the executed contract shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given if delivered personally or mailed, by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the parties at their respective addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may be specified in writing by either of the parties. All notices, requests, or communications shall be deemed effective upon personal delivery or five (5) calendar days following deposit in the mail.

Either party may change its address for notification purposes by giving notice of the change, and setting forth the new address and an effective date.

**C. BUYER'S REPRESENTATIVE**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State reserves the right to appoint a Buyer's Representative to manage [or assist the Buyer in managing] the contract on behalf of the State. The Buyer's Representative will be appointed in writing, and the appointment document will specify the extent of the Buyer's Representative authority and responsibilities. If a Buyer's Representative is appointed, the Bidder will be provided a copy of the appointment document, and is expected to cooperate accordingly with the Buyer's Representative. The Buyer's Representative has no authority to bind the State to a contract, amendment, addendum, or other change or addition to the contract.

**D. GOVERNING LAW (Statutory)**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this contract, or any amendment or addendum(s) entered into contemporaneously or at a later time, the parties understand and agree that, (1) the State of Nebraska is a sovereign state and its authority to contract is therefore subject to limitation by the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, and regulation; (2) this contract will be interpreted and enforced under the laws of the State of Nebraska; (3) any action to enforce the provisions of this agreement must be brought in the State of Nebraska per state law; (4) the person signing this contract on behalf of the State of Nebraska does not have the authority to waive the State's sovereign immunity, statutes, common law, or regulations; (5) the indemnity, limitation of liability, remedy, and other similar provisions of the final contract, if any, are entered into subject to the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, regulations, and sovereign immunity; and, (6) all terms and conditions of the final contract, including but not limited to the clauses concerning third party use, licenses, warranties, limitations of liability, governing law and venue, usage verification, indemnity, liability, remedy or other similar provisions of the final contract are entered into specifically subject to the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, regulations, and sovereign immunity.

The Parties must comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances, rules, orders, and regulations.

**E. BEGINNING OF WORK**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

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The Bidder shall not commence any billable work until a valid contract has been fully executed by the State and the successful Bidder. The Bidder will be notified in writing when work may begin.

**F. AMENDMENT**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

This Contract may be amended in writing, within scope, upon the agreement of both parties.

**G. CHANGE ORDERS OR SUBSTITUTIONS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State and the Bidder, upon the written agreement, may make changes to the contract within the general scope of the solicitation. Changes may involve specifications, the quantity of work, or such other items as the State may find necessary or desirable. Corrections of any deliverable, service, or work required pursuant to the contract shall not be deemed a change. The Bidder may not claim forfeiture of the contract by reasons of such changes.

The Bidder shall prepare a written description of the work required due to the change and an itemized cost sheet for the change. Changes in work and the amount of compensation to be paid to the Bidder shall be determined in accordance with applicable unit prices if any, a pro-rated value, or through negotiations. The State shall not incur a price increase for changes that should have been included in the Bidder's proposal, were foreseeable, or result from difficulties with or failure of the Bidder's proposal or performance.

No change shall be implemented by the Bidder until approved by the State, and the Contract is amended to reflect the change and associated costs, if any. If there is a dispute regarding the cost, but both parties agree that immediate implementation is necessary, the change may be implemented, and cost negotiations may continue with both Parties retaining all remedies under the contract and law.

In the event any product is discontinued or replaced upon mutual consent during the contract period or prior to delivery, the State reserves the right to amend the contract or purchase order to include the alternate product at the same price.

**\*\*\*Bidder will not substitute any item that has been awarded without prior written approval of SPB\*\*\***

**H. VENDOR PERFORMANCE REPORT(S)**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State may document any instance(s) of products or services delivered or performed which exceed or fail to meet the terms of the purchase order, contract, and/or solicitation specifications. The State Purchasing Bureau may contact the Vendor regarding any such report. Vendor performance report(s) will become a part of the permanent record of the Vendor.

**I. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL BIDDER BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

If Bidder breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract, the Bidder shall immediately give written notice to the State. The notice shall explain the breach or potential breach, a proposed cure, and may include a request for a waiver of the breach if so desired. The State may, in its discretion, temporarily or permanently waive the breach. By granting a waiver, the State does not forfeit any rights or remedies to which the State is entitled by law or equity, or pursuant to the provisions of the contract. Failure to give immediate notice, however, may be grounds for denial of any request for a waiver of a breach.

**J. BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Either Party may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, if the other Party breaches its duty to perform its obligations under the contract in a timely and proper manner. Termination requires written notice of default and a thirty (30) calendar day (or longer at the non-breaching Party's discretion considering the gravity and nature of the default) cure period. Said notice shall be delivered by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, or in person with proof of delivery. Allowing time to cure a failure or breach of contract does not waive the right to immediately terminate the contract for the same or different contract breach which may occur at a different time. In case of default of the Bidder, the State may contract the service from other sources and hold the Bidder responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby. OR In case of breach by the Bidder, the State may, without unreasonable delay, make a good faith effort to make a reasonable purchase or contract to purchased goods in substitution of those due from the Bidder. The State may recover from the Bidder as damages the difference between the costs of covering the breach. Notwithstanding any clause to the contrary, the State may also recover the contract price together with any incidental or consequential damages defined in UCC Section 2-715, but less expenses saved in consequence of Bidder's breach.

The State's failure to make payment shall not be a breach, and the Bidder shall retain all available statutory remedies and protections.

**K. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within	NOTES/COMMENTS:

		<b>Solicitation Response (Initial)</b>	

The acceptance of late performance with or without objection or reservation by a Party shall not waive any rights of the Party nor constitute a waiver of the requirement of timely performance of any obligations remaining to be performed.

**L. SEVERABILITY**

<b>Accept (Initial)</b>	<b>Reject (Initial)</b>	<b>Reject &amp; Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)</b>	<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>

If any term or condition of the contract is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and conditions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the provision held to be invalid or illegal.

**M. INDEMNIFICATION**

<b>Accept (Initial)</b>	<b>Reject (Initial)</b>	<b>Reject &amp; Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)</b>	<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>

**1. GENERAL**

The Bidder agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the State and its employees, volunteers, agents, and its elected and appointed officials (“the indemnified parties”) from and against any and all third party claims, liens, demands, damages, liability, actions, causes of action, losses, judgments, costs, and expenses of every nature, including investigation costs and expenses, settlement costs, and attorney fees and expenses (“the claims”), sustained or asserted against the State for personal injury, death, or property loss or damage, arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to the willful misconduct, negligence, error, or omission of the Bidder, its employees, Sub Contractors, consultants, representatives, and agents, resulting from this contract, except to the extent such Bidder liability is attenuated by any action of the State which directly and proximately contributed to the claims.

**2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (Optional)**

The Bidder agrees it will, at its sole cost and expense, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the indemnified parties from and against any and all claims, to the extent such claims arise out of, result from, or are attributable to, the actual or alleged infringement or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trade secret, trademark, or confidential information of any third party by the Bidder or its employees, Sub Contractors, consultants, representatives, and agents; provided, however, the State gives the Bidder prompt notice in writing of the claim. The Bidder may not settle any infringement claim that will affect the State’s use of the Licensed Software without the State’s prior written consent, which consent may be withheld for any reason.

If a judgment or settlement is obtained or reasonably anticipated against the State’s use of any intellectual property for which the Bidder has indemnified the State, the Bidder shall, at the Bidder’s sole cost and expense, promptly modify the item or items which were determined to be infringing, acquire a license or licenses on the State’s behalf to provide the necessary rights to the State to eliminate the infringement, or provide the State with a non-infringing substitute that provides the State the same functionality. At the State’s election, the actual or anticipated judgment may be treated as a breach of warranty by the Bidder, and the State may receive the remedies provided under this solicitation.

**3. PERSONNEL**

The Bidder shall, at its expense, indemnify and hold harmless the indemnified parties from and against any claim with respect to withholding taxes, worker’s compensation, employee benefits, or any other claim, demand, liability, damage, or loss of any nature relating to any of the personnel, including Sub Contractors and their employees, provided by the Bidder.

**4. SELF-INSURANCE**

The State of Nebraska is self-insured for any loss and purchases excess insurance coverage pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,239.01 (Reissue 2008). If there is a presumed loss under the provisions of this agreement, Bidder may file a claim with the Office of Risk Management pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-8,829 – 81-8,306 for review by the State Claims Board. The State retains all rights and immunities under the State Miscellaneous (Section 81-8,294), Tort (Section 81-8,209), and Contract Claim Acts (Section 81-8,302), as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,209 et seq. and under any other provisions of law and accepts liability under this agreement to the extent provided by law.

5. The Parties acknowledge that Attorney General for the State of Nebraska is required by statute to represent the legal interests of the State, and that any provision of this indemnity clause is subject to the statutory authority of the Attorney General.

**N. ATTORNEY’S FEES**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

In the event of any litigation, appeal, or other legal action to enforce any provision of the contract, the Parties agree to pay all expenses of such action, as permitted by law and if ordered by the court, including attorney’s fees and costs, if the other Party prevails.

**O. PERFORMANCE BOND**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder may be required to supply a cashier’s check or a bond executed by a corporation authorized to contract surety in the State of Nebraska, payable to the State of Nebraska, which shall be valid for the life of the contract to include any renewal and/or extension periods. The amount of the cashier’s check or bond must be fifty percent (50%) of the contract amount. The check or bond, if required, will guarantee that the Bidder will faithfully perform all requirements, terms and conditions of the contract. If the Bidder chooses to provide a cashier’s check, the check must show an expiration date on the check. Cashier’s checks will only be allowed for contracts for three (3) years or less, including all renewal options. Failure to comply shall be grounds for forfeiture of the check or bond as liquidated damages. Amount of forfeiture will be determined by the agency based on loss to the State. The bond or cashier’s check will be returned when the contract has been satisfactorily completed as solely determined by the State, after termination or expiration of the contract.

**P. RETAINAGE**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:



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The State may withhold ten percent (10%) of each payment due as retainage. The entire retainage amount will be payable upon successful completion of the project. Upon completion of the project, the Bidder will invoice the State for any outstanding work and for the retainage. The State may reject the final invoice by identifying the specific reasons for such rejection in writing to the Bidder within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt of the final invoice. Otherwise, the project will be deemed accepted and the State will release the final payment and retainage in accordance with the contract payment terms.

**Q. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Either Party may assign the contract upon mutual written agreement of the other Party. Such agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld.

The Bidder retains the right to enter into a sale, merger, acquisition, internal reorganization, or similar transaction involving Bidder's business. Bidder agrees to cooperate with the State in executing amendments to the contract to allow for the transaction. If a third party or entity is involved in the transaction, the Bidder will remain responsible for performance of the contract until such time as the person or entity involved in the transaction agrees in writing to be contractually bound by this contract and perform all obligations of the contract.

**R. CONTRACTING WITH OTHER NEBRASKA POLITICAL SUB-DIVISIONS OF THE STATE OR ANOTHER STATE**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder may, but shall not be required to, allow agencies, as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-145, to use this contract. The terms and conditions, including price, of the contract may not be amended. The State shall not be contractually obligated or liable for any contract entered into pursuant to this clause. A listing of Nebraska political subdivisions may be found at the website of the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts.

The Bidder may, but shall not be required to, allow other states, agencies or divisions of other states, or political subdivisions of other states to use this contract. The terms and conditions, including price, of this contract shall apply to any such contract, but may be amended upon mutual consent of the Parties. The State of Nebraska shall not be contractually or otherwise obligated or liable under any contract entered into pursuant to this clause. The State shall be notified if a contract is executed based upon this contract.

**S. FORCE MAJEURE**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

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Neither Party shall be liable for any costs or damages, or for default resulting from its inability to perform any of its obligations under the contract due to a natural or manmade event outside the control and not the fault of the affected Party ("Force Majeure Event"). The Party so affected shall immediately make a written request for relief to the other Party, and shall have the burden of proof to justify the request. The other Party may grant the relief requested; relief may not be unreasonably withheld. Labor disputes with the impacted Party's own employees will not be considered a Force Majeure Event.

**T. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

All materials and information provided by the Parties or acquired by a Party on behalf of the other Party shall be regarded as confidential information. All materials and information provided or acquired shall be handled in accordance with federal and state law, and ethical standards. Should said confidentiality be breached by a Party, the Party shall notify the other Party immediately of said breach and take immediate corrective action.

It is incumbent upon the Parties to inform their officers and employees of the penalties for improper disclosure imposed by the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a. Specifically, 5 U.S.C. 552a (i)(1), which is made applicable by 5 U.S.C. 552a (m)(1), provides that any officer or employee, who by virtue of his/her employment or official position has possession of or access to agency records which contain individually identifiable information, the disclosure of which is prohibited by the Privacy Act or regulations established thereunder, and who knowing that disclosure of the specific material is prohibited, willfully discloses the material in any manner to any person or agency not entitled to receive it, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000.

**U. EARLY TERMINATION**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The contract may be terminated as follows:

1. The State and the Bidder, by mutual written agreement, may terminate the contract at any time.
2. The State, in its sole discretion, may terminate the contract for any reason upon thirty (30) calendar day's written notice to the Bidder. Such termination shall not relieve the Bidder of warranty or other service obligations incurred under the terms of the contract. In the event of termination the Bidder shall be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for products or services satisfactorily performed or provided.
3. The State may terminate the contract immediately for the following reasons:
  - a. if directed to do so by statute;
  - b. Bidder has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, has admitted in writing its inability to pay debts as they mature, or has ceased operating in the normal course of business;
  - c. a trustee or receiver of the Bidder or of any substantial part of the Bidder's assets has been appointed by a court;

- d. fraud, misappropriation, embezzlement, malfeasance, misfeasance, or illegal conduct pertaining to performance under the contract by its Bidder, its employees, officers, directors, or shareholders;
- e. an involuntary proceeding has been commenced by any Party against the Bidder under any one of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code and (i) the proceeding has been pending for at least sixty (60) calendar days; or (ii) the Bidder has consented, either expressly or by operation of law, to the entry of an order for relief; or (iii) the Bidder has been decreed or adjudged a debtor;
- f. a voluntary petition has been filed by the Bidder under any of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code;
- g. Bidder intentionally discloses confidential information;
- h. Bidder has or announces it will discontinue support of the deliverable; and,
- i. In the event funding is no longer available.

**V. CONTRACT CLOSEOUT**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Upon contract closeout for any reason the Bidder shall within 30 days, unless stated otherwise herein:

1. Transfer all completed or partially completed deliverables to the State;
2. Transfer ownership and title to all completed or partially completed deliverables to the State;
3. Return to the State all information and data, unless the Bidder is permitted to keep the information or data by contract or rule of law. Bidder may retain one copy of any information or data as required to comply with applicable work product documentation standards or as are automatically retained in the course of Bidder's routine back up procedures;
4. Cooperate with any successor Contactor, person or entity in the assumption of any or all of the obligations of this contract;
5. Cooperate with any successor Contactor, person or entity with the transfer of information or data related to this contract;
6. Return or vacate any state owned real or personal property; and,
7. Return all data in a mutually acceptable format and manner.

Nothing in this Section should be construed to require the Bidder to surrender intellectual property, real or personal property, or information or data owned by the Bidder for which the State has no legal claim.

**III. BIDDER DUTIES**

**A. INDEPENDENT BIDDER / OBLIGATIONS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

It is agreed that the Bidder is an independent Bidder and that nothing contained herein is intended or should be construed as creating or establishing a relationship of employment, agency, or a partnership.

The Bidder is solely responsible for fulfilling the contract. The Bidder or the Bidder’s representative shall be the sole point of contact regarding all contractual matters.

The Bidder shall secure, at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under the contract. The personnel the Bidder uses to fulfill the contract shall have no contractual or other legal relationship with the State; they shall not be considered employees of the State and shall not be entitled to any compensation, rights or benefits from the State, including but not limited to, tenure rights, medical and hospital care, sick and vacation leave, severance pay, or retirement benefits.

By-name personnel commitments made in the Bidder's proposal shall not be changed without the prior written approval of the State. Replacement of these personnel, if approved by the State, shall be with personnel of equal or greater ability and qualifications.

All personnel assigned by the Bidder to the contract shall be employees of the Bidder or a Sub Contractor, and shall be fully qualified to perform the work required herein. Personnel employed by the Bidder or a Sub Contractor to fulfill the terms of the contract shall remain under the sole direction and control of the Bidder or the Sub Contractor respectively.

With respect to its employees, the Bidder agrees to be solely responsible for the following:

1. Any and all pay, benefits, and employment taxes and/or other payroll withholding;
2. Any and all vehicles used by the Bidder’s employees, including all insurance required by state law;
3. Damages incurred by Bidder’s employees within the scope of their duties under the contract;
4. Maintaining Workers’ Compensation and health insurance that complies with state and federal law and submitting any reports on such insurance to the extent required by governing law;
5. Determining the hours to be worked and the duties to be performed by the Bidder’s employees; and,
6. All claims on behalf of any person arising out of employment or alleged employment (including without limit claims of discrimination alleged against the Bidder, its officers, agents, or Sub Contractor or Sub Contractor s employees)

If the Bidder intends to utilize any Sub Contractor , the Sub Contractor 's level of effort, tasks, and time allocation should be clearly defined in the Bidder’s proposal. The Bidder shall agree that it will not utilize any Sub Contractor not specifically included in its proposal in the performance of the contract without the prior written authorization of the State.

The State reserves the right to require the Bidder to reassign or remove from the project any Bidder or Sub Contractor employee.

Bidder shall insure that the terms and conditions contained in any contract with a Sub Contractor does not conflict with the terms and conditions of this contract.

The Bidder shall include a similar provision, for the protection of the State, in the contract with any Sub Contractor engaged to perform work on this contract.

**B. EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder is required and hereby agrees to use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324a, known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of an employee.

If the Bidder is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

1. The Bidder must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>
2. The completed United States Attestation Form should be submitted with the solicitation response.
3. If the Bidder indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Bidder agrees to provide the US Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Bidder's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.
4. The Bidder understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required and the Bidder may be disqualified or the contract terminated if such lawful presence cannot be verified as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. §4-108.

**C. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT / NONDISCRIMINATION (Statutory)**

The Bidder shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal statutes and regulations regarding civil rights laws and equal opportunity employment. The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act prohibits Bidders of the State of Nebraska, and their Sub Contractors, from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, compensation, or privileges of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, or national origin (Neb. Rev. Stat. §48-1101 to 48-1125). The Bidder guarantees compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of contract. The Bidder shall insert a similar provision in all Subcontracts for goods and services to be covered by any contract resulting from this solicitation.

**D. COOPERATION WITH OTHER BIDDERS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Bidder may be required to work with or in close proximity to other Bidders or individuals that may be working on same or different projects. The Bidder shall agree to cooperate with such other Bidders or individuals, and shall not commit or permit any act which may interfere with the performance of work by any other Bidder or individual. Bidder is not required to compromise Bidder's intellectual property or proprietary information unless expressly required to do so by this contract.

**E. PERMITS, REGULATIONS, LAWS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The contract price shall include the cost of all royalties, licenses, permits, and approvals, whether arising from patents, trademarks, copyrights or otherwise, that are in any way involved in the contract. The Bidder shall obtain and pay for all royalties, licenses, and permits, and approvals necessary for the execution of the contract. The Bidder must guarantee that it has the full legal right to the materials, supplies, equipment, software, and other items used to execute this contract.

**F. OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION AND DATA / DELIVERABLES**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State shall have the unlimited right to publish, duplicate, use, and disclose all information and data developed or obtained by the Bidder on behalf of the State pursuant to this contract.

The State shall own and hold exclusive title to any deliverable developed as a result of this contract. Bidder shall have no ownership interest or title, and shall not patent, license, or copyright, duplicate, transfer, sell, or exchange, the design, specifications, concept, or deliverable.

**G. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder shall throughout the term of the contract maintain insurance as specified herein and provide the State a current Certificate of Insurance/Acord Form (COI) verifying the coverage. The Bidder shall not commence work on the contract until the insurance is in place. If Bidder subcontracts any portion of the Contract the Bidder must, throughout the term of the contract, either:

1. Provide equivalent insurance for each Sub Contractor and provide a COI verifying the coverage for the Sub Contractor;
2. Require each Sub Contractor to have equivalent insurance and provide written notice to the State that the Bidder has verified that each Sub Contractor has the required coverage; or,
3. Provide the State with copies of each Sub Contractor's Certificate of Insurance evidencing the required coverage.

The Bidder shall not allow any Sub Contractor to commence work until the Sub Contractor has equivalent insurance. The failure of the State to require a COI, or the failure of the Bidder to provide a COI or require Sub Contractor insurance shall not limit, relieve, or decrease the liability of the Bidder hereunder.

In the event that any policy written on a claims-made basis terminates or is canceled during the term of the contract or within three (3) years of termination or expiration of the contract, the Bidder shall obtain an extended discovery or

reporting period, or a new insurance policy, providing coverage required by this contract for the term of the contract and three (3) years following termination or expiration of the contract.

If by the terms of any insurance a mandatory deductible is required, or if the Bidder elects to increase the mandatory deductible amount, the Bidder shall be responsible for payment of the amount of the deductible in the event of a paid claim.

Notwithstanding any other clause in this Contract, the State may recover up to the liability limits of the insurance policies required herein.

**1. WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE**

The Bidder shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract the statutory Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the contactors' employees to be engaged in work on the project under this contract and, in case any such work is sublet, the Bidder shall require the Sub Contractor similarly to provide Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the Sub Contractor's employees to be engaged in such work. This policy shall be written to meet the statutory requirements for the state in which the work is to be performed, including Occupational Disease. **The policy shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State. The COI shall contain the mandatory COI subrogation waiver language found hereinafter.** The amounts of such insurance shall not be less than the limits stated hereinafter. For employees working in the State of Nebraska, the policy must be written by an entity authorized by the State of Nebraska Department of Insurance to write Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for Nebraska employees.

**2. COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE AND COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE**

The Bidder shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract such Commercial General Liability Insurance and Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance as shall protect Bidder and any Sub Contractor performing work covered by this contract from claims for damages for bodily injury, including death, as well as from claims for property damage, which may arise from operations under this contract, whether such operation be by the Bidder or by any Sub Contractor or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them, and the amounts of such insurance shall not be less than limits stated hereinafter.

The Commercial General Liability Insurance shall be written on an **occurrence basis**, and provide Premises/Operations, Products/Completed Operations, Independent Bidders, Personal Injury, and Contractual Liability coverage. **The policy shall include the State, and others as required by the contract documents, as Additional Insured(s). This policy shall be primary, and any insurance or self-insurance carried by the State shall be considered secondary and non-contributory. The COI shall contain the mandatory COI liability waiver language found hereinafter.** The Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance shall be written to cover all Owned, Non-owned, and Hired vehicles.

<b>REQUIRED INSURANCE COVERAGE</b>	
<b>COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY</b>	
General Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000
Personal/Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000 per occurrence
Bodily Injury/Property Damage	\$1,000,000 per occurrence
Medical Payments	\$10,000 any one person
Damage to Rented Premises (Fire)	\$300,000 each occurrence
Contractual	Included
XCU Liability (Explosion, Collapse, and Underground Damage)	Included
Independent Bidders	Included
Abuse & Molestation	Included
<i>If higher limits are required, the Umbrella/Excess Liability limits are allowed to satisfy the higher limit.</i>	
<b>WORKER'S COMPENSATION</b>	
Employers Liability Limits	\$500K/\$500K/\$500K
Statutory Limits- All States	Statutory - State of Nebraska
Voluntary Compensation	Statutory
<b>COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY</b>	
Bodily Injury/Property Damage	\$1,000,000 combined single limit
Include All Owned, Hired & Non-Owned Automobile liability	Included
Motor Carrier Act Endorsement	Where Applicable
<b>UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY</b>	
Over Primary Insurance	\$5,000,000 per occurrence
<b>PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY</b>	
Professional liability (Medical Malpractice)	Limits consistent with Nebraska Medical Malpractice Cap
Qualification Under Nebraska Excess Fund	
All Other Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions)	\$1,000,000 Per Claim / Aggregate
<b>COMMERCIAL CRIME</b>	
Crime/Employee Dishonesty Including 3rd Party Fidelity	\$1,000,000
<b>CYBER LIABILITY</b>	
Breach of Privacy, Security Breach, Denial of Service, Remediation, Fines and Penalties	\$10,000,000
<b>MANDATORY COI SUBROGATION WAIVER LANGUAGE</b>	
"Workers' Compensation policy shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State of Nebraska."	
<b>MANDATORY COI LIABILITY WAIVER LANGUAGE</b>	
"Commercial General Liability & Commercial Automobile Liability policies shall name the State of Nebraska as an Additional Insured and the policies shall be primary and any insurance or self-insurance carried by the State shall be considered secondary and non-contributory as additionally insured."	

**3. EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE**

The Bidder shall furnish the Contract Manager, with a certificate of insurance coverage complying with the above requirements prior to beginning work at:

Department of Economic Development  
 Legal Division  
 245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 002  
 Lincoln, NE 68521

These certificates or the cover sheet shall reference the RFP number, and the certificates shall include the name of the company, policy numbers, effective dates, dates of expiration, and amounts and types of coverage afforded. If the State is damaged by the failure of the Bidder to maintain such insurance, then the Bidder shall be responsible for all reasonable costs properly attributable thereto.



Reasonable notice of cancellation of any required insurance policy must be submitted to the contract manager as listed above when issued and a new coverage binder shall be submitted immediately to ensure no break in coverage.

**4. DEVIATIONS**

The insurance requirements are subject to limited negotiation. Negotiation typically includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the correct type of coverage, necessity for Workers' Compensation, and the type of automobile coverage carried by the Bidder.

**H. ANTITRUST**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder hereby assigns to the State any and all claims for overcharges as to goods and/or services provided in connection with this contract resulting from antitrust violations which arise under antitrust laws of the United States and the antitrust laws of the State.

**I. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

By submitting a proposal, bidder certifies that no relationship exists between the bidder and any person or entity which either is, or gives the appearance of, a conflict of interest related to this Request for Proposal or project.

Bidder further certifies that bidder will not employ any individual known by bidder to have a conflict of interest nor shall bidder take any action or acquire any interest, either directly or indirectly, which will conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of its contractual obligations hereunder or which creates an actual or appearance of conflict of interest.

If there is an actual or perceived conflict of interest, bidder shall provide with its proposal a full disclosure of the facts describing such actual or perceived conflict of interest and a proposed mitigation plan for consideration. The State will then consider such disclosure and proposed mitigation plan and either approve or reject as part of the overall bid evaluation.

**J. STATE PROPERTY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder shall be responsible for the proper care and custody of any State-owned property which is furnished for the Bidder's use during the performance of the contract. The Bidder shall reimburse the State for any loss or damage of such property; normal wear and tear is expected.

**K. SITE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder shall use its best efforts to ensure that its employees, agents, and Sub Contractors comply with site rules and regulations while on State premises. If the Bidder must perform on-site work outside of the daily operational hours set forth by the State, it must make arrangements with the State to ensure access to the facility and the equipment has been arranged. No additional payment will be made by the State on the basis of lack of access, unless the State fails to provide access as agreed to in writing between the State and the Bidder.

**L. ADVERTISING**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder agrees not to refer to the contract award in advertising in such a manner as to state or imply that the company or its goods or services are endorsed or preferred by the State. Any publicity releases pertaining to the project shall not be issued without prior written approval from the State.

**M. NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY ACCESS STANDARDS (Statutory)**

Bidder shall review the Nebraska Technology Access Standards, found at <http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/2-201.html> and ensure that products and/or services provided under the contract are in compliance or will comply with the applicable standards to the greatest degree possible. In the event such standards change during the Bidder's performance, the State may create an amendment to the contract to request the contract comply with the changed standard at a cost mutually acceptable to the parties.

**N. DISASTER RECOVERY/BACK UP PLAN**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder shall have a disaster recovery and back-up plan, of which a copy should be provided upon request to the State, which includes, but is not limited to equipment, personnel, facilities, and transportation, in order to continue delivery of goods and services as specified under the specifications in the contract in the event of a disaster.

**O. DRUG POLICY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Bidder certifies it maintains a drug free work place environment to ensure worker safety and workplace integrity. Bidder agrees to provide a copy of its drug free workplace policy at any time upon request by the State.

**P. WARRANTY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Despite any clause to the contrary, the Bidder represents and warrants that its services hereunder shall be performed by competent personnel and shall be of professional quality consistent with generally accepted industry standards for the performance of such services and shall comply in all respects with the requirements of this Agreement. For any breach of this warranty, the Bidder shall, for a period of ninety (90) days from performance of the service, perform the services again, at no cost to Customer, or if Bidder is unable to perform the services as warranted, Bidder shall reimburse Customer the fees paid to Bidder for the unsatisfactory services. The rights and remedies of the parties under this warranty are in addition to any other rights and remedies of the parties provided by law or equity, including, without limitation actual damages, and, as applicable and awarded under the law, to a prevailing party, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

**IV. PAYMENT**

**A. PROHIBITION AGAINST ADVANCE PAYMENT (Statutory)**

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2403 states, “[n]o goods or services shall be deemed to be received by an agency until all such goods or services are completely delivered and finally accepted by the agency.”

**B. TAXES (Statutory)**

The State is not required to pay taxes and assumes no such liability as a result of this solicitation. The Bidder may request a copy of the Nebraska Department of Revenue, Nebraska Resale or Exempt Sale Certificate for Sales Tax Exemption, Form 13 for their records. Any property tax payable on the Bidder's equipment which may be installed in a state-owned facility is the responsibility of the Bidder

**C. INVOICES**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Invoices for payments must be submitted by the Bidder to the agency requesting the services with sufficient detail to support payment. The terms and conditions included in the Bidder's invoice shall be deemed to be solely for the convenience of the parties. No terms or conditions of any such invoice shall be binding upon the State, and no action by the State, including without limitation the payment of any such invoice in whole or in part, shall be construed as binding or estopping the State with respect to any such term or condition, unless the invoice term or condition has been previously agreed to by the State as an amendment to the contract.

**D. INSPECTION AND APPROVAL**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Final inspection and approval of all work required under the contract shall be performed by the designated State officials.

The State and/or its authorized representatives shall have the right to enter any premises where the Bidder or Sub Contractor duties under the contract are being performed, and to inspect, monitor or otherwise evaluate the work being performed. All inspections and evaluations shall be at reasonable times and in a manner that will not unreasonably delay work.

**E. PAYMENT (Statutory)**

Payment will be made by the responsible agency in compliance with the State of Nebraska Prompt Payment Act (See Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2403). The State may require the Bidder to accept payment by electronic means such as ACH deposit. In no event shall the State be responsible or liable to pay for any goods and services provided by the Bidder prior to the Effective Date of the contract, and the Bidder hereby waives any claim or cause of action for any such services.

**F. LATE PAYMENT (Statutory)**

The Bidder may charge the responsible agency interest for late payment in compliance with the State of Nebraska Prompt Payment Act (See Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2401 through 81-2408).

**G. SUBJECT TO FUNDING / FUNDING OUT CLAUSE FOR LOSS OF APPROPRIATIONS (Statutory)**

The State's obligation to pay amounts due on the Contract for a fiscal years following the current fiscal year is contingent upon legislative appropriation of funds. Should said funds not be appropriated, the State may terminate the contract with respect to those payments for the fiscal year(s) for which such funds are not appropriated. The State will give the Bidder written notice thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of termination. All obligations of the State to make payments after the termination date will cease. The Bidder shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any authorized work which has been satisfactorily completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the Bidder be paid for a loss of anticipated profit.

**H. RIGHT TO AUDIT (First Paragraph is Statutory)**

The State shall have the right to audit the Bidder's performance of this contract upon a thirty (30) days' written notice. Bidder shall utilize generally accepted accounting principles, and shall maintain the accounting records, and other records and information relevant to the contract (Information) to enable the State to audit the contract. (Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-304 et seq.) The State may audit and the Bidder shall maintain, the Information during the term of the contract and for a period of five (5) years after the completion of this contract or until all issues or litigation are resolved, whichever is later. The Bidder shall make the Information available to the State at Bidder's place of business or a location acceptable to both Parties during normal business hours. If this is not practical or the Bidder so elects, the Bidder may provide electronic or paper copies of the Information. The State reserves the right to examine, make copies of, and take notes on any Information relevant to this contract, regardless of the form or the Information, how it is stored, or who possesses the Information. Under no circumstance will the Bidder be required to create or maintain documents not kept in the ordinary course of Bidder's business operations, nor will Bidder be required to disclose any information, including but not limited to product cost data, which is confidential or proprietary to Bidder.

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Parties shall pay their own costs of the audit unless the audit finds a previously undisclosed overpayment by the State. If a previously undisclosed overpayment exceeds three (3) percent (3%) of the total contract billings, or if fraud, material misrepresentations, or non-performance is discovered on the part of the Bidder, the Bidder shall reimburse the State for the total costs of the audit. Overpayments and audit costs owed to the State shall be paid within ninety (90) days of written notice of the claim. The Bidder agrees to correct any material weaknesses or condition found as a result of the audit.

## **V. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK**

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

The InternNE program grant is available to Nebraska employers who provide students with valuable internship opportunities to retain students in the State of Nebraska at institutions of higher education, convert students to full-time employment, and attract workers to Nebraska by assisting businesses willing to provide paid internships. The department may provide grants for internships to reimburse the cost of wages paid to businesses with less than fifty full-time-equivalent employees.

### **B. PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST**

The Department is seeking qualified Nebraska-based nonprofit entities to carry out the administrative functions of the InternNE grant program. Bidders are responsible for providing grant management services on behalf of the Department. Bidders are also responsible to use technology to connect students with businesses.

Competitive bids detail the Bidder's ability to deliver grant management services at a local, regional, or state-wide level. The Department will give preference to Bidders whose responses serve: Nebraska employers – both large and small, eligible students, and provide equitable access to the grants by all geographic areas of the state.

### **C. THE GOALS OF THE DEPARTMENT ARE:**

1. To increase the overall numbers of internships in Nebraska
2. To retain students in the State of Nebraska at institutions of higher education
3. Attract workers to Nebraska
4. Convert students to full-time employment in Nebraska
5. Engage post-secondary education partners in program marketing to employers
6. Engage the underserved/diverse student population in internships

#### **Eligible Bidders:**

Bidders must be a Nebraska-based nonprofit entity with an established business presence in Nebraska and perform such services primarily from within Nebraska. The Department will give preference to Bidders with experience in grant administration.

#### **InternNE Administration Funding:**

The initial amount of InternNE Bidder funding for administration and overhead is determined by the Bidder/Bidders who sign agreements with the Department. For ongoing administration and overhead costs, the Department will determine a set amount or percentage of available administration funds.

#### **Overview of the Program:**

The Department will review Bidders to evaluate their management and operations, prior success and demonstrated results, program plan, outreach plan, and reporting and compliance capability. Bidders selected and approved for participation in InternNE will sign an Instrument for Signing and Clarification with the Department.

Bidders will be responsible for marketing the grant program in their region or state-wide to employers. Bidders will be responsible for marketing internships to out of state students and Nebraska students in high school and post-secondary education, with an emphasis on marketing to underserved/diverse student populations as defined by the Department.

Bidders will be responsible for setting up a system to receive applications on a continuous basis and award bi-monthly. Bidders will work with the Department to ensure grants are provided to employers who are providing valuable internship opportunities. Applications submitted for the grant will be scored by a committee. The Department will be responsible for emailing notice of award/denial to all Bidders.

Bidders will be responsible for setting up a process for post awards: providing contracts for each awardee of a grant, processing reimbursement requests, intaking proof of payment or documentation to back up the reimbursement request, and gather data required to report economic impact to Legislature.

DED will review all award cycles for compliance, track and monitor funds monthly, and decide whether to approve cycles as recommended by the Bidder. If approved, DED will fund the grant award following verification of the match required, required documentation and proof of payment.

DED will ensure that all InternNE funds have been disbursed by the Bidder as intended and that the program funds are accounted for properly, including documentation of any allowable use for administration and overhead.

### **D. SCOPE OF WORK**

The bidder shall/should provide the following information in response to this Request for Proposal.

1. Organizational Information

- a. Provide documentation showing that the Bidder is a Nebraska-based nonprofit entity. Bidder must also provide proof that it is current in its registration with the State of Nebraska.
  - b. Provide documentation showing the legal and organizational structure of the Bidder.
2. Management and Operations
- a. Describe the capacity, skill, size and experience of the Bidder's management team, partners and key staff, including the staff who will work on managing key aspects of the InternNE grant: grant management system, application review and scoring, processing reimbursements and customer service support.
  - b. Describe the capacity, skills, size, and experience of the Bidders governing board. Include a list of names and affiliations of its Board of Directors or other governing body.
  - c. Provide a description of the Bidders grant management system or the system the Bidder intends to utilize to manage the grant. Include specifications of the systems capability to handle the different aspects of grant management and to protect privacy act information.
  - d. Provide a recommendation for use of technology to scale across the state and the U.S.
  - e. Provide a description of the Bidder's internal accounting and administrative control systems and the extent to which such systems can provide reasonable assurance the InternNE funds are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use, and misappropriation. For example, provide evidence of one or more of the following: a) internal audits b) annual independent audits c) program financial statements d) adequate accounting and financial management systems.
  - f. Provide a description of the Bidder's strategic plan and budget, including guidelines for selecting recipients of aid, structure, and supervision. Please include a business model detailing the positions that will work on the program, duties, and public and private funds that will leverage operations.
  - g. Bidder must provide the Department with a written code of ethics and/or standards for professional conduct to ensure professionalism, integrity, avoidance of conflict of interest, and professional conduct by Bidder and Bidder employees, in carrying out the InternNE grant program.
3. Track Record
- a. Describe the Bidder's process for evaluating and selecting recipients of aid.
  - b. Outline the Bidder's total capital. For the purpose of this RFP 'total capital' is defined as retained earnings (including current earning and donations) cash, and debt that is subordinated to the claims of all other creditors.
  - c. Describe Bidder's experience in implementing and administering grant programs and aid.
  - d. Describe Bidder's grant aid history, including the structure, types, and size of Bidder's awarded grant aid.
  - e. Describe Bidder's experience in implementing and administering grant aid to businesses.
  - f. Provide a description of the ability of the Bidder to manage increases in the volume of awarding grant aid to businesses.
  - g. Describe how the Bidder will ensure InternNE grant aid and administration funds are not used for any impermissible purposes.
  - h. Describe key partnerships the Bidder has with Nebraska employers, secondary institutions, and post-secondary institutions.
4. Target Market
- a. Identify the Nebraska region the Bidder intends to target and how they will serve the communities in the region. If the Bidder identifies a statewide effort, include a description of how the Bidder will ensure equitable access to grant aid to all geographic areas of the state.
  - b. Detail how the Bidder will encourage students to pursue Nebraska internships to retain students in the State of Nebraska at institutions of higher education, convert students to full-time employment, and attract workers to Nebraska by assisting businesses willing to provide paid, quality internships.
  - c. Detail how the Bidder will target regions across the U.S. to recruit students to Nebraska internships. The Department will preference, Bidders who include HBCUs.
  - d. Describe any efforts Bidder will take to reach underserved/diverse student populations.
  - e. Describe how the Bidder will market the InternNE grant program and internships to Nebraska students in high schools and post-secondary education. The marketing plan should contain strategies that target underserved student populations as defined by the Department.
5. Program Details
- a. Provide a description of the program that Bidder will provide for businesses. Include how the program will be designed, implemented, and managed in line with the program guidelines of the Department.

- i. The Bidder will work with the Department in creating application forms for the grant program. Bidders will be responsible for implementing the approved application and ensuring the application is easily accessible to potential Bidders.
    - ii. For each application submitted to the Bidder, the Bidder will score the application and assess the quality of the internship according to InternNE guidelines. Following the completion of the scoring of each application, the Bidder will provide the Department with a summary of the applications submitted, the internships requested, funding amounts requested and make a recommendation on whether to approve or deny an application. After receiving the information, the Department will then respond to the recommendations. The Department reserves the right to refuse funding to a project, in the Department's sole discretion.
    - iii. When approved by the Department to award an application, the Bidder will execute any necessary agreements with the businesses. The Bidder will be responsible for working with DED to create a standardized agreement for InternNE awardees.
    - iv. The Bidder will work with the Department in creating reimbursement forms for the InternNE grant program. Bidders will be responsible for implementing the approved reimbursement forms.
    - v. Bidders will be responsible for receiving and processing the reimbursement request from each awardee. All requests should be processed in accordance with state requirements.
    - vi. Bidders will submit reimbursement requests to the Department with all required forms and documentation one a month. The Bidder should do their due diligence and ensure the reimbursement requests meets the criteria for reimbursement, before submitting to the Department. The Bidder will be responsible for ensuring the request meets the requirements in the agreement and that all required documentation has been provided.
  - b. Summarize projected outcomes including employer participation in the grant program, retention of students in Nebraska institutions of higher education, attracting students to Nebraska with paid internship opportunities, and converting students to fulltime employment in Nebraska.
  - c. Describe how the Bidder will measure success in the program.
  - d. Describe the Bidder's strategy for achieving retention, attraction, and converting students into full-time employment.
    - i. Specifically describe how the Bidder will make best efforts to retain students in the State of Nebraska at institutions of higher education, the Department would like to see a retention rate of at least 45%.
    - ii. · Attract out of state students to internships in Nebraska
    - iii. · Convert students to full-time employment in Nebraska rates of graduates remaining in Nebraska at least one year following graduation as follows: Community Colleges at least 59%, Private, not for profit 39%, State Colleges 48%, University of Nebraska 42%. The Department reserves the right to adjust this goal based off current economic circumstances.
6. Reporting and Compliance
- a. Please describe how the Bidder will comply with the requirement to provide required reports to the Department. Required reporting would include, but is not limited to:
    - i. Description of the demand for internship grants and programs from all geographic regions in Nebraska (the Bidder intends to service?)
    - ii. The economic impact of the internship grants. Entities should work with an institution of higher education or an economist to develop an economic impact.
    - iii. An evaluation of the internship grants and programs based on the documented goals of the recipients.
    - iv. The Bidder will work with the Department in creating reporting forms for the grant program. The information will be compiled by the Bidder and provided to the Department no later than May 31 of each year.
    - v. The Department will enter into a MOU with the Department of Labor to ensure the exchange of information for each student participating in the program. The Bidder will be responsible for providing information to each student who participated in the grant program regarding collection of their social security numbers and potential tracking of their employment 3-5 years after participating in the program.
  - b. Please describe how the Bidder will comply with the requirements in the qualified action plan developed by the Department. Requirements include, but are not limited to:
    - i. Selection criteria for awarding grants for internships.
    - ii. Strategies for affirmatively marketing internships to Nebraska students in high schools, colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education in Nebraska.



- iii. Strategies to market to underserved student populations as defined by the Department in the plan.
- iv. Strategies for marketing internships to targeted regions in the U.S. in order to recruit out of state students to Nebraska.
- c. Please describe how the Bidder's program will meet the objectives of increasing the number of internships, conversions to full-time employment, increase the overall workforce.
- d. Please describe how the Bidder will consider public access and longitudinal data tracking partnerships.
- e. The Bidder will work with a third-party management entity to study the current state of internships needed in the state and a baseline of internships in the state.

## **VI. PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS**

This section documents the requirements that should be met by Bidders in preparing the Technical and Cost Proposal. Bidders should identify the subdivisions of "Project Description and Scope of Work" clearly in their proposals; failure to do so may result in disqualification. Failure to respond to a specific requirement may be the basis for elimination from consideration during the State's comparative evaluation.

Proposals are due by the date and time shown in the Schedule of Events. Content requirements for the Technical and Cost Proposal are presented separately in the following subdivisions; format and order:

### **A. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION**

#### **1. CORPORATE OVERVIEW (Delete Corporate Overview if Cost Only)**

The Corporate Overview section of the Technical Proposal should consist of the following subdivisions:

##### **a. BIDDER IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION**

The Bidder should provide the full company or corporate name, address of the company's headquarters, entity organization (corporation, partnership, proprietorship), state in which the Bidder is incorporated or otherwise organized to do business, year in which the Bidder first organized to do business and whether the name and form of organization has changed since first organized.

##### **b. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Bidder should provide financial statements applicable to the firm. If publicly held, the Bidder should provide a copy of the corporation's most recent audited financial reports and statements, and the name, address, and telephone number of the fiscally responsible representative of the Bidder's financial or banking organization.

If the Bidder is not a publicly held corporation, either the reports and statements required of a publicly held corporation, or a description of the organization, including size, longevity, client base, areas of specialization and expertise, and any other pertinent information, should be submitted in such a manner that proposal evaluators may reasonably formulate a determination about the stability and financial strength of the organization. Additionally, a non-publicly held firm should provide a banking reference.

The Bidder must disclose any and all judgments, pending or expected litigation, or other real or potential financial reversals, which might materially affect the viability or stability of the organization, or state that no such condition is known to exist.

The State may elect to use a third party to conduct credit checks as part of the corporate overview evaluation.

##### **c. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP**

If any change in ownership or control of the company is anticipated during the twelve (12) months following the proposal due date, the Bidder should describe the circumstances of such change and indicate when the change will likely occur. Any change of ownership to an awarded Bidder(s) will require notification to the State.

##### **d. OFFICE LOCATION**

The Bidder's office location responsible for performance pursuant to an award of a contract with the State of Nebraska should be identified.

##### **e. RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STATE**

The Bidder should describe any dealings with the State over the previous three (3) years. If the organization, its predecessor, or any Party named in the Bidder's proposal response has contracted with the State, the Bidder should identify the contract number(s) and/or any other information available to identify such contract(s). If no such contracts exist, so declare.

**f. BIDDER'S EMPLOYEE RELATIONS TO STATE**

If any Party named in the Bidder's proposal response is or was an employee of the State within the past twelve (12) months, identify the individual(s) by name, State agency with whom employed, job title or position held with the State, and separation date. If no such relationship exists or has existed, so declare.

If any employee of any agency of the State of Nebraska is employed by the Bidder or is a Sub Contractor to the Bidder, as of the due date for proposal submission, identify all such persons by name, position held with the Bidder, and position held with the State (including job title and agency). Describe the responsibilities of such persons within the proposing organization. If, after review of this information by the State, it is determined that a conflict of interest exists or may exist, the Bidder may be disqualified from further consideration in this proposal. If no such relationship exists, so declare.

**g. CONTRACT PERFORMANCE**

If the Bidder or any proposed Sub Contractor has had a contract terminated for default during the past three (3) years, all such instances must be described as required below. Termination for default is defined as a notice to stop performance delivery due to the Bidder's non-performance or poor performance, and the issue was either not litigated due to inaction on the part of the Bidder or litigated and such litigation determined the Bidder to be in default.

It is mandatory that the Bidder submit full details of all termination for default experienced during the past three (3) years, including the other Party's name, address, and telephone number. The response to this section must present the Bidder's position on the matter. The State will evaluate the facts and will score the Bidder's proposal accordingly. If no such termination for default has been experienced by the Bidder in the past three (3) years, so declare.

If at any time during the past three (3) years, the Bidder has had a contract terminated for convenience, non-performance, non-allocation of funds, or any other reason, describe fully all circumstances surrounding such termination, including the name and address of the other contracting Party.

**h. SUMMARY OF BIDDER'S CORPORATE EXPERIENCE**

The Bidder should provide a summary matrix listing the Bidder's previous projects similar to this solicitation in size, scope, and complexity. The State will use no more than three (3) narrative project descriptions submitted by the Bidder during its evaluation of the proposal.

The Bidder should address the following:

- i. Provide narrative descriptions to highlight the similarities between the Bidder's experience and this solicitation. These descriptions should include:
  - a) The time period of the project;
  - b) The scheduled and actual completion dates;
  - c) The Bidder's responsibilities;
  - d) For reference purposes, a customer name (including the name of a contact person, a current telephone number, a facsimile number, and e-mail address); and
  - e) Each project description should identify whether the work was performed as the prime Bidder or as a Sub Contractor. If a Bidder performed as the prime Bidder, the description should provide the originally scheduled completion date and budget, as well as the actual (or currently planned) completion date and actual (or currently planned) budget.
- ii. Bidder and Sub Contractor(s) experience should be listed separately. Narrative descriptions submitted for Sub Contractors should be specifically identified as Sub Contractor projects.

- iii. If the work was performed as a Sub Contractor, the narrative description should identify the same information as requested for the Bidders above. In addition, Sub Contractors should identify what share of contract costs, project responsibilities, and time period were performed as a Sub Contractor.

**i. SUMMARY OF BIDDER'S PROPOSED PERSONNEL/MANAGEMENT APPROACH**

The Bidder should present a detailed description of its proposed approach to the management of the project.

The Bidder should identify the specific professionals who will work on the State's project if their company is awarded the contract resulting from this solicitation. The names and titles of the team proposed for assignment to the State project should be identified in full, with a description of the team leadership, interface and support functions, and reporting relationships. The primary work assigned to each person should also be identified.

The Bidder should provide resumes for all personnel proposed by the Bidder to work on the project. The State will consider the resumes as a key indicator of the Bidder's understanding of the skill mixes required to carry out the requirements of the solicitation in addition to assessing the experience of specific individuals.

Resumes should not be longer than three (3) pages. Resumes should include, at a minimum, academic background and degrees, professional certifications, understanding of the process, and at least three (3) references (name, address, and telephone number) who can attest to the competence and skill level of the individual. Any changes in proposed personnel shall only be implemented after written approval from the State.

**j. SUB CONTRACTORS**

If the Bidder intends to Subcontract any part of its performance hereunder, the Bidder should provide:

- i. name, address, and telephone number of the Sub Contractor(s);
- ii. specific tasks for each Sub Contractor(s);
- iii. percentage of performance hours intended for each Subcontract; and
- iv. total percentage of Sub Contractor(s) performance hours.

**2. TECHNICAL APPROACH (Delete Technical Approach if Cost Only)**

The technical approach section of the Technical Proposal should consist of the following subsections:

- a. Understanding of the project requirements;
- b. Proposed development approach;
- c. Technical considerations;
- d. Detailed project work plan; and
- e. Deliverables and due dates.

**Form A**  
**Bidder Proposal Point of Contact**  
**Request for Proposal Number 114045 O3**

Form A should be completed and submitted with each response to this solicitation. This is intended to provide the State with information on the Bidder's name and address, and the specific person(s) who are responsible for preparation of the Bidder's response.

Preparation of Response Contact Information	
Bidder Name:	
Bidder Address:	
Contact Person & Title:	
E-mail Address:	
Telephone Number (Office):	
Telephone Number (Cellular):	
Fax Number:	

Each Bidder should also designate a specific contact person who will be responsible for responding to the State if any clarifications of the Bidder's response should become necessary. This will also be the person who the State contacts to set up a presentation/demonstration, if required.

Communication with the State Contact Information	
Bidder Name:	
Bidder Address:	
Contact Person & Title:	
E-mail Address:	
Telephone Number (Office):	
Telephone Number (Cellular):	
Fax Number:	





**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FORM**

By signing this Request for Proposal for Contractual Services form, the Bidder guarantees compliance

**BIDDER MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING**

with the procedures stated in this Solicitation, and agrees to the terms and conditions unless otherwise indicated in writing and certifies that Bidder maintains a drug free work place.

Per Nebraska’s Transparency in Government Procurement Act, Neb. Rev Stat § 73-603 DAS is required to collect statistical information regarding the number of contracts awarded to Nebraska Bidders. This information is for statistical purposes only and will not be considered for contract award purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_ NEBRASKA BIDDER AFFIDAVIT: Bidder hereby attests that bidder is a Nebraska Bidder. “Nebraska Bidder” shall mean any bidder who has maintained a bona fide place of business and at least one employee within this state for at least the six (6) months immediately preceding the posting date of this Solicitation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby certify that I am a Resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-107 and wish to have preference, if applicable, considered in the award of this contract.

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby certify that I am a blind person licensed by the Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-8611 and wish to have preference considered in the award of this contract.

**FORM MUST BE SIGNED MANUALLY IN INK OR BY DOCUSIGN**

FIRM:	
COMPLETE ADDRESS:	
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	
FAX NUMBER:	
DATE:	
SIGNATURE:	
TYPED NAME & TITLE OF SIGNER:	