



RESPONSE TO RFP 6676 Z1

**STATE OF NEBRASKA
STATE PURCHASING BUREAU**

TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

REAL-TIME CAPTIONING AND TRANSLATION SERVICES

Presented by:

Drew Walsh
Strategic Account Director
VITAC
8300 East Maplewood Ave,
Suite 310
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
800-775-7838
(512) 944-4464

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dianna Gilliland/Joy Fischer
State Purchasing Bureau
1526 K Street, Suite 130
Lincoln, NE 68508

April 04, 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to present this proposal to provide closed captioning services to the State of Nebraska. VITAC is the leading closed captioning company in the country, responsible for realtime captioning solutions for over 500 network, cable, state, and local customers. You may see our realtime captioning exclusively on high-profile television networks listed below. Most pertinent to this proposal is our **extensive experience in state and local government programming**, also sampled below:

Television Experience (exclusive agreements)

- MSNBC/CNBC
- NBC News (*Today, Nightly News, Dateline*)
- ABC News (*GMA, World News Tonight, 20/20*)
- CBS News
- C-SPAN3
- The Weather Channel
- The Discovery Channel
- The Learning Channel

State/local Government Experience

- Pennsylvania Cable News
- Norfolk, VA
- Iowa Public Television
- Savannah, GA
- Loudoun County, VA
- PA House of Representatives
- Chatham County, GA
- Atlanta Public School Board
- Vancouver, WA
- The Ohio Channel

VITAC offers more than experience. We are a full-service captioning company, with engineering, technical, production and customer service support available 24/7. Our extensive backup systems – technical and staffing – mean less hassle for you, the customer. These equipment and personnel redundancies significantly reduce the number of technical difficulties. We are called the “no worries” caption company for a reason and would like to show you why we earned this distinction.

Our proposal is presented in the same order as the RFP. We have also included several documents in support of our proposal, which are also mentioned in the body of the RFP.

Again, we thank you for this opportunity. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (512) 944-4464 or drew.walsh@vitac.com

Sincerely,

Drew Walsh
Strategic Account Director

April 7, 2022

VITAC, a Verbit Company 

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

VITAC understands the terms and requirements set forth in the RFP and has outlined on the following pages our plan to meet the State of Nebraska's captioning needs. We are fully staffed and ready to caption this work immediately.

We understand that the State of Nebraska requires Real-Time Captioning and Translation Services estimated Hours for Legislature coverage at 700 hours every two (2) years. We understand that the State of Nebraska may require up to two simultaneous data feeds, and may, on occasion, require scheduling less than 24 hours before air. We understand that the State of Nebraska requires 98% captioning accuracy, as well as a raw transcript of each meeting less than 24 hours after the end of the meeting. **VITAC understands the objective of this RFP is for the State of Nebraska to select a reliable, qualified realtime captioning contractor for the period of 2 years, with option to renew for three (3) additional one (1) year periods.** We confident in our ability meet or exceed all of these criteria.

VITAC understands and agrees to the subdivisions of the section labeled "Project Description and Scope of Work," including A) Project overview, B) Scope of Work, and C) Technical Requirements. We have also included our agreement to the terms and conditions of this RFP, including insurance requirements.

Only VITAC is equipped to meet both scheduled and last-minute realtime captioning requests, while maintaining the highest accuracy. We hold our more than 400 employee Realtime Captioners to some of the toughest standards in the industry and recruit heavily from the top court reporting colleges in the country. Clients rely on our professional captioners, coordinators, and schedulers; our dedicated technical and development teams; and 24/7 client support to keep them on the air with captions that make their content more accessible to their audiences. We are accustomed to working with both standard and exotic equipment, and are dedicated to developing new solutions when necessary. **Our goal with the State of Nebraska, as with every customer, is to provide flawless captions with as little stress to the customer as possible.** We call ourselves the "no worries" caption company for a reason, and would like to show you why we earned this distinction.

As previously stated, VITAC is the nation's leading provider of closed captioning and other accessible media services. We provide closed captioning for broadcast networks, cable TV, streaming platforms, home video/DVD, teleconferences, educational channels, municipal meetings, and Internet programs worldwide. Among our largest clients are NBC Universal, AMC Networks, CBS, CNN, C-SPAN, , FOX, , Turner Broadcasting, Warner Bros. Television, and the Federal Government.

Most relevant to this contract is our extensive experience working with state and local government clients and educational broadcast networks. We have provided all types of service – realtime, offline, web captioning, and encoding – to clients such as the City of San Jose, CA; Savannah, GA; Vancouver, WA; and Chatham County, GA; and Iowa Public Television. Among our longest-standing municipal government relationships is with Loudoun County, Virginia, which has been a realtime captioning client

for 15 years. We have also provided realtime and offline captioning services for the IRS for over 20 years.

VITAC's educational/public TV clients include C-SPAN 3, the Pennsylvania Cable Network, the Ohio Channel, and WQED, America's first community-supported TV station, with whom we have worked for over 26 years. We provide realtime captioning for many of Discovery's Networks, including Animal Planet, The Discovery Channel, and The Science Channel. Our captioning experience also includes national programming for PBS, including *This Old House*, *Nature*, *POV*, *Austin City Limits*, *American Masters*, as well as many others.

VITAC offers the following services:

- Offline captioning (**57,000 programs/year**)
- Realtime captioning (**220,000 hours/year**)
 - Live display/Refeeds/Internet
- Spanish captioning (**15,000 hours/year**)
 - Offline and realtime
- Translation Services
- Subtitling
- In-house SD & HD encoding
- Nonlinear Encode Solutions: MXF, CableLabs Spec, MPG2
- Audio Description
- Transcription / as-broadcast / continuity docs

Within our service lines, VITAC boasts:

- On-time delivery: **99.9%** delivery within the hour requested.
- On-air uptime: **99.9%** on air [realtime](#) with no outage.
- Availability: **24 hours/day, 365 days/year** our service experts handle your calls.
- Accuracy: Offline captions and subtitles are double-checked to ensure **100%** accuracy.

Though we have many customers, large and small, all customers are treated with the same level of customer service. More than 98% of our customers over the past 12 months have indicated that they would work with VITAC in the future. Specific feedback from some of our clients is listed below:

- “We must be one of VITAC’s smallest clients, but I ALWAYS feel that you treat us just like you would if we were the Discovery Channel or one of your other large ones! Customer service comes from the top and you have taught your team well!! We can't say thanks enough, we always get your best!!” –Sagemont Church
- “I have appreciated the working relationship with VITAC. Being in the State Government TV business, we have had schedule changes at the last minute and VITAC has almost always been able to accommodate the request.” –Pennsylvania Cable Network

- “VITAC has exceeded every expectation. I just started working with VITAC, but it is very clear to me why they are so highly regarded amongst my colleagues.” –BBC
- “I have never had a bad experience with VITAC, customer service is outstanding.” –Chatham County Commission
- “Always pleasant, efficient, and ready to give much-needed advice.” –WQED Multimedia
- “I know I’ve said it many times already but thank you, sincerely, for all your help. You really invested yourself in our project and it made a huge difference. You guys deserve to have future business funneled in your direction.” – Arizona State Department of Health

In the following proposal, you will find an in-depth service plan detailing how our solution will meet the needs of The State of Nebraska. Our financial proposal is provided as a separate document, as defined in the RFP.

We look forward to working with you on this project and thank you for the opportunity to present VITAC’s service offerings.

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

a. BIDDER IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION

VITAC operates two U.S. production facilities in Greenwood Village, CO, and Canonsburg, PA and employees working remotely throughout the country. We also operate a facility in Montreal, Canada. We were founded in 1986 as Caption America but changed our name to "VITAC," a contraction of VITal Access. We are a subsidiary of Verbit, Inc., a company based out of New York, NY. Our Employer Identification Number is 25-1519537.

VITAC Headquarters:

8300 East Maplewood Avenue,
Suite 310
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
800-775-7838

Pittsburgh Operations Center:

101 Hillpointe Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317
724-514-4000

VITAC Canada:

405 Ogilvy, Suite 105
Montréal, QC H3N 1M3
514 840-7496

b. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

VITAC is a privately held Corporation and subsidiary of Verbit, Inc., which is also privately held. VITAC has been in business since 1986, and our client base includes major media clients such as, NBC, CNN, Discovery, Fox, and ABC. We specialize in all accessible media services – captioning, subtitling, translation, transcription, and audio description. We have 647 employees. Our revenue for the past fiscal year is listed below.

These statements are not reflective of inter-company charges from Verbit, Inc. for expenses attributable to VITAC. These expenses are considered to be material. Audited financial statements are available upon request.

FY 2021 Revenue: \$60,903,418

Banking Reference

Bank Name:	Silicon Valley Bank
Bank Contact:	Hila Adar, <i>Relationship Advisor</i>
Telephone:	+(972)-9-972-2102
Email:	IsraelSupport@svb.com

VITAC has not been the subject of any lawsuits, now or in the past, nor do we expect to be. We have no potential financial reversals to disclose.

c. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

VITAC has no plans to change ownership in the next 12 months or at any time.

d. OFFICE LOCATION

VITAC Corporation (Headquarters)
8300 East Maplewood Avenue, Suite 310
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
800-775-7838

e. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE

VITAC has not bid on any contracts with the State of Nebraska in the past five years, nor does VITAC currently provide any services for the State.

f. BIDDER'S EMPLOYEE RELATIONS TO THE STATE

No VITAC employees were employed by the State of Nebraska in the past 12 months. No employees are currently employed by the State of Nebraska.

g. CONTRACT PERFORMANCE

VITAC has over 990 customers, and has had no contracts terminated for default in the past five years. In our survey sent to all realtime customers, 98% said they would work with VITAC again.

h. SUMMARY OF BIDDER'S CORPORATE EXPERIENCE

i. Description of Similar Products

As previously stated, VITAC has significant experience working with state/local and public broadcasting clients. In each instance, the row for "scheduled and actual completion dates" is listed as N/A, since realtime captioning is delivered live.

Customer	Time period	Completion dates	Contractor's responsibilities	Customer contact	Contractor/subcontractor
Pennsylvania Cable Network	2000-present	N/A	We caption over 50 hours of realtime programming for Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN) each month. Programming varies, from live covering of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives to the weekly "Journalists Roundtable" discussions of Pennsylvania news. VITAC's Realtime Technical Services and engineering departments work with our captioners to ensure flawless transmission.	Shawn McLain SVP, Operations PCN (717) 730-6000 shawnmclain@pcntv.com	VITAC is the prime contractor for this contract. Realtime captioning is performed instantaneously at a predetermined hourly rate.
Loudoun County, VA	2007-present	N/A	We provide 20 hours of realtime captioning for Loudoun County, VA each month. Meeting topics vary including budget hearings, board meetings, and city council meetings, and are broadcast on a local Loudoun County cable channel. VITAC's Realtime Technical Services and engineering departments work with our captioners to ensure flawless transmission. Our Loudoun County captioners are located in Virginia.	Stan Rogers Broadcasting Manager (703) 737-8493 Stan.Rogers@loudoun.gov	VITAC is the prime contractor for this contract. Realtime captioning is performed instantaneously at a predetermined hourly rate.
The Ohio Channel	2017-present	N/A	Every month, we caption 10 hours of Ohio state government programming. VITAC's Realtime Technical Services and engineering departments work with our captioners to ensure flawless transmission	Megan Wycuff Deputy Director 614.728.9814 mwycuff@ogtv.org	VITAC is the prime contractor for this contract. Realtime captioning is performed instantaneously at a predetermined hourly rate.

ii. Contractor and Subcontractor experience

If awarded, VITAC will use all employee Captioners, not contractors, for the completion of the English portion of this contract.

iii. Subcontractor description

If awarded, VITAC will use a subcontractor, as described below, for the completion of the Spanish portion of this contract.

I. Summary of Bidder's Proposed Personnel/Management Approach

With over 35 years of captioning experience, VITAC’s production process is an art form. Every step is supervised by leaders in our industry and managed by our talented staff. Our Client Sales and Services department, Systems and Engineering team, and Realtime Captioning staff will be primarily responsible for your captioning. Our in-house team is available year-round, 24 hours a day via one hotline number which always reaches a supervisor, never an answering service.

No company has people more experienced in the development of captioning systems and techniques than VITAC. The following departments are led by people with over 20 years’ experience in the industry: Realtime Captioning, Offline Captioning, Client Services, Quality, Subtitling, Marketing, and Sales. We are dedicated to investment in infrastructure and new technology and employ robust Development, Systems, and Engineering teams. Our team of the largest US-based employee captioner workforce means clients will never sacrifice quick turnaround for quality.

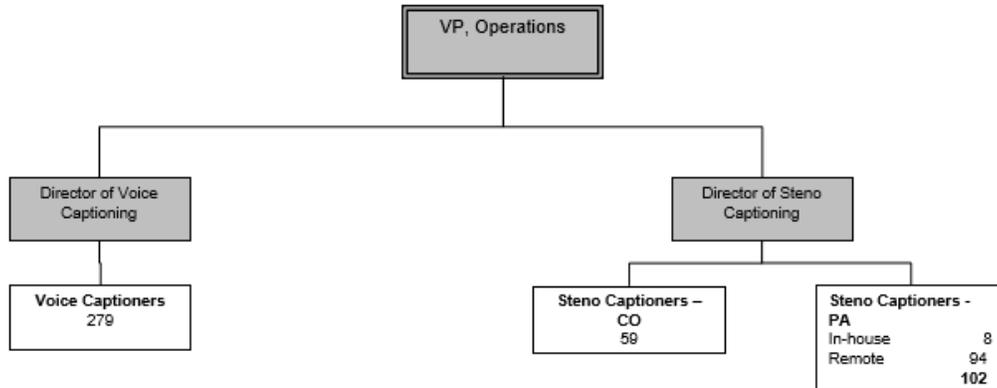
Please see the below staffing breakdown chart detailing our structure and average years of experience for each department. Further detailed resumes available upon request.

Department	Responsibilities	Employee Count	Average Years of Experience
Realtime	Realtime captioning, pre-testing, deliverables, troubleshooting, and resource scheduling. Includes captioners, coordinators, supervisors, and managers.	389	6
Offline	All offline captioning, file deliverables, troubleshooting, and resource scheduling. Includes captioners, trainers, supervisors, and managers.	52	11

Client Sales and Services/Traffic	Our clients' main point of contact for all program scheduling and day-to-day production coordination and communication, including obtaining program technical information via email, or phone	78	5
Systems and Engineering	Solutions development, implementation, and support for network infrastructure and realtime captioners, software development, IT systems, and computer workstations	22	6
Finance and Administration	Invoicing and billing for all VITAC clients, vendors, and partners	8	5
Multi-language Subtitling	Translation and subtitle preparation in over 100 languages, including VITAC's Spanish offline deliverables	10	12
Leadership	Guidance of VITAC and development of strategic initiatives	8	13
Sales and Marketing	Customer satisfaction, solutions, and business development	16	8
Human Resources	Staffing and human resources needs	4	7
Grand Total		647	

The following organizational chart details our leadership and reporting relationships within the VITAC realtime captioning team responsible for maintaining services for this contract:

Realtime Captioning



Company Headcount	
Active Empl:	440
International:	0
Open Reqs:	0
Open w/Cont:	0
Open w/Temp:	0
Contract:	0
Temp:	0
Total:	440

J. SUBCONTRACTORS

VITAC utilizes a subcontractor service partner to provide realtime/live captioning services in Spanish and Portuguese.

Esteno Services Worldwide
 1846 Margaret St. #9C
 Jacksonville, FL 32204-4406
 303-476-2100

Headquartered in Jacksonville, with offices in New York, Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Spain and India, Steno Services Worldwide, Inc., is the exclusively “certified” realtime reporting and consulting agency for the U.N., World Bank, Cypriot and Bulgaria governments,

and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Esteno Services Worldwide provides realtime captioning services in Spanish and Portuguese. These services are typically provided out of their offices in Santiago, Chile. Their clients also include numerous broadcast and cable networks.

If awarded this contract, VITAC will subcontract 100% of the Spanish realtime captioning work through Esteno.

TECHNICAL APPROACH

a) UNDERSTANDING THE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

We understand that the State of Nebraska requires Realtime Captioning and Translation Services with estimated Hours for Legislature coverage at 700 hours every two (2) years. We understand that the State of Nebraska may require up to three simultaneous data feeds, and may, on occasion, require scheduling less than 24 hours before air. We understand that the State of Nebraska requires 98% captioning accuracy, as well as a raw transcript of each meeting less than 24 hours after the end of the meeting.

VITAC understands the objective of this RFP is for the State of Nebraska to select a reliable, qualified realtime captioning contractor for the period of 2 years, with option to renew for three (3) additional one (1) year periods. We are able to meet or exceed these criteria.

We also have read, understand and acknowledge the responses noted in Addendum One (1) of this RFP and can comply with the items outlined in the addendum.

b) PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT APPROACH:

Technical Solution

VITAC has numerous standard and proprietary technical solutions in place and will be pleased to work out the most agreeable arrangement to the State of Nebraska's needs. As such, we feel that there is no technical request – be it broadcast or IP-delivered – that we cannot accommodate.

We are familiar with the basic plan the State of Nebraska has established – the Captioner dialing into a phone hybrid within the Legislative Chamber or Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Network audio/video line – and are very familiar with the process. We understand that the State of Nebraska uses Evertz HD 9084 and EEG HD492 encoders, and VITAC is able to interface with both of them.

We are pleased to say that this setup is a standard one that we support, and that VITAC's capabilities align with Nebraska Public Media's technical requirements for this contract. To confirm all details on specified requirements, we suggest hosting a Kickoff Meeting with NPM key stakeholders, specified in the "DETAILED PROJECT WORK PLAN" section.

Personnel Solution

VITAC employs captioners from across the United States, including a number who reside in Nebraska. If successful in this bid, it is the standard practice for our captioners to create a treatment sheet for State of Nebraska programming, which will include researching common terms and issues used in both the Legislature and on the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Network, and compiling a list of geographical and biographical proper names that may arise. Captioners will then program these into their dictionaries using macros, so that any names such as "Pete Ricketts" or "Ben Sasse" are just a keystroke away.

All of VITAC's steno captioners spend about 3 hours researching terms like these for every hour of programming. Before each meeting, the Captioner will familiarize themselves with the Legislative agenda in order to prepare for the next day's topics.

c) TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

VITAC already offers superior technical solutions for its realtime clients. Our Technical points of difference are our systematic redundancies and our industry-leading technical support procedures.

Redundancies

VITAC is an industry leader in uptime in part because of its redundant technical systems.

To maintain realtime steno captioning under any circumstance, VITAC has more than 400 employee captioners working in-house at our operations centers and remotely across the country, so that if disaster strikes our headquarters, our realtime captioning abilities are not compromised.

Our Realtime Technical Service (RTS) staff is available 24/7. RTS staff are highly trained and familiar with the numerous captioning workflows in use by clients. They have direct access to our captioners and systems and are adept at troubleshooting and remediating issues immediately.

VITAC maintains several phone system providers through different carriers. These run on secure, proprietary networks, and have last-mile paths – fiber and copper. If one telephone network fails, we can route all caption transmissions to a backup system so that live captioning can continue without interruption. We also have numerous internet connections, so that web connectivity is never lost. All this ensures that no capabilities are not sacrificed in the event of an emergency.

As part of our continued investment in infrastructure and technology, VITAC upgraded the Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) in our Canonsburg, PA, operations center earlier this year. The UPS powers all core critical electrical equipment in the company and allows VITAC to function normally for up to 30 minutes in a total power loss, during which time the diesel generator kicks in. It also guards our center from electrical surges.

We are also able to mirror all of our satellite transmissions from a remote uplink facility in the event of a disaster, allowing us to function normally in even the worst outages.

Our B2B system, which stands for “back-to-back,” allows captioners to caption back-to-back over long periods of time without ever dropping the connection or missing captions. This is particularly helpful during long meetings when one captioner must relieve another. **VITAC is the ONLY company that can guarantee no loss of captions when we rotate captioners.**

Technical Support

Our team of systems and engineering professionals average over 5 years of experience in the captioning industry and are available in-house or via cell 24/7/365. Most technical issues can be resolved by Realtime Technical Services, who assists the Captioner with setup, testing, and technical difficulties, or the Captioners themselves. Additionally, since all of our employee captioners use VITAC-issued equipment, our engineers are nearly always able to troubleshoot over the phone, resolving the problem as quickly as possible.

These precautions allow us to boast 99.9% uptime in our Realtime Department.

d) DETAILED PROJECT WORK PLAN:

VITAC recommends the following approach to commence realtime work with the State of Nebraska. We are happy to accommodate any modifications to this plan that the State of Nebraska desires.

1. Kickoff Meeting:

At this initial call we will review topics including, but not limited to:

- **Encoder and audio coupler Data:** encoder make, model and phone number, backup encoder and audio line information (note: we have worked with both EEG and Evertz systems for over 30 years.)
- **Preferred connectivity time and testing process:** generally 15-20 minute prior to the start of an event, we dial into the encoder and send a test, confirming that test with the engineering contact
- **Engineering and Production Contacts** for both VITAC and the State of Nebraska
- Preferred caption **placement and credits**
- Review and confirmation of **scope of work details**

2. Testing:

We place an incredible emphasis on being prepared for any event and will test extensively prior to the first captioned meeting. Our highly experienced Systems department allows us to easily identify solutions to any technical problems which may occur. Our engineers use the exact equipment to set up and test with all customers prior to the start of any new contract.

In addition to technical testing, during this phase a production coordinator will work with our chosen captioners to build a standard State of Nebraska "Treatment Sheet," ensuring our Captioners have a single source for information and proper spellings specific to your area of the country. The Treatment Sheet includes such details as caption location, credits,

emergency contact data and the start of a list that will be the captioner's reference dictionary.

3. Captioning:

All captioning will be performed by VITAC's skilled steno captioners – not speech recognition or software. Prior to any assignment, VITAC captioners are well prepared beforehand by researching in advance such things as key names and terms that they anticipate will appear during a program or event. At the end of each meeting the captioners will correct any untranslates and run a spell-check on the raw text file.

Captioning start and end times for each meeting should be scheduled in advance. If a meeting runs beyond the hours scheduled by the State of Nebraska, VITAC will use its best efforts to secure a Captioner for the remainder of the meeting. "Best efforts" is defined to mean that every effort will be made by VITAC's Realtime Department personnel to obtain a Captioner in a timely manner to provide live captioning for the remainder of the meeting. There shall be no penalty if VITAC is unable to obtain a qualified Captioner in a timely manner.

4. Consultation and Regular Contact:

VITAC's Systems and Engineering department is comprised of professionals averaging over 5 years in the captioning business. VITAC is pleased to offer 24/7 technical support for any VITAC contract, at no additional charge.

We also suggest a regularly scheduled call with our customers. While we make ourselves available 24/7 and are always easy to reach, we find that quarterly calls with all parties are a good way to keep everyone up to date and in touch about the contract. We suggest we continue this exercise with the State of Nebraska.

e) DELIVERABLES AND DUE DATES:

Realtime captioning is delivered live, so delivery dates do not apply. Transcripts can be delivered in up to 24 hours after the end of each meeting, as specified by the RFP.

ATTACHMENT A – Technical Requirements



a verbit company

Bidder Name: _____

Bidder should fully respond to each question in enough detail to allow for comprehensive evaluation of the response. Responses will be considered in evaluating Technical Approach.

Technical Requirements	
1.	<p>FCC Guidelines specify the need for the most accuracy possible in closed captioning. Please describe efforts taken to measure and maintain accuracy of real time closed captioning.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>VITAC is equipped to meet both scheduled and last-minute realtime captioning requests, while maintaining 98% accuracy. We hold our more than 400 employee Realtime Captioners to some of the toughest standards in the industry and recruit heavily from the top court reporting colleges in the country. We were selected by the FCC to help draft their Closed Caption Quality best practices, which we adhere to as a matter of SOP. Ongoing, random reviews and analysis of captioners work are conducted on a regular basis to ensure that captioners maintain high accuracy and quality standards, and to enable them to advance to more challenging programming.</p>
2.	<p>Describe the Bidder’s scheduling procedures for real time captioning and translation services. Please include the anticipated requirements for advance notice of both real- time captioning in English and in Spanish (when the speaker is speaking English, but Closed Captions are in Spanish).</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>VITAC can accept realtime captioning bookings for English or Spanish through our online scheduling portal, via email or through our 800-number. We request at least 24-48 hours’ notice for advance scheduling of live captioning service but can often accommodate bookings with shorter notice because of our 24/7 availability. Captioning start and end times for each meeting should be scheduled in advance. If a meeting runs beyond the hours scheduled by the State of Nebraska, VITAC will use its best efforts to secure a Captioner for the remainder of the meeting. "Best efforts" is defined to mean every effort will be made by VITAC's Realtime Department personnel to obtain a Captioner in a timely manner to provide live captioning for the remainder of the meeting.</p>

	<p>After an initial live airing, programs frequently re-air outside of the 24-hour grace period allowed by the FCC for original closed captioning, and these programs need the captions corrected and re-fed. Describe Bidder’s caption cleanup procedures. Please include the anticipated requirements for turnaround time for corrected captioning in English and in Spanish (when the speaker is speaking English, but Closed Captions are in Spanish).</p>
3.	<p>Response:</p> <p>VITAC’s requirements for turnaround time of corrected captioning in English and in Spanish will be 24 hours from receipt of the MP4 video proxy, uploaded by Signiant Media Shuttle shared portal. After completion of the corrected files, we will work with NPM staff to coordinate scheduling of the day/time for the files to be re-fed in real time via iCap software connected to your hardware encoders.</p>
	<p>Describe Bidder’s cancellation policy.</p>
4.	<p>Response:</p> <p>Programming canceled with less than 24 hours’ notice will be invoiced 100% of the booked charge, with a cost not to exceed the equivalent of 2-hours of captioning, per RFP requirements.</p>
	<p>Describe Bidder’s ability to caption in multiple languages simultaneously in real time.</p>
5.	<p>Response:</p> <p>VITAC currently provides Spanish-to-Spanish and English-to-Spanish realtime captioning for ESPN Deportes, Telemundo (national and local O&O stations), CNN en Español, and Fox Sports International. We have provided – and continue to provide – captions for ESPN Deportes’ “SportsCenter” as well as live events such as, the FIFA World Cup, UEFA and CONCACAF matches, Mexican, Dutch, La Liga, and Bundesliga soccer, select NASCAR and NBA events, and NFL Monday Night Football.</p> <p>We also provide French-to-French and Portuguese-to-Portuguese realtime captions.</p> <p>Esteno has been a VITAC strategic partner for Spanish and Portuguese realtime captioning services since 2002. With offices in Santiago, Chile, and Denver, CO, they are the global leader in Spanish and Portuguese realtime court reporting and captioning.</p> <p>VITAC Canada provides French language caption services, among other offerings. Headquartered in Montreal, VITAC Canada is a leading provider of live and offline captioning and transcription services and serves leading broadcasters and government organizations across Canada and Europe.</p>
	<p>Describe any failover plan in place to minimize interruptions due to equipment malfunction:</p>
6.	<p>Response:</p> <p>VITAC ensures that transitions from one captioner to another will be seamless.</p>

Our captioners connect securely via IP-delivery to our headquarters. The headquarters connection is then connected securely to the customer. The captioner's output is monitored as it is transmitted to the customer.

Our proprietary monitoring device, called B2B, short for "back-to-back," allows captioners to caption back-to-back over long periods of time without ever dropping the connection or missing captions. This is particularly helpful if programming is running long, when one captioner must be relieved by another.

In addition, it is standard operating procedure for our captioners to connect to the B2B unit 15 to 20 minutes prior to airtime. Our realtime technical services team verifies the oncoming captioner is "checked in" to our realtime manager software and then connected to the B2B. The captioner is then to begin captioning the audio they hear three minutes prior to the captioner switch being made. This guarantees no gap in captioning as one captioner's time slot has ended and another's has begun.

As referenced earlier under "Redundancies," VITAC also maintains several phone systems through different carriers so that if one network fails, we can route all caption transmissions to a backup system without interruption. We also have numerous internet connections, so that web connectivity is never lost.

We also have upgraded our Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) in our operations center, allowing VITAC to function normally for up to 30 minutes in a total power loss, during which time the diesel generator kicks in. It also guards our center from electrical surges.

We can also mirror all of our satellite transmissions from a remote uplink facility in the event of a disaster, allowing us to function normally in even the worst outages.

II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Bidders should complete Sections II through VI as part of their proposal. Bidder should read the Terms and Conditions and 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 Request for Proposal, 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 reserves the right to reject proposals that attempt to substitute the bidder’s commercial contracts and/or documents for this Request for Proposal.

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 Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>DK</u> X			

1. The contract resulting from this Request for Proposal shall incorporate the following documents:
 - a. Request for Proposal and Addenda,
 - b. Amendments to the Request for Proposal,
 - c. Questions and Answers,
 - d. Bidder’s proposal (Request for Proposal and properly submitted documents);
 - e. The executed Contract and Addendum One to Contract, if applicable; and,
 - f. Amendments/Addendums to the Contract.

These documents constitute the entirety of the contract.

2. 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:
 - a. Amendment to the executed Contract with the most recent dated amendment having the highest priority,
 - b. Addendum One to the executed Contract,
 - c. The executed Contract and any additional attached Addenda,
 - d. Amendments to Request for Proposal and any Questions and Answers,
 - e. The original Request for Proposal document and any Addenda, and
 - f. The Contractor’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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>DK</u> X			

Contractor 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 electronically, 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. NOTICE (POC)

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 Contractor 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

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

F. AMENDMENT

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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

The State and the Contractor, upon the written agreement, may make changes to the contract within the general scope of the Request for Proposal. 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 Contractor may not claim forfeiture of the contract by reasons of such changes.

The Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor's proposal, were foreseeable, or result from difficulties with or failure of the Contractor's proposal or performance.

No change shall be implemented by the Contractor 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.

*****Contractor 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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

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 Request for Proposal 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 CONTRACTOR BREACH

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>DK</u> DK X			

If Contractor breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract, the Contractor 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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
		X <u>DK</u>	Cost of replacement shall not be borne by Contractor, nor shall incidentals/consequential.

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 Contractor, the State may contract the service from other sources and hold the Contractor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby. OR In case of breach by the Contractor, 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 contractor. The State may recover from the Contractor 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 Contractor's breach.

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

K. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u>			

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

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u>			

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

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<p>X DK</p>			

1. GENERAL

The Contractor 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 Contractor, its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents, resulting from this contract, except to the extent such Contractor liability is attenuated by any action of the State which directly and proximately contributed to the claims.

2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (Optional)

The Contractor 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 Contractor or its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents; provided, however, the State gives the Contractor prompt notice in writing of the claim. The Contractor 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 Contractor has indemnified the State, the Contractor shall, at the Contractor’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 Contractor, and the State may receive the remedies provided under this Request for Proposal.

3. PERSONNEL

The Contractor 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 subcontractor’s and their employees, provided by the Contractor.

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, Contractor 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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>DK</u> DK X			

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. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

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

The Contractor retains the right to enter into a sale, merger, acquisition, internal reorganization, or similar transaction involving Contractor's business. Contractor 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 Contractor 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.

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

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

The Contractor 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 Contractor 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.

Q. FORCE MAJEURE

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

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.

R. CONFIDENTIALITY

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
		X <u>DK</u> DK	"Confidential Information" does not include any information which: (i) is publicly available through no fault of receiving Party, (ii) was properly known to receiving Party, without restriction, prior to disclosure by the disclosing Party, (iii) was properly disclosed to receiving Party, without restriction, by another person without violation of disclosing Party's rights, or (iv) is independently developed by the receiving Party without use of or reference to the disclosing Party's Confidential Information.

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.

S. EARLY TERMINATION

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

The contract may be terminated as follows:

1. The State and the Contractor, 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 Contractor. Such termination shall not relieve the Contractor of warranty or other service obligations incurred under the terms of the contract. In the event of termination the Contractor 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. Contractor 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 Contractor or of any substantial part of the Contractor'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 Contractor, its employees, officers, directors, or shareholders,
- e. an involuntary proceeding has been commenced by any Party against the Contractor 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 Contractor has consented, either expressly or by operation of law, to the entry of an order for relief; or (iii) the Contractor has been decreed or adjudged a debtor,
- f. a voluntary petition has been filed by the Contractor under any of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code,
- g. Contractor intentionally discloses confidential information,
- h. Contractor has or announces it will discontinue support of the deliverable; and,
- i. In the event funding is no longer available.

T. CONTRACT CLOSEOUT

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

Upon contract closeout for any reason the Contractor 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 Contractor is permitted to keep the information or data by contract or rule of law. Contractor 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 Contractor's routine back up procedures,
4. Cooperate with any successor Contractor, person or entity in the assumption of any or all of the obligations of this contract,
5. Cooperate with any successor Contractor, 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 Contractor to surrender intellectual property, real or personal property, or information or data owned by the Contractor for which the State has no legal claim.

III. CONTRACTOR DUTIES

A. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR / OBLIGATIONS

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
DK X			

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

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

The Contractor shall secure, at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under the contract. The personnel the Contractor 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 Contractor'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 Contractor to the contract shall be employees of the Contractor or a subcontractor and shall be fully qualified to perform the work required herein. Personnel employed by the Contractor or a subcontractor to fulfill the terms of the contract shall remain under the sole direction and control of the Contractor or the subcontractor respectively.

With respect to its employees, the Contractor 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 Contractor's employees, including all insurance required by state law,
3. Damages incurred by Contractor'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 Contractor'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 Contractor, its officers, agents, or subcontractors or subcontractor's employees)

If the Contractor intends to utilize any subcontractor, the subcontractor's level of effort, tasks, and time allocation should be clearly defined in the contractor's proposal. The Contractor shall agree that it will not utilize any subcontractors 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 Contractor to reassign or remove from the project any Contractor or subcontractor employee.

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

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

B. EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>DK</u> X			

The Contractor 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 Contractor is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

1. The Contractor must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/Individual%20or%20Sole%20Proprietor%20United%20States%20Attestation%20Form%20English%20and%20Spanish.pdf>
2. The completed United States Attestation Form should be submitted with the Request for Proposal response.
3. If the Contractor indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Contractor agrees to provide the US Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Contractor's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.
4. The Contractor understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required, and the Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractors of the State of Nebraska, and their Subcontractors, 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 Contractor guarantees compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of contract. The Contractor shall insert a similar provision in all Subcontracts for goods and services to be covered by any contract resulting from this Request for Proposal.

D. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONTRACTORS

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>X</u> <u>DK</u> DK			

Contractor may be required to work with or in close proximity to other contractors or individuals that may be working on same or different projects. The Contractor shall agree to cooperate with such other contractors or individuals and shall not commit or permit any act which may interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or individual. Contractor is not required to compromise Contractor'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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

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 Contractor shall obtain and pay for all royalties, licenses, and permits, and approvals necessary for the execution of the contract. The Contractor 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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

The State shall have the unlimited right to publish, duplicate, use, and disclose all information and data developed or obtained by the Contractor 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. Contractor 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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
<u>DK</u> DK X			

The Contractor 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 Contractor shall not commence work on the contract until the insurance is in place. If Contractor subcontracts any portion of the Contract the Contractor must, throughout the term of the contract, either:

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

The Contractor shall not allow any Subcontractor to commence work until the Subcontractor has equivalent insurance. The failure of the State to require a COI, or the failure of the Contractor to provide a COI or require subcontractor insurance shall not limit, relieve, or decrease the liability of the Contractor 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 two (2) years of termination or expiration of the contract, the contractor 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 two (2) years following termination or expiration of the contract.

If by the terms of any insurance a mandatory deductible is required, or if the Contractor elects to increase the mandatory deductible amount, the Contractor 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 Contractor shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract the statutory Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the contractors' employees to be engaged in work on the project under this contract and, in case any such work is sublet, the Contractor shall require the Subcontractor similarly to provide Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the Subcontractor'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 Contractor shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract such Commercial General Liability Insurance and Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance as shall protect Contractor and any Subcontractor 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 Contractor or by any Subcontractor 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 Contractors, 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.

REQUIRED INSURANCE COVERAGE	
COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY	
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 Contractors	Included
Abuse & Molestation	Included
<i>If higher limits are required, the Umbrella/Excess Liability limits are allowed to satisfy the higher limit.</i>	
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	
Employers Liability Limits	\$500K/\$500K/\$500K
Statutory Limits- All States	Statutory - State of Nebraska
USL&H Endorsement	Statutory
Voluntary Compensation	Statutory
COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY	
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
UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY	
Over Primary Insurance	\$5,000,000 per occurrence
PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY	
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
COMMERCIAL CRIME	
Crime/Employee Dishonesty Including 3rd Party Fidelity	\$1,000,000
CYBER LIABILITY	
Breach of Privacy, Security Breach, Denial of Service, Remediation, Fines and Penalties	\$5,000,000
CONTRACTOR'S POLLUTION LIABILITY	
Each Occurrence/Aggregate Limit	\$2,000,000
Includes Non-Owned Disposal Sites	
MANDATORY COI SUBROGATION WAIVER LANGUAGE	
"Workers' Compensation policy shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State of Nebraska."	
MANDATORY COI LIABILITY WAIVER LANGUAGE	
"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 Contractor shall furnish the Procurement Contracts Officer, with a certificate of insurance coverage, via e-mail, complying with the above requirements prior to beginning work at:

State Purchasing Bureau
 Attn: Joy Fischer
 RFP: 6676 Z1
 Email: Joy.fischer@nebraska.gov

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 Contractor to maintain such insurance, then the Contractor 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 Contractor.

H. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CONTRACTOR BREACH

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

If Contractor breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract the Contractor shall immediately give written notice to the State. The notice shall explain the breach or potential breach and may include a request for a waiver of the breach if so desired. The State may, at its discretion, temporarily or permanently waive the breach. By granting a temporary 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.

I. ANTITRUST

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

The Contractor 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.

J. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

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.

K. STATE PROPERTY

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

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

L. SITE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

The Contractor shall use its best efforts to ensure that its employees, agents, and Subcontractors comply with site rules and regulations while on State premises. If the Contractor 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 Contractor.

M. ADVERTISING

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

The Contractor 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.

N. NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY ACCESS STANDARDS (Statutory)

Contractor shall review the Nebraska Technology Access Standards, found at <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/Technology%20Access%20Clause%2020210608%20FINAL.pdf> 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 Contractor'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.

O. DISASTER RECOVERY/BACK UP PLAN

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

The Contractor 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.

P. DRUG POLICY

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

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

Q. WARRANTY

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

Despite any clause to the contrary, the Contractor 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 Contractor shall, for a period of ninety (90) days from performance of the service, perform the services again, at no cost to Customer, or if Contractor is unable to perform the services as warranted, Contractor shall reimburse Customer the fees paid to Contractor 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 Request for Proposal. The Contractor 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 Contractor's equipment which may be installed in a state-owned facility is the responsibility of the Contractor.

C. INVOICES

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

Invoices for payments must be submitted by the Contractor to the agency requesting the services with sufficient detail to support payment. Billing for the captioning services shall be on a monthly basis. Billings must include, but are not limited to, Program Title, Date and Time of Service, Length of Service, Running Totals of Services, and a Grand Total of Services. Hours shall be billed to the nearest quarter hour and not rounded up to the nearest hour. All invoices should be sent to: Accounting@NebraskaPublicMedia.org.

The terms and conditions included in the Contractor'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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

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

E. PAYMENT (Statutory)

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X <u>DK</u> DK			

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 Contractor 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 Contractor prior to the Effective Date of the contract, and the Contractor hereby waives any claim or cause of action for any such services.

F. LATE PAYMENT (Statutory)

The Contractor 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 year 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 Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor's performance of this contract upon a thirty (30) days' written notice. Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor shall make the Information available to the State at Contractor's place of business or a location acceptable to both Parties during normal business hours. If this is not practical or the Contractor so elects, the Contractor 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 Contractor be required to create or maintain documents not kept in the ordinary course of contractor's business operations, nor will contractor be required to disclose any information, including but not limited to product cost data, which is confidential or proprietary to contractor.

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:
X DK			

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 one percent (1%) of the total contract billings, or if fraud, material misrepresentations, or non-performance is discovered on the part of the Contractor, the Contractor 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 Contractor agrees to correct any material weaknesses or condition found as a result of the audit.

V. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Nebraska Public Media (NPM) strives to serve all Nebraska audiences. To meet the needs of a diverse audience and in compliance with federal regulations, NPM distributes accessibility services on nationally distributed content and requires closed captions on all locally content. The purpose of this RFP is to select a qualified contractor to provide Real-Time Captioning Services for gavel-to-gavel coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral (herewith known as "Legislature"), plus all Real-Time Captioning of live broadcast productions of Nebraska Public Media (herewith known as "NPM") and other productions including streaming or web programming, that have short-time turnaround needs plus live program correction and cleanup for re-broadcast. Occasional Spanish captions will be required, necessitating live translation and captioning services from English into Spanish.

B. SCOPE OF WORK

Hours for Legislature coverage are estimated at 700 hours every two (2) years. Years ending in an even number will need approximately 300 hours of Captioning Service and years ending in an odd number will need approximately 400 hours of Captioning Service. The Legislature normally convenes approximately between 9am and 10am CT, Monday through Friday. Times and days will vary throughout the Legislative Session. The Legislature normally recesses for lunch at 12pm CT. Adjournment is normally around 5pm CT but may extend as late as 11:59pm CT towards the end of the Legislative Session.

Hours for NPM coverage are estimated to be 300 hours per year or approximately 600 hours for the initial two (2) year contract period. The times and days needed for the NPM coverage may begin as early as 6am CT and go to as late as 11pm CT, seven (7) days a week. Program lengths may be as short as 15 minutes or as long as 10-14 hours.

For compliance with Federal Communications Commission guidelines, NPM will require live captions to be corrected/cleaned up and re-fed for programs re-airing more than 24 hours after original live broadcast. The time between live and re-broadcast can be as short as 24 hours. Contractor must have the ability to accomplish this task within those time constraints. This type of offline captioning is estimated at 50 hours per year. Hours are estimated and are not guaranteed hours.

Contractor will communicate directly and regularly with NPM representatives for coordination of Captioning and Translation scheduling. Normally, several days to several weeks' notice will be given to the contractor regarding the required captioning needs of either NPM or the Legislature. However, there shall be times when situations arise that only 24 hours or less notice can be given. There may be instances where a minimum of three (3) captioning data feeds will be needed. The contractor must be able to provide a minimum of three (3), live, Real-Time Captioning Services in English and/or Spanish if needed.

All copyrights for the services and transcripts will be entirely held within by either the Legislature or NPM.

C. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

At no additional cost to the State, ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the contractor must contact the appropriate NPM personnel via phone to acknowledge they are ready to begin captioning. Contractor must verify that all equipment and programming is ready, there are no delays, and are ready to receive final instructions from NPM.

Roll-up or scroll-up captioning is the industry standard for real-time productions in a two-line presentation using mixed case lettering. Normally, this is at the bottom of the screen, but the placement of those captions may need to be adjusted due to screen information or graphics. Contractor must have the ability to adjust the placement of the captioning.

The contractor shall provide unedited (raw) transcripts within 24 hours to either the Legislature or NPM when requested. Optional Edited transcripts (transcripts that are corrected for spellings, grammar, and content) shall be billed at the contract price as indicated on the Cost Proposal.

The contractor shall provide live program correction and cleanup for programs for re-broadcast to be determined by NPM.

The Contractor must provide all necessary equipment to provide the Real-Time Captioning Services as a data feed to NPM's current captioning encoders. NPM primarily uses EEG HD492 encoders configured for connection via iCap software, but also maintains Evertz HD9084 caption encoders for use via phone lines when necessary. NPM will provide data connections for the captioning data feed for use with a modem on the EEG HD492 or Evertz HD9084 if necessary. This will also apply to those times when three (3) or more Captioning services are needed. The contractor will not charge long distance fees back to NET or the Legislature.

The Real-Time Captioning Services must be compliant with Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") guidelines as well as the industry standard of EIA-70B and the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"). Real-Time Captioning Services will need to be at the accepted industry standard of 98% verbatim accuracy level or above. Periodic review by NPM may be done and results sent to the contractor.

D. DELIVERABLES

Contractor must be able to provide up to three (3) simultaneous Real-Time Closed Captioning services in multiple languages via IP connection, as well as unedited (raw) transcripts, corrected transcripts, closed caption data files in .CAP and .SRT format as requested/scheduled.

Prices per Cost Proposal.

No additional charge can be made for requests that are requested without an advanced notice.

Optional Edited transcripts must be billed at a rate no greater than amount on Cost Proposal per programing minute. Optional Live Program correction and cleanup for programs to be re-broadcast must be billed at a rate no greater than amount on Cost Proposal.

Form A
Contractor Proposal Point of Contact
Request for Proposal Number 6676 Z1

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

Preparation of Response Contact Information	
Contractor Name:	VITAC Corporation
Contractor Address:	8300 East Maplewood Avenue, Suite 310 Greenwood Village, CO 80111
Contact Person & Title:	Drew Walsh, <i>Strategic Account Director</i>
E-mail Address:	drew.walsh@vitac.com
Telephone Number (Office):	1-(800)-775-7838
Telephone Number (Cellular):	(512) 944-4464
Fax Number:	(724) 514-4111

Each contractor should also designate a specific contact person who will be responsible for responding to the State if any clarifications of the contractor'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	
Contractor Name:	VITAC Corporation
Contractor Address:	8300 East Maplewood Avenue, Suite 310 Greenwood Village, CO 80111
Contact Person & Title:	Drew Walsh, Strategic Account Director
E-mail Address:	drew.walsh@vitac.com
Telephone Number (Office):	1-(800)-775-7838
Telephone Number (Cellular):	(512) 944-4464
Fax Number:	(724) 514-4111

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FORM

CONTRACTOR MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

By signing this Request for Proposal for Contractual Services form, the contractor guarantees compliance with the procedures stated in this Request for Proposal and agrees to the terms and conditions unless otherwise indicated in writing and certifies that contractor maintains a drug free workplace.

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 Contractors. This information is for statistical purposes only and will not be considered for contract award purposes.

_____ NEBRASKA CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT: Bidder hereby attests that bidder is a Nebraska Contractor. "Nebraska Contractor" 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 Request for Proposal.

_____ 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 USING AN INDELIBLE METHOD (OR VIA DOCUSIGN)

FIRM:	VITAC Corporation
COMPLETE ADDRESS:	8300 East Maplewood Avenue, Ste 310, Greenwood Village, CO 80111
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	(724) 514-4043
FAX NUMBER:	(724) 514-4111
DATE:	04/07/2022
SIGNATURE:	 <small>Douglas Karlovits (Apr 7, 2022 14:34 EDT)</small>
TYPED NAME & TITLE OF SIGNER:	Douglas Karlovits, CBDO & GM VITAC

**State of Nebraska (State Purchasing Bureau)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) NUMBER	RELEASE DATE
RFP 6676 Z1	March 10, 2022
OPENING DATE AND TIME	PROCUREMENT CONTACT
April 7, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Central Time	Dianna Gilliland/Joy Fischer

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!
SCOPE OF SERVICE**

The State of Nebraska (State), Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Materiel Division, State Purchasing Bureau (SPB), is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) Number 6676 Z1 for the purpose of selecting a qualified Contractor to provide Real-Time Captioning and Translation Services. 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 Contractor (Parties). The Contract includes the option to renew for three (3) 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 Request for Proposal, 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 Request for Proposal will be posted to the State Purchasing Bureau public website.

These postings will include the entire proposal or response. Contractor must request that proprietary information be excluded from the posting. The contractor 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 contractor 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 discretion, if the interests served by nondisclosure outweighs any public purpose served by disclosure. (See Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05(3)) The Contractor will be notified of the agency's decision. Absent a State determination that information is proprietary, the State will consider all information a public record subject to release regardless of any assertion that the information is proprietary.

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 Request for Proposal 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 Request for Proposal, 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 are a prerequisite for submitting a proposal or response to this Request for Proposal, and award of a contract. Failure to agree to the reservation and waiver will result in the proposal or response to the Request for Proposal being found non-responsive and rejected.

Any entity awarded a contract or submitting a proposal or response to the Request for Proposal 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 Request for Proposal, 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.

Advanced Notice: Communication of service request 24 hours or more before the need for service.

After Receipt of Order (ARO): After Receipt of Order

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 Request for Proposal.

Best and Final Offer (BAFO): In a competitive proposal, the final offer submitted which contains the contractor'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 contractor will not withdraw the bid.

Bidder: A vendor who submits a proposal in response to a written Request for Proposal.

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 Contractor.

Contract Period: The duration of the contract.

Contractor: 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 Request for Proposal.

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 Contractor.

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 Request for Proposal or contract.

Evaluation: The process of examining an offer after opening to determine the contractor'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 Request for Proposals).

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".

Free on Board (F.O.B.) Destination: The delivery charges are included in the quoted price and prepaid by the contractor. Contractor is responsible for all claims associated with damages during delivery of product.

Free on Board (F.O.B.) Point of Origin: The delivery charges are not included in the quoted price and are the responsibility of the agency. Agency is responsible for all claims associated with damages during delivery of product.

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

Installation Date: The date when the procedures described in "Installation by Contractor", and "Installation by State", as found in the Request for Proposal, or contract, are completed.

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

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

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

Licensed Software Documentation: The user manuals and any other materials in any form or medium customarily provided by the Contractor to the users of the Licensed Software which will provide the State with sufficient information to operate, diagnose, and maintain the Licensed Software properly, safely, and efficiently.

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.

National Institute for Governmental Purchasing (NIGP): National Institute of Governmental Purchasing – Source used for assignment of universal commodity codes to goods and services.

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.

Payroll & Financial Center (PFC): Electronic procurement system of record.

Performance Bond: An insurance agreement, accompanied by a monetary commitment, by which a third party (the surety) accepts liability and guarantees that the Contractor 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 Request for Proposal 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.

Program Error: Code in Licensed Software which produces unintended results or actions, or which produces results or actions other than those described in the specifications. A program error includes, without limitation, any Critical Program Error.

Program Set: The group of programs and products, including the Licensed Software specified in the Request for Proposal, plus any additional programs and products licensed by the State under the contract for use by the State.

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 vendor in a response to a written Request for Proposal.

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 Request for Proposal or resultant contract, brought by a contractor 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

Request for Proposal 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 Contractor.

Release Date: The date of public release of the written Request for Proposal 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 Contractor: A contractor who has the capability in all respects to perform fully and lawfully all requirements with integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance.

Responsive Contractor: A contractor who has submitted a proposal which conforms to all requirements of the Request for Proposal 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.

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.

Subcontractor: Individual or entity with whom the contractor enters a contract to perform a portion of the work awarded to the contractor.

System (see Module): Any collection or aggregation of two (2) or more Modules that is designed to function or is represented by the Contractor 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-contractors 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 contractor to distinguish its product from those of others, registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

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 Request for Proposal specifications.

Will: See Mandatory/Shall/Will/Must.

Work Day: See Business Day.

ACRONYM LIST

ARO – After Receipt of Order

ACH – Automated Clearing House

BAFO – Best and Final Offer

COI – Certificate of Insurance

CPU – Central Processing Unit

DAS – Department of Administrative Services

F.O.B. – Free on Board

RFP – Request for Proposal

SPB – State Purchasing Bureau

I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Request for Proposal is designed to solicit proposals from qualified Contractor who will be responsible for providing Real-Time Captioning and Translation Services 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 Request for Proposal. Prospective bidders are expected to carefully examine all documents, schedules, and requirements in this Request for Proposal, and respond to each requirement in the format prescribed. Proposals may be found non-responsive if they do not conform to the Request for Proposal.

B. PROCURING OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF AND EVALUATORS

Procurement responsibilities related to this Request for Proposal reside with State Purchasing Bureau. The point of contact (POC) for the procurement is as follows:

RFP Number: 6676 Z1
Name: Dianna Gilliland/Joy Fischer, Procurement Contract Officers
Agency: State Purchasing Bureau
Address: 1526 K Street, Suite 130
Lincoln, NE 68508
Telephone: 402-471-4193 and 402-471-0974
E-Mail: dianna.gilliland@nebraska.gov and joy.fischer@nebraska.gov

From the Request for Proposal release date until the Intent to Award is issued, communication is limited to the POC listed above. The recipient of the Intent to Award 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 Request for Proposal. The POC will issue any answers, clarifications or amendments regarding this Request for Proposal in writing. Only the SPB or awarding agency can award a contract. No communication or attempt to communicate with or influence any evaluator involved in this Request for Proposal is allowed.

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 Request for Proposal 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.

ACTIVITY	DATE/TIME
1. Request for Proposal Release	March 10, 2022
2. Last day to submit written questions ShareFile link for uploading questions: https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r099ec1faf9b942c6950c96f2aa84d4c7	March 17, 2022
3. State responds to written questions through RFP “Addendum” and/or “Amendment” to be posted to the Internet at: https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html	March 22, 2022
4. Electronic Proposal Opening IT IS THE BIDDER’S RESPONSIBILITY TO UPLOAD ELECTRONIC FILES WITH ENOUGH AMOUNT OF TIME IN CASE OF USER ISSUE OR SOFTWARE ISSUE. ShareFile link to upload RFP response: https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r32fbb5a014dc466db5db9666b5476ce9 Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86375230201?pwd=TEdKVWWhDcml2SzZlUHpjTVlnZU5GZz09 Meeting ID: 863 7523 0201 Passcode: 029258 One tap mobile +16699006833,,86375230201#,,,,*029258# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,86375230201#,,,,*029258# US (Tacoma) Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 863 7523 0201 Passcode: 029258 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kexdEThQzI	April 7, 2022 2:00 PM Central Time
5. Review for conformance to RFP requirements	April 7, 2022
6. Evaluation period	April 7, 2022 through April 13, 2022
7. “Oral Interviews/Presentations and/or Demonstrations” (if required)	To Be Determined
8. Post “Notification of Intent to Award” to Internet at: https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html	April 14, 2022
9. Contract finalization period	April 14, 2022 through April 22, 2022
10. Contract award	April 25, 2022
11. Contractor start date	May 2, 2022

D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of any Request for Proposal provision must be submitted in writing to State Purchasing Bureau and clearly marked "RFP Number 6676 Z1; Real-Time Captioning and Translation Services Questions". The POC is not obligated to respond to questions that are received late per the Schedule of Events.

Vendors should present, as questions, any assumptions upon which the bidder's proposal is or might be developed. Any proposal containing assumptions may be deemed non-responsive. Non-responsive proposal may be rejected. The contract will not incorporate any known or unknown assumptions of a bidder.

Questions should be uploaded using the following ShareFile link: <https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-0099ec1faf9b942c6950c96f2aa84d4c7>

It is recommended that Bidder's submit questions using the following format.

RFP Section Reference	RFP Page Number	Question

Written answers will be posted at <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.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 may 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 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 https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchase_bureau/vendor-info.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 an ethical violation has been committed, 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 Request for Proposal 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 Contractor 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 throughout the Request for Proposal process, and throughout the term of this contract for the Contractor and their subcontractors.

G. DEVIATIONS FROM THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The requirements contained in the Request for Proposal (Sections II thru VI) become a part of the terms and conditions of the contract resulting from this Request for Proposal. Any deviations from the Request for Proposal 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 Request for Proposal, requirements, or applicable state or federal laws or statutes. The State discourages deviations and reserves the right to reject proposed deviations.

H. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The State is accepting electronically submitted responses. The State will not accept proposals by email, voice, or telephone.

Pages may be consecutively numbered for the entire proposal or may 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. The Technical Proposal should not contain any reference to dollar amounts. However, information such as data concerning labor hours and categories, materials, subcontracts and so forth, shall be considered in the Technical Proposal so that the bidder's understanding of the scope of work may be evaluated. The Technical Proposal shall disclose the bidder's technical approach in as much detail as possible, including, but not limited to, the information required by the Technical Proposal instructions.

It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure the response is received electronically by the date and time indicated in the Schedule of Events. No late proposals will be accepted.

It is the responsibility of the bidder to check the website for all information relevant to this RFP 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 RFP 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.

1. Bidders submitting electronic responses must submit responses via ShareFile using the proposal submission link.

Note to bidders: Not all browsers are compatible with ShareFile. Currently Chrome, Internet Explorer and Firefox are compatible. After the bidder clicks the proposal submission link, the bidder will be prompted to enter contact information including an e-mail address. By entering an e-mail address, the bidder should receive a confirmation email confirming the successful upload directly from ShareFile.

ShareFile link for uploading RFP responses:

<https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r32fbb5a014dc466db5db9666b5476ce9>

- a. The Technical, Cost Proposal and Proprietary information should be uploaded as separate and distinct files.
 - i. If duplicated proposals are submitted, the State will retain only the most recently submitted response.
 - ii. If it is the bidder's intent to submit multiple proposals, the bidder must clearly identify the separate submissions.
 - iii. It is the bidder's responsibility to allow time for electronic uploading. All file uploads must be completed by the Opening date and time per the Schedule of Events. No late proposals will be accepted.

b. ELECTRONIC PROPOSAL FILE NAMES

The bidder should clearly identify the uploaded RFP proposal files. To assist in identification the bidder should use the following naming convention:

- i. RFP 6676 Z1, Company Name
- ii. If multiple files are submitted for one RFP proposal, add number of files to file names: RFP 6676 Z1 Company Name, 1 of 2.
- iii. If multiple RFP proposals are submitted for the same RFP, add the proposal number to the file names: RFP 6676 Z1 Company Name Proposal 1 File 1 of 2.

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

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

I. PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS

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

J. 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.

K. PRICES

Prices quoted shall be net, including transportation and delivery charges fully prepaid by the contractor, F.O.B. destination named in the Request for Proposal. 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 submitted in the proposal shall remain fixed and valid commencing on the opening date of the proposal until the contract terminates or expires.

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

L. 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.

M. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Violation of the terms and conditions contained in this Request for Proposal 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.

N. PROPOSAL CORRECTIONS

A bidder may correct a mistake in a proposal prior to the time of opening by uploading a revised and completed proposal if the original proposal was electronically submitted.

1. If a corrected electronic proposal is submitted, the file name(s) date/time stamped with latest date/time stamp will be accepted. The corrected proposal file name(s) should be identified as:
 - a. Corrected 6675 Z1 Company Name Proposal #1 Description of Service, File 1 of 2,
 - b. Corrected 6675 Z1 Company Name Proposal #2 Description of Service, File 2 of 2, etc.

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.

O. LATE PROPOSALS

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

P. PROPOSAL OPENING

The opening of proposals will be public via Zoom and the bidders' names 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 Request for Proposal 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 release (See RFP signature page for further details). Once proposals are opened, they become the property of the State of Nebraska and will not be returned.

Q. 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 manually in ink or by DocuSign,

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.

R. 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 Request for Proposal may result in the rejection of this proposal and further administrative actions.

S. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

All proposals that are responsive to the Request for Proposal 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 Request for Proposal,
 - 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 Request for Proposals 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 Request for Proposals 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 contractor, 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 contractor, 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 Request for Proposal cover page under "Contractor 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 contractor 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 Request for Proposal.

T. 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. Bidder's 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.

U. BEST AND FINAL OFFER

Bidder should provide its best offer with the original proposal response and should not expect the State to request a best and final offer (BAFO).

Every bidder may not be given the opportunity to submit a BAFO. If a BAFO is requested by the State and submitted by the bidder, it 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 BAFO. If requested by the State, the BAFO must be submitted on the BAFO Cost Proposal form. Failure to submit a requested BAFO may result in rejection of the bidder's entire proposal response.

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 Request for Proposal, the bidder grants to the State the right to contact or arrange a visit in person with any or all of the vendor'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 Request for Proposal process, the State of Nebraska may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Amend the Request for Proposal,
2. Extend the time of or establish a new proposal opening time,
3. Waive deviations or errors in the State's Request for Proposal process and in bidder's proposal that are not material, do not compromise the Request for Proposal 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 Request for Proposal,
7. Elect to rebid the Request for Proposal,
8. Award single lines or multiple lines to one or more bidders; or,
9. Award one or more all-inclusive contracts.

The Request for Proposal 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: <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.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: https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/ProtestGrievanceWithGuidance_08042021.pdf

X. 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.

Y. 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 should read the Terms and Conditions and 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 Request for Proposal, 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 reserves the right to reject proposals that attempt to substitute the bidder’s commercial contracts and/or documents for this Request for Proposal.

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 Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

1. The contract resulting from this Request for Proposal shall incorporate the following documents:
 - a. Request for Proposal and Addenda,
 - b. Amendments to the Request for Proposal,
 - c. Questions and Answers,
 - d. Bidder’s proposal (Request for Proposal and properly submitted documents);
 - e. The executed Contract and Addendum One to Contract, if applicable; and,
 - f. Amendments/Addendums to the Contract.

These documents constitute the entirety of the contract.

2. 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:
 - a. Amendment to the executed Contract with the most recent dated amendment having the highest priority,
 - b. Addendum One to the executed Contract,
 - c. The executed Contract and any additional attached Addenda,
 - d. Amendments to Request for Proposal and any Questions and Answers,
 - e. The original Request for Proposal document and any Addenda, and
 - f. The Contractor’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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Contractor 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 electronically, 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. NOTICE (POC)

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 Contractor 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

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

F. AMENDMENT

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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State and the Contractor, upon the written agreement, may make changes to the contract within the general scope of the Request for Proposal. 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 Contractor may not claim forfeiture of the contract by reasons of such changes.

The Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor's proposal, were foreseeable, or result from difficulties with or failure of the Contractor's proposal or performance.

No change shall be implemented by the Contractor 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.

*****Contractor 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 RFP 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 Request for Proposal 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 CONTRACTOR BREACH

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

If Contractor breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract, the Contractor 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 RFP 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 Contractor, the State may contract the service from other sources and hold the Contractor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby. OR In case of breach by the Contractor, 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 contractor. The State may recover from the Contractor 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 Contractor's breach.

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

K. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH

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

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

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

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

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

1. GENERAL

The Contractor 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 Contractor, its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents, resulting from this contract, except to the extent such Contractor liability is attenuated by any action of the State which directly and proximately contributed to the claims.

2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (Optional)

The Contractor 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 Contractor or its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents; provided, however, the State gives the Contractor prompt notice in writing of the claim. The Contractor 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 Contractor has indemnified the State, the Contractor shall, at the Contractor’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 Contractor, and the State may receive the remedies provided under this Request for Proposal.

3. PERSONNEL

The Contractor 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 subcontractor’s and their employees, provided by the Contractor.

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, Contractor 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 RFP 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. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP 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 Contractor retains the right to enter into a sale, merger, acquisition, internal reorganization, or similar transaction involving Contractor's business. Contractor 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 Contractor 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.

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

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

The Contractor 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 Contractor 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.

Q. FORCE MAJEURE

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

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.

R. CONFIDENTIALITY

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP 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.

S. EARLY TERMINATION

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

The contract may be terminated as follows:

1. The State and the Contractor, 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 Contractor. Such termination shall not relieve the Contractor of warranty or other service obligations incurred under the terms of the contract. In the event of termination the Contractor 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. Contractor 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 Contractor or of any substantial part of the Contractor'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 Contractor, its employees, officers, directors, or shareholders,
- e. an involuntary proceeding has been commenced by any Party against the Contractor 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 Contractor has consented, either expressly or by operation of law, to the entry of an order for relief; or (iii) the Contractor has been decreed or adjudged a debtor,
- f. a voluntary petition has been filed by the Contractor under any of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code,
- g. Contractor intentionally discloses confidential information,
- h. Contractor has or announces it will discontinue support of the deliverable; and,
- i. In the event funding is no longer available.

T. CONTRACT CLOSEOUT

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

Upon contract closeout for any reason the Contractor 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 Contractor is permitted to keep the information or data by contract or rule of law. Contractor 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 Contractor's routine back up procedures,
4. Cooperate with any successor Contractor, person or entity in the assumption of any or all of the obligations of this contract,
5. Cooperate with any successor Contractor, 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 Contractor to surrender intellectual property, real or personal property, or information or data owned by the Contractor for which the State has no legal claim.

III. CONTRACTOR DUTIES

A. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR / OBLIGATIONS

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

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

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

The Contractor shall secure, at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under the contract. The personnel the Contractor 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 Contractor'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 Contractor to the contract shall be employees of the Contractor or a subcontractor and shall be fully qualified to perform the work required herein. Personnel employed by the Contractor or a subcontractor to fulfill the terms of the contract shall remain under the sole direction and control of the Contractor or the subcontractor respectively.

With respect to its employees, the Contractor 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 Contractor's employees, including all insurance required by state law,
3. Damages incurred by Contractor'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 Contractor'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 Contractor, its officers, agents, or subcontractors or subcontractor's employees)

If the Contractor intends to utilize any subcontractor, the subcontractor's level of effort, tasks, and time allocation should be clearly defined in the contractor's proposal. The Contractor shall agree that it will not utilize any subcontractors 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 Contractor to reassign or remove from the project any Contractor or subcontractor employee.

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

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

B. EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS

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

The Contractor 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 Contractor is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

1. The Contractor must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/Individual%20or%20Sole%20Proprietor%20United%20States%20Attestation%20Form%20English%20and%20Spanish.pdf>
2. The completed United States Attestation Form should be submitted with the Request for Proposal response.
3. If the Contractor indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Contractor agrees to provide the US Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Contractor's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.
4. The Contractor understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required, and the Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractors of the State of Nebraska, and their Subcontractors, 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 Contractor guarantees compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of contract. The Contractor shall insert a similar provision in all Subcontracts for goods and services to be covered by any contract resulting from this Request for Proposal.

D. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONTRACTORS

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

Contractor may be required to work with or in close proximity to other contractors or individuals that may be working on same or different projects. The Contractor shall agree to cooperate with such other contractors or individuals and shall not commit or permit any act which may interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or individual. Contractor is not required to compromise Contractor'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 RFP 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 Contractor shall obtain and pay for all royalties, licenses, and permits, and approvals necessary for the execution of the contract. The Contractor 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 RFP 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 Contractor 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. Contractor 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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Contractor 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 Contractor shall not commence work on the contract until the insurance is in place. If Contractor subcontracts any portion of the Contract the Contractor must, throughout the term of the contract, either:

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

The Contractor shall not allow any Subcontractor to commence work until the Subcontractor has equivalent insurance. The failure of the State to require a COI, or the failure of the Contractor to provide a COI or require subcontractor insurance shall not limit, relieve, or decrease the liability of the Contractor 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 two (2) years of termination or expiration of the contract, the contractor 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 two (2) years following termination or expiration of the contract.

If by the terms of any insurance a mandatory deductible is required, or if the Contractor elects to increase the mandatory deductible amount, the Contractor 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 Contractor shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract the statutory Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the contractors' employees to be engaged in work on the project under this contract and, in case any such work is sublet, the Contractor shall require the Subcontractor similarly to provide Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the Subcontractor'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 Contractor shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract such Commercial General Liability Insurance and Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance as shall protect Contractor and any Subcontractor 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 Contractor or by any Subcontractor 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 Contractors, 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.

REQUIRED INSURANCE COVERAGE	
COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY	
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 Contractors	Included
Abuse & Molestation	Included
<i>If higher limits are required, the Umbrella/Excess Liability limits are allowed to satisfy the higher limit.</i>	
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	
Employers Liability Limits	\$500K/\$500K/\$500K
Statutory Limits- All States	Statutory - State of Nebraska
USL&H Endorsement	Statutory
Voluntary Compensation	Statutory
COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY	
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
UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY	
Over Primary Insurance	\$5,000,000 per occurrence
PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY	
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
COMMERCIAL CRIME	
Crime/Employee Dishonesty Including 3rd Party Fidelity	\$1,000,000
CYBER LIABILITY	
Breach of Privacy, Security Breach, Denial of Service, Remediation, Fines and Penalties	\$5,000,000
CONTRACTOR'S POLLUTION LIABILITY	
Each Occurrence/Aggregate Limit	\$2,000,000
Includes Non-Owned Disposal Sites	
MANDATORY COI SUBROGATION WAIVER LANGUAGE	
"Workers' Compensation policy shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State of Nebraska."	
MANDATORY COI LIABILITY WAIVER LANGUAGE	
"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 Contractor shall furnish the Procurement Contracts Officer, with a certificate of insurance coverage, via e-mail, complying with the above requirements prior to beginning work at:

State Purchasing Bureau
 Attn: Joy Fischer
 RFP: 6676 Z1
 Email: Joy.fischer@nebraska.gov

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 Contractor to maintain such insurance, then the Contractor 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 Contractor.

H. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CONTRACTOR BREACH

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

If Contractor breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract the Contractor shall immediately give written notice to the State. The notice shall explain the breach or potential breach and may include a request for a waiver of the breach if so desired. The State may, at its discretion, temporarily or permanently waive the breach. By granting a temporary 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.

I. ANTITRUST

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

The Contractor 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.

J. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP 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.

K. STATE PROPERTY

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

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

L. SITE RULES AND REGULATIONS

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

The Contractor shall use its best efforts to ensure that its employees, agents, and Subcontractors comply with site rules and regulations while on State premises. If the Contractor 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 Contractor.

M. ADVERTISING

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

The Contractor 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.

N. NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY ACCESS STANDARDS (Statutory)

Contractor shall review the Nebraska Technology Access Standards, found at <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/Technology%20Access%20Clause%2020210608%20FINAL.pdf> 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 Contractor'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.

O. DISASTER RECOVERY/BACK UP PLAN

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

The Contractor 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.

P. DRUG POLICY

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

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

Q. WARRANTY

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

Despite any clause to the contrary, the Contractor 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 Contractor shall, for a period of ninety (90) days from performance of the service, perform the services again, at no cost to Customer, or if Contractor is unable to perform the services as warranted, Contractor shall reimburse Customer the fees paid to Contractor 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 Request for Proposal. The Contractor 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 Contractor's equipment which may be installed in a state-owned facility is the responsibility of the Contractor.

C. INVOICES

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

Invoices for payments must be submitted by the Contractor to the agency requesting the services with sufficient detail to support payment. Billing for the captioning services shall be on a monthly basis. Billings must include, but are not limited to, Program Title, Date and Time of Service, Length of Service, Running Totals of Services, and a Grand Total of Services. Hours shall be billed to the nearest quarter hour and not rounded up to the nearest hour. All invoices should be sent to: Accounting@NebraskaPublicMedia.org.

The terms and conditions included in the Contractor'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 RFP Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

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

E. PAYMENT (Statutory)

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

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 Contractor 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 Contractor prior to the Effective Date of the contract, and the Contractor hereby waives any claim or cause of action for any such services.

F. LATE PAYMENT (Statutory)

The Contractor 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 year 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 Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor's performance of this contract upon a thirty (30) days' written notice. Contractor 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 Contractor 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 Contractor shall make the Information available to the State at Contractor's place of business or a location acceptable to both Parties during normal business hours. If this is not practical or the Contractor so elects, the Contractor 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 Contractor be required to create or maintain documents not kept in the ordinary course of contractor's business operations, nor will contractor be required to disclose any information, including but not limited to product cost data, which is confidential or proprietary to contractor.

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within RFP 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 one percent (1%) of the total contract billings, or if fraud, material misrepresentations, or non-performance is discovered on the part of the Contractor, the Contractor 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 Contractor agrees to correct any material weaknesses or condition found as a result of the audit.

V. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Nebraska Public Media (NPM) strives to serve all Nebraska audiences. To meet the needs of a diverse audience and in compliance with federal regulations, NPM distributes accessibility services on nationally distributed content and requires closed captions on all locally content. The purpose of this RFP is to select a qualified contractor to provide Real-Time Captioning Services for gavel-to-gavel coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral (herewith known as "Legislature"), plus all Real-Time Captioning of live broadcast productions of Nebraska Public Media (herewith known as "NPM") and other productions including streaming or web programming, that have short-time turnaround needs plus live program correction and cleanup for re-broadcast. Occasional Spanish captions will be required, necessitating live translation and captioning services from English into Spanish.

B. SCOPE OF WORK

Hours for Legislature coverage are estimated at 700 hours every two (2) years. Years ending in an even number will need approximately 300 hours of Captioning Service and years ending in an odd number will need approximately 400 hours of Captioning Service. The Legislature normally convenes approximately between 9am and 10am CT, Monday through Friday. Times and days will vary throughout the Legislative Session. The Legislature normally recesses for lunch at 12pm CT. Adjournment is normally around 5pm CT but may extend as late as 11:59pm CT towards the end of the Legislative Session.

Hours for NPM coverage are estimated to be 300 hours per year or approximately 600 hours for the initial two (2) year contract period. The times and days needed for the NPM coverage may begin as early as 6am CT and go to as late as 11pm CT, seven (7) days a week. Program lengths may be as short as 15 minutes or as long as 10-14 hours.

For compliance with Federal Communications Commission guidelines, NPM will require live captions to be corrected/cleaned up and re-fed for programs re-airing more than 24 hours after original live broadcast. The time between live and re-broadcast can be as short as 24 hours. Contractor must have the ability to accomplish this task within those time constraints. This type of offline captioning is estimated at 50 hours per year. Hours are estimated and are not guaranteed hours.

Contractor will communicate directly and regularly with NPM representatives for coordination of Captioning and Translation scheduling. Normally, several days to several weeks' notice will be given to the contractor regarding the required captioning needs of either NPM or the Legislature. However, there shall be times when situations arise that only 24 hours or less notice can be given. There may be instances where a minimum of three (3) captioning data feeds will be needed. The contractor must be able to provide a minimum of three (3), live, Real-Time Captioning Services in English and/or Spanish if needed.

All copyrights for the services and transcripts will be entirely held within by either the Legislature or NPM.

C. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

At no additional cost to the State, ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the contractor must contact the appropriate NPM personnel via phone to acknowledge they are ready to begin captioning. Contractor must verify that all equipment and programming is ready, there are no delays, and are ready to receive final instructions from NPM.

Roll-up or scroll-up captioning is the industry standard for real-time productions in a two-line presentation using mixed case lettering. Normally, this is at the bottom of the screen, but the placement of those captions may need to be adjusted due to screen information or graphics. Contractor must have the ability to adjust the placement of the captioning.

The contractor shall provide unedited (raw) transcripts within 24 hours to either the Legislature or NPM when requested. Optional Edited transcripts (transcripts that are corrected for spellings, grammar, and content) shall be billed at the contract price as indicated on the Cost Proposal.

The contractor shall provide live program correction and cleanup for programs for re-broadcast to be determined by NPM.

The Contractor must provide all necessary equipment to provide the Real-Time Captioning Services as a data feed to NPM's current captioning encoders. NPM primarily uses EEG HD492 encoders configured for connection via iCap software, but also maintains Evertz HD9084 caption encoders for use via phone lines when necessary. NPM will provide data connections for the captioning data feed for use with a modem on the EEG HD492 or Evertz HD9084 if necessary. This will also apply to those times when three (3) or more Captioning services are needed. The contractor will not charge long distance fees back to NET or the Legislature.

The Real-Time Captioning Services must be compliant with Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") guidelines as well as the industry standard of EIA-70B and the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"). Real-Time Captioning Services will need to be at the accepted industry standard of 98% verbatim accuracy level or above. Periodic review by NPM may be done and results sent to the contractor.

D. DELIVERABLES

Contractor must be able to provide up to three (3) simultaneous Real-Time Closed Captioning services in multiple languages via IP connection, as well as unedited (raw) transcripts, corrected transcripts, closed caption data files in .CAP and .SRT format as requested/scheduled.

Prices per Cost Proposal.

No additional charge can be made for requests that are requested without an advanced notice.

Optional Edited transcripts must be billed at a rate no greater than amount on Cost Proposal per programing minute. Optional Live Program correction and cleanup for programs to be re-broadcast must be billed at a rate no greater than amount on Cost Proposal.

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

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 five (5) 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 Subcontractor 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 Subcontractor has had a contract terminated for default during the past five (5) 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 five (5) 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 five (5) years, so declare.

If at any time during the past two (2) 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 CONTRACTOR'S CORPORATE EXPERIENCE

The bidder should provide a summary matrix listing the bidder's previous projects similar to this Request for Proposal 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 Request for Proposal. These descriptions should include:
 - a) The time period of the project,
 - b) The scheduled and actual completion dates,
 - c) The Contractor'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 Contractor or as a Subcontractor. If a contractor performed as the prime Contractor, 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. Contractor and Subcontractor(s) experience should be listed separately. Narrative descriptions submitted for Subcontractors should be specifically identified as Subcontractor projects.
- iii. If the work was performed as a Subcontractor, the narrative description should identify the same information as requested for the Contractors above. In addition, Subcontractors should identify what share of contract costs, project responsibilities, and time period were performed as a Subcontractor.

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 Request for Proposal. 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 Request for Proposal 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. SUBCONTRACTORS

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

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

2. TECHNICAL APPROACH

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. Attachment A – Technical Requirements.

3. COST PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

This section describes the requirements to be addressed by bidders in preparing the State's Cost Proposal. The bidder must use the State's Cost Proposal. The bidder should submit the State's Cost Proposal in accordance with Section I Submission of Proposal.

THE STATE'S COST PROPOSAL AND ANY OTHER COST DOCUMENT SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY AND IS CONSIDERED A PUBLIC RECORD IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA AND WILL BE POSTED TO A PUBLIC WEBSITE.

a. COST PROPOSAL

This summary shall present the total fixed price to perform all the requirements of the RFP. The bidder must include details in the State's Cost Proposal supporting any and all costs.

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.

b. PRICES

Prices quoted shall be net, including transportation and delivery charges fully prepaid by the bidder, F.O.B. destination named in the RFP. 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.

Form A
Contractor Proposal Point of Contact
Request for Proposal Number 6676 Z1

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

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

Each contractor should also designate a specific contact person who will be responsible for responding to the State if any clarifications of the contractor'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	
Contractor Name:	
Contractor Address:	
Contact Person & Title:	
E-mail Address:	
Telephone Number (Office):	
Telephone Number (Cellular):	
Fax Number:	

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FORM

CONTRACTOR MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

By signing this Request for Proposal for Contractual Services form, the contractor guarantees compliance with the procedures stated in this Request for Proposal and agrees to the terms and conditions unless otherwise indicated in writing and certifies that contractor maintains a drug free workplace.

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 Contractors. This information is for statistical purposes only and will not be considered for contract award purposes.

_____ NEBRASKA CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT: Bidder hereby attests that bidder is a Nebraska Contractor. "Nebraska Contractor" 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 Request for Proposal.

_____ 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 USING AN INDELIBLE METHOD (OR VIA DOCUSIGN)

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

ADDENDUM ONE QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Date: March 22, 2022

To: All Bidders

From: Dianna Gilliland/Joy Fischer, Buyers
AS Materiel State Purchasing Bureau (SPB)

RE: Addendum for Request for Proposal Number 6676 Z1 to be opened April 7, 2022 at 2:00 P.M. Central Time

Questions and Answers

Following are the questions submitted and answers provided for the above-mentioned Request for Proposal. The questions and answers are to be considered as part of the Request for Proposal. It is the Bidder's responsibility to check the State Purchasing Bureau website for all addenda or amendments.

Question Number	RFP Section Reference	RFP Page Number	Question	State Response
1.	Section IV, B-PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK; SCOPE OF WORK	27	For programming that requires clean-up for re-broadcast what program video reference material is provided? How is it made available? What is the required turnaround time for cleaned up files?	The station will upload a .mp4 file of the program to a Signiant Media Shuttle shared portal as soon as the .mp4 transcode finishes, following the program's conclusion. This usually takes 2x of the length of the program (120 minutes to create a 60-minute file), then the proxy is uploaded as soon as they're available. Cleaned files must be delivered within 24 hours of original program airing.
2.	Section V, D-PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK	28	What type of caption output format is the expected deliverable for re-broadcast programs?	Under the current model, files are re-fed in real time via iCap software connected to hardware encoders. This is the preferred method going forward, as sidecar files can't be attached within the existing server for re-broadcast.
3.	Section IV, B-PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK; SCOPE OF WORK	27	In terms of scheduling the daily start time of the legislature, will there always be a hard scheduled start time provided for (e.g. 9am CT or 10am CT) or will the vendor need to have realtime captioners in place and ready to start at 9am CT each day,	The schedule is communicated on a monthly basis with the most current information. As soon as new information or requests come in that differ from the previously agreed

			and then the legislature will start whenever they're convened and ready to begin	upon plans, those are passed on for scheduling ASAP.
4.	V	27	Would the State of Nebraska accept an automated captioning solution which is compatible with iCap software?	No. The services covered by this contract are specifically for live human stenographers.
5.	V	27	Would State of Nebraska accept a scalable semi-automated captioning solution, which is iCap compatible, that is based on a human-plus-tech model that outperforms the quality of standard automated captioning products?	No, refer to Question #4
6.	V	27	Can State of Nebraska provide information on its historical usage of these services? E.g. how many hours were captioned for State of Nebraska in 2021?	In Calendar Year 2021, the following hours were used: Live English: 788 hours Live Spanish: 39 hours English Offline/Cleanup: 59 hours Spanish Offline/Cleanup: 2 hours These numbers include hours for which stenographers were scheduled, but the program was cancelled within 24 hours of production.
7.	V	27	Will there be any components of the contract which requires captioning for post-production/pre-recorded media?	No.
8.	V	27	Who is State of Nebraska's current provider for these services?	Caption Solutions, L.L.C. – 75697 04
9.	Proposal Submission A, b	29	What kind of financial statements do you need? P&L? Blank?	Refer to RFP Section VI.A.1.b. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
10.	Procurement Procedure E	3	Can foreign companies (Lest's say CA) apply for this Solicitation? If so, what additional information is required along with our Bid submission? Business License? SOS Good Standing letter?	Refer to RFP Section I.E. SECRETARY OF STATE/TAX COMMISSIONER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS (Statutory)
11.	Initial Page	1 out of 41	You stated that we must write a written document showing that the release of proprietary information would give a business advantage, in the case of company financials, that is not the case. What should we include on our written document instead? Or would you prefer we add "Confidential" in big red letter across so you know you cannot include that?	Identifying financial statements as "Confidential" is acceptable.

12.	Background	N/A	Is there an incumbent, if so, who is it and what are their rates?	Refer to Question #8.
13.	Background	N/A	Is there a budget allocated to this contract?	Yes.
14.	Background	N/A	Will this be awarded to a single vendor or multiple?	The State's intent is to award to a single bidder, but the State will award in its best interest. Refer to RFP Section I.W. AWARD.
15.	Background	N/A	What was last year's volume for each language?	Refer to Question #6.
16.	SOW; B	27	It states, "there may be instance where a minimum of three (3) caption data feeds will be needed, "please explain what you mean by caption data feeds. Does it mean three separate sessions at the same time?	Yes. For example, one person captioning a sporting event in English, another captioning a studio show in English and another live translating that same studio show in Spanish.

This addendum will become part of the Request for Proposal and should be acknowledged with the Request for Proposal response.