

**State of Nebraska Department of Transportation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES**

RETURN TO:
NE Department of Transportation
PO Box 94759
Lincoln NE 68509-4759
(402) 479-4328

SOLICITATION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE
RFP R209-21	December 21, 2020
OPENING DATE AND TIME	PROCUREMENT CONTACT
January 28, 2021 @ 3:00 p.m. Central Time	Brandy Henke

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!
SCOPE OF SERVICE**

The State of Nebraska (State), Department of Transportation is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) Number R209-21 for the purpose of selecting a qualified Contractor to provide statewide services as a Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) to market and coordinate the Highway Safety Office (HSO) sponsored traffic safety programs to law enforcement agencies in Nebraska. 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 one (1) year commencing upon execution of the contract by the State and the Contractor (Parties). The Contract includes the option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year periods upon mutual agreement of the Parties. The State reserves the right to extend the period of this contract beyond the termination date when mutually agreeable to the Parties.

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

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

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

These postings will include the entire proposal or response. 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 Contractor will be informed. It will be the Contractor's responsibility to defend the Contractor's asserted interest in non-disclosure.

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	ii
GLOSSARY OF TERMS.....	iv
ACRONYM LIST	vii
I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE	1
A. GENERAL INFORMATION.....	1
B. PROCURING OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF AND EVALUATORS	1
C. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	1
D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.....	2
E. SECRETARY OF STATE/TAX COMMISSIONER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS (Statutory).....	2
F. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING.....	2
G. DEVIATIONS FROM THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL	2
H. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS	2
I. PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS	3
J. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL.....	3
K. PROPOSAL CORRECTIONS.....	3
L. LATE PROPOSALS.....	3
M. PROPOSAL OPENING.....	3
N. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS	3
O. EVALUATION COMMITTEE.....	4
P. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS	4
Q. ORAL INTERVIEWS/PRESENTATIONS AND/OR DEMONSTRATIONS	4
R. BEST AND FINAL OFFER.....	5
S. REFERENCE AND CREDIT CHECKS	5
T. AWARD	5
U. ALTERNATE/EQUIVALENT PROPOSALS	5
V. EMAIL SUBMISSIONS	5
W. REJECTION OF PROPOSALS	5
X. RESIDENT BIDDER	5
II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS	7
A. GENERAL.....	7
B. NOTIFICATION	7
C. NOTICE (POC).....	8
D. GOVERNING LAW (Statutory)	8
E. BEGINNING OF WORK.....	8
F. AMENDMENT.....	8
G. CHANGE ORDERS OR SUBSTITUTIONS	8
H. VENDOR PERFORMANCE REPORT(S).....	9
I. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CONTRACTOR BREACH	9
J. BREACH.....	9
K. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH.....	9
L. SEVERABILITY	10
M. INDEMNIFICATION	10
N. ATTORNEY'S FEES.....	10
O. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER.....	11
P. CONTRACTING WITH OTHER NEBRASKA POLITICAL SUB-DIVISIONS OF THE STATE OR ANOTHER STATE	11
Q. FORCE MAJEURE	11
R. CONFIDENTIALITY	11
S. EARLY TERMINATION	12
T. CONTRACT CLOSEOUT	12
III. CONTRACTOR DUTIES	13
A. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR / OBLIGATIONS.....	13

B.	EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS.....	13
C.	COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT / NONDISCRIMINATION (Statutory).....	14
D.	COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONTRACTORS	14
E.	PRICES	14
F.	COST CLARIFICATION.....	14
G.	PERMITS, REGULATIONS, LAWS	14
H.	OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION AND DATA / DELIVERABLES	15
I.	INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS	15
J.	NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CONTRACTOR BREACH	16
K.	ANTITRUST.....	17
L.	CONFLICT OF INTEREST	17
M.	STATE PROPERTY.....	17
N.	SITE RULES AND REGULATIONS.....	17
O.	ADVERTISING	18
P.	NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY ACCESS STANDARDS (Statutory).....	18
Q.	DRUG POLICY	18
R.	WARRANTY	18
IV.	PAYMENT	19
A.	PROHIBITION AGAINST ADVANCE PAYMENT (Statutory).....	19
B.	TAXES (Statutory)	19
C.	INVOICES.....	19
D.	INSPECTION AND APPROVAL	19
E.	PAYMENT (Statutory).....	19
F.	LATE PAYMENT (Statutory).....	20
G.	SUBJECT TO FUNDING / FUNDING OUT CLAUSE FOR LOSS OF APPROPRIATIONS (Statutory).....	20
H.	RIGHT TO AUDIT (First Paragraph is Statutory).....	20
V.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK	21
A.	PROJECT OVERVIEW.....	21
B.	PROJECT ENVIRONMENT.....	21
C.	FEDERAL COST PRINCIPLES	21
D.	COST RECORD RETENTION.....	21
E.	TAX EXEMPTION.....	21
F.	SCOPE OF WORK	21
G.	KEY RESPONSIBILITIES.....	21
H.	LEL QUALIFICATIONS.....	23
I.	NDOT HSO RESPONSIBILITIES	24
J.	REPORTS	24
K.	DELIVERABLES	24
L.	ALLOWABLE COSTS.....	25
M.	DIRECT NON-LABOR COSTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT	25
N.	REIMBURSEMENT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS	25
O.	INVOICE REQUIREMENTS	26
VI.	PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS	27
A.	PROPOSAL SUBMISSION.....	27
	Form A Contractor Proposal Point of Contact.....	29
	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FORM	30

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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

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

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

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

Amendment: A written correction or alteration to a document.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 solicitation.

Cooperative Purchasing: The combining of requirements of two or more political entities to obtain advantages of volume purchases, reduction in administrative expenses or other public benefits.

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.

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 solicitation 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 solicitations).

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

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 solicitation or cannot be evaluated against the other proposals.

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

Mandatory/Must: Required, compulsory, or obligatory.

May: Discretionary, permitted; used to express possibility.

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.

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.

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

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 Contractor/Vendor in a response to a written solicitation

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

Protest/Grievance: A complaint about a governmental action or decision related to a solicitation or resultant contract, brought by a 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 solicitation and in the presence of anyone who wished to attend.

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

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

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

Responsible 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 solicitation document.

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

Should: Expected; suggested, but not necessarily mandatory.

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

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

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

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

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 Subcontractors 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 solicitation specifications.

Vendor: Inclusive term for any Bidder or Contractor

Will: See Mandatory/Shall/Will/Must.

Work Day: See Business Day.

ACRONYM LIST

ACH – Automated Clearing House

BAFO – Best and Final Offer

COI – Certificate of Insurance

DAS – Department of Administrative Services

HSO – Highway Safety Office

LEL – Law Enforcement Liaison

NDOT – Nebraska Department of Transportation

NHTSA – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

NIGP – National Institute for Governmental Purchasing

PA – Participating Addendum

POC – Point of Contact

RFP – Request for Proposal

SPB – State Purchasing Bureau

I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

The solicitation is designed to solicit proposals from qualified Contractor who will be responsible for providing a Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) at a competitive and reasonable cost. Terms and Conditions, Project Description and Scope of Work, Proposal instructions, and Cost Proposal Requirements may be found in Sections II through VI.

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

B. PROCURING OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF AND EVALUATORS

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

Name: Brandy Henke
Agency: Nebraska Department of Transportation
Operations Division
Mailing Address: PO Box 94759
(USPS delivery) Lincoln, NE 68509-4759
Physical Address: 5001 S. 14th Street
(all other deliveries) Lincoln, NE 68512
Telephone: (402) 479-4328
E-Mail: NDOT.OperationsProcurement@nebraska.gov

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

The following exceptions to these restrictions are permitted:

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

The State reserves the right to reject a Contractor'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. Release Solicitation	December 21, 2020
2. Last day to submit written questions	January 8, 2021
3. State responds to written questions through Solicitation "Addendum" and/or "Amendment" to be posted to the Internet at: http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html	January 13, 2021
4. Proposal Opening Location: NE Department of Transportation 5001 S. 14 th Street Lincoln, NE 68512	January 28, 2021 3:00 PM Central Time
5. Review for conformance to solicitation requirements	January 28, 2021
6. Evaluation period	January 29 – February 5, 2021
7. "Oral Interviews/Presentations and/or Demonstrations" (if required)	TBD
8. Post "Notification of Intent to Award" to Internet at: http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html	TBD
9. Contract finalization period	TBD
10. Contract award	TBD
11. Contractor start date	TBD

D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of any solicitation provision must be submitted in writing to Nebraska Department of Transportation and clearly marked "RFP Number R209-21; Law Enforcement Liaison Questions". The POC is not obligated to respond to questions that are received late per the Schedule of Events.

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

It is preferred that questions be sent via e-mail to NDOT.OperationsProcurement@nebraska.gov, but may be delivered by hand or by U.S. Mail. It is recommended that Contractors submit questions using the following format.

Solicitation Section Reference	Solicitation Page Number	Question

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

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

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

F. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING

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

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

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

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

G. DEVIATIONS FROM THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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

H. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Contractors should submit one proposal marked on the first page: "ORIGINAL". If multiple proposals are submitted, the State will retain one copy marked "ORIGINAL" and destroy the other copies. The Contractor is solely responsible for any variance between the copies submitted. Proposal responses should include the completed Form A, "Contractor Proposal Point of Contact". Proposals must reference the RFP number and be sent to the specified address. Please note that the address label should appear as specified in Section I B. on the face of each container or Contractor's proposal response packet. If a recipient phone number is required for delivery purposes, (402) 479-4328 should be used. The RFP number should be included in all correspondence. The State will not furnish packaging and sealing materials. It is the Contractor's responsibility to ensure the solicitation is received in a sealed envelope or container and submitted by the date and time indicated in the Schedule of Events. Sealed proposals must be received in the State Purchasing Bureau by the date and time of the proposal opening per the Schedule of Events. No late proposals will be accepted.

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

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

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

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

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

The Technical and Cost Proposals should be packaged separately (loose-leaf binders are preferred) on standard 8 ½" by 11" paper, except that charts, diagrams and the like may be on foldouts which, when folded, fit into the 8 ½" by 11" format. Pages may be consecutively numbered for the entire proposal or may be numbered consecutively within sections. Figures and tables should be numbered 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 Contractor's understanding of the scope of work may be evaluated. The Technical Proposal shall disclose the Contractor's technical approach in as much detail as possible, including, but not limited to, the information required by the Technical Proposal instructions.

I. PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS

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

J. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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

1. Rejection of a Contractor'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 Contractor from further bidding with the State for the period of time relative to the seriousness of the violation, such period to be within the sole discretion of the State.

K. PROPOSAL CORRECTIONS

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

L. LATE PROPOSALS

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

M. PROPOSAL OPENING

The opening of proposals will be public, and the Contractors 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 Contractor, in accordance with the solicitation and state statute, will not be posted. If the state determines submitted information should not be withheld, in accordance with the [Public Records Act](#), or if ordered to release any withheld information, said information may then be released. The submitting Contractor will be notified of the release and it shall be the obligation of the submitting Contractor to take further action, if it believes the information should not be released. (See RFP signature page for further details) Contractors may contact the State to schedule an appointment for viewing proposals after the Intent to Award has been posted to the website. Once proposals are opened, they become the property of the State of Nebraska and will not be returned.

N. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

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

1. Original Request for Proposal for Contractual Services form signed using an indelible method;
2. Clarity and responsiveness of the proposal;
3. Completed Corporate Overview (Attachment A);
4. Completed Sections II through VI;

5. Completed Technical Approach (Attachment A); and
6. Completed State Cost Proposal (Attachment B).

O. EVALUATION COMMITTEE

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

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

P. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

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

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

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

Neb. Rev. Stat. §73-107 allows for a preference for a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone. When a state contract is to be awarded to the lowest responsible 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 solicitation 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 Contractor from consideration of the preference.

Evaluation criteria weighting will be released with the solicitation.

Q. ORAL INTERVIEWS/PRESENTATIONS AND/OR DEMONSTRATIONS

The State may determine after the completion of the Technical and Cost Proposal evaluation that oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations are required. Every Contractor 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 Contractors 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 Contractors to demonstrate their proposal offering, explaining and/or clarifying any unusual or significant elements related to their proposals. Contractors' 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 Contractor 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 Contractor, but the State reserves the right to refuse or not consider the offered materials. Contractors 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 Contractors regarding the proposals received.

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

R. BEST AND FINAL OFFER

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

S. REFERENCE AND CREDIT CHECKS

The State reserves the right to conduct and consider reference and credit checks. The State reserves the right to use third parties to conduct reference and credit checks. By submitting a proposal in response to this solicitation, the Contractor grants to the State the right to contact or arrange a visit in person with any or all of the Contractor'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.

T. AWARD

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

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

The solicitation does not commit the State to award a contract. Once intent to award decision has been determined, it will be posted to the Internet at: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

Any protests must be filed by a Contractor within ten (10) business days after the intent to award decision is posted to the Internet. Grievance and protest procedure is available on the Internet at: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

U. ALTERNATE/EQUIVALENT PROPOSALS

Contractor may offer proposals which are at variance from the express specifications of the solicitation. The State reserves the right to consider and accept such proposals if, in the judgment of the Materiel Administrator, the proposal will result in goods and/or services equivalent to or better than those which would be supplied in the original proposal specifications. Contractor must indicate on the solicitation the manufacturer's name, number and shall submit with their proposal, sketches, descriptive literature and/or complete specifications. Reference to literature submitted with a previous proposal will not satisfy this provision. Proposals which do not comply with these requirements are subject to rejection. In the absence of any stated deviation or exception, the proposal will be accepted as in strict compliance with all terms, conditions and specification, and the Contractor shall be held liable, therefore.

V. EMAIL SUBMISSIONS

NDOT will not accept proposals by email, electronic, voice, or telephone proposals except for one-time purchases under \$50,000.00.

W. 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.

X. 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

Contractors should complete Sections II through VI as part of their proposal. Contractor is expected to read the Terms and Conditions and should initial either accept, reject, or reject and provide alternative language for each clause. The Contractor should also provide an explanation of why the Contractor rejected the clause or rejected the clause and provided alternate language. By signing the solicitation, Contractor 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 Contractor fail to agree on the final Terms and Conditions, the State reserves the right to reject the proposal. The State of Nebraska is soliciting proposals in response to this solicitation. The State of Nebraska reserves the right to reject proposals that attempt to substitute the Contractor’s commercial contracts and/or documents for this solicitation.

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

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

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

A. GENERAL

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

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

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

These documents constitute the entirety of the contract.

Unless otherwise specifically stated in a future contract amendment, in case of any conflict between the incorporated documents, the documents shall govern in the following order of preference with number one (1) receiving preference over all other documents and with each lower numbered document having preference over any higher numbered document: 1) Amendment to the executed Contract with the most recent dated amendment having the highest priority, 2) executed Contract and any attached Addenda, 3) Amendments to solicitation and any Questions and Answers, 4) the original solicitation document and any Addenda, and 5) the 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 Solicitation 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 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 Contractor 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 Solicitation 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 solicitation. Changes may involve specifications, the quantity of work, or such other items as the State may find necessary or desirable. Corrections of any deliverable, service, or work required pursuant to the contract shall not be deemed a change. The 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.

*****Contractor will not substitute any item that has been awarded without prior written approval of NDOT*****

H. VENDOR PERFORMANCE REPORT(S)

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

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

I. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CONTRACTOR BREACH

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

Either Party may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, if the other Party breaches its duty to perform its obligations under the contract in a timely and proper manner. Termination requires written notice of default and a thirty (30) calendar day (or longer at the non-breaching Party's discretion considering the gravity and nature of the default) cure period. Said notice shall be delivered by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, or in person with proof of delivery. Allowing time to cure a failure or breach of contract does not waive the right to immediately terminate the contract for the same or different contract breach which may occur at a different time. In case of default of the 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 Solicitation 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 Solicitation 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 Solicitation 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. 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 Subcontractors and their employees, provided by the Contractor.

3. 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.

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

N. ATTORNEY’S FEES

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

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

O. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER

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

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

The 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 Solicitation 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 Solicitation 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 Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

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

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

S. EARLY TERMINATION

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

The contract may be terminated as follows:

1. The State and the 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 Solicitation 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 Solicitation 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. Determining the hours to be worked and the duties to be performed by the Contractor's employees; and,
5. 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 Solicitation 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 <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>
2. The completed United States Attestation Form should be submitted with the solicitation 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 solicitation.

D. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONTRACTORS

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation 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. PRICES
 Prices submitted on the cost proposal form shall remain fixed for the first year of the contract. Any request for a price increase subsequent to the first year of the contract shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the previous contract period. Increases will be cumulative across the remaining periods of the contract. Requests for an increase must be submitted in writing to the Nebraska Department of Transportation a minimum of 60 days prior to the end of the current contract period. Documentation may be required by the State to support the price increase.

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

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

F. 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.

G. PERMITS, REGULATIONS, LAWS

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

The contract price shall include the cost of all royalties, licenses, permits, and approvals, whether arising from patents, trademarks, copyrights or otherwise, that are in any way involved in the contract. The 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.

H. OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION AND DATA / DELIVERABLES

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

The State shall have the unlimited right to publish, duplicate, use, and disclose all information and data developed or obtained by the 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.

I. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation 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 one (1) year 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 one (1) year 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. 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
Contractual	Included
Independent Contractors	Included
<i>If higher limits are required, the Umbrella/Excess Liability limits are allowed to satisfy the higher limit.</i>	
COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY	
Bodily Injury/Property Damage	\$1,000,000 combined single limit
Include All Owned, Hired & Non-Owned Automobile liability	Included
UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY	
Over Primary Insurance	\$5,000,000 per occurrence
PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY	
All Other Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions)	\$1,000,000 Per Claim / Aggregate
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."	

2. EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE

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

Nebraska Department of Transportation
Operations Division
Attn: Brandy Henke
PO Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759
NDOT.OperationsProcurement@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.

3. 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.

J. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL CONTRACTOR BREACH

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

K. ANTITRUST

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

L. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

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

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

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

M. STATE PROPERTY

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

N. SITE RULES AND REGULATIONS

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

O. ADVERTISING

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

P. NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY ACCESS STANDARDS (Statutory)

Contractor shall review the Nebraska Technology Access Standards, found at <http://nhtc.nebraska.gov/standards/2-201.html> and ensure that products and/or services provided under the contract are in compliance or will comply with the applicable standards to the greatest degree possible. In the event such standards change during the 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.

Q. DRUG POLICY

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

R. WARRANTY

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative within Solicitation 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 solicitation. 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 Solicitation 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.

Invoices shall be sent to: Nebraska Department of Transportation
 Highway Safety Office c/o William Kovarik
 5001 S. 14th Street
 Lincoln, NE 68512
William.kovarik@nebraska.gov

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 Solicitation Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

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

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

E. PAYMENT (Statutory)

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

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-half of one percent (.5%) 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

The Bidder should provide the following information in response to this solicitation.

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The State of Nebraska, Department of Transportation (NDOT) is issuing this Request for Proposal, RFP Number R209-21 for the purpose of selecting a qualified Contractor to provide statewide services as a Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) to act as the Highway Safety Office's (HSO) primary contact with all Nebraska law enforcement agencies and is responsible for encouraging law enforcement to participate in traffic safety programming initiatives. The LEL will assist with the coordination and implementation of law enforcement mobilization, answer questions from law enforcement, reviews and audits law enforcement participation and provide training as needed.

B. PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

The NDOT Highway Safety Office (HSO) administers a comprehensive highway program encompassing safety, engineering, public involvement and information aimed at reducing the number of motor vehicle crashes, and any resulting injuries and fatalities. The HSO works closely with law enforcement across the state.

An important component of the State's highway safety program involves working with state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies across Nebraska to promote and implement highway traffic safety enforcement and education strategies.

C. FEDERAL COST PRINCIPLES

For performance of services as specified herein, the State will pay the Contractor subject to the terms of this RFP and all requirements and limitations of the federal cost principles contained in the Federal Acquisition Regulations [2 CFR 200](#). This contract is dependent upon federal funding.

D. COST RECORD RETENTION

Contractor shall maintain all books, documents, correspondence, instructions, detailed receipts, accounting records, and other evidence pertaining to the work and costs incurred, and shall make such material available for examination at all reasonable times during the contract period and the three (3) years from the date of the final payment to the Contractor and contract closeout by the State. Such materials must be available for inspection by the State, NHTSA, or any authorized representative of the federal government, and when requested, Contractor shall furnish copies. In addition, the State and each subrecipient will not use [23 U.S.C. Chapter 4](#) grant funds for programs to check helmet usage or to create checkpoints that specifically target motorcycles.

E. TAX EXEMPTION

The State is not required to pay taxes and assumes no such liability as a result of this solicitation. 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.

F. SCOPE OF WORK

The purpose of the Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) is to aid the Highway Safety Office (HSO) through the provision of safety program representation, guidance, marketing, coordination and implementation. Topics will include, but not be limited to, the following: traffic enforcement; occupant protection; child passenger safety seat enforcement; impaired driving deterrence; distracted driving; enforcing underage drinking laws and to support implementation of any additional traffic safety enforcement programs as implemented by the HSO.

This is a high-profile position with workloads that may fluctuate and can be demanding, often with competing priorities. Short deadlines must be met to adequately respond to national initiatives, needs of the state, or local community. May require occasional lifting and transporting of materials, displays, and equipment.

Much of the work is performed outside of the HSO, traveling to various locations throughout the state, sometimes under adverse weather conditions. The Contractor will be required to make onsite visits, conduct fieldwork and make oral presentations, as well as frequent visits to law enforcement facilities and occasional ride-along with law enforcement officers. Contractor may be required to participate in conferences, meetings, and training workshops with overnight travel.

Some out-of-state travel may be necessary. All travel performed under this contract will require the use of a personal vehicle.

It is projected the LEL will work approximately 32 hours per week; this is a best approximation and should not be construed as a set minimum or maximum. The Contractor shall provide an all-inclusive hourly rate for services on Attachment B Cost Proposal Bid Sheet utilizing the estimated hours.

G. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The fundamental, core functions common to this type of service include, but are not limited to, the following subsections.

1. Enforcement Campaigns

- a. Recruit and coordinate law enforcement participation for HSO projects such as the Traffic Safety Enforcement Program (TSEP), all High Visibility Enforcement Campaigns (Click It or Ticket; Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over; U Text, U Drive, U Pay; Buzzed Driving) and other special enforcement campaigns;
- b. Oversee the collection of pre- and post-event data and reports;

- c. Provide guidance on effective checkpoint operations and traffic safety enforcement strategies;
 - d. Provide support for promoting proven highway safety countermeasures, checkpoints, and enforcement strategies;
 - e. Distribute materials and share messaging;
 - f. Assist with organization of law enforcement participation in media events;
 - g. Promote highway safety campaign calendar;
 - h. Provide support as a spokesperson and champion of highway safety program and campaigns;
 - i. Coordinate plans for inter-agency enforcement activities;
 - j. The Contractor shall prepare and maintain sufficient communications tools and processes to keep agencies and the NDOT HSO informed at all times;
 - k. Work closely with the HSO Supervisor who will be responsible for reviewing and obtaining approval for all proposed interventions and access points prior to their introduction (the HSO Supervisor will meet with the LEL on a regular and frequent basis);
 - l. Serve as liaison between the HSO and the Nebraska law enforcement community;
 - m. Work closely with contracted and non-contracted partners to promote traffic safety issues and to make them aware of training and educational opportunities that are available through the HSO supported programs. These would include, but not be limited to, Traffic Occupant Protection Strategies (TOPS), Crash Reconstruction, Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) and Occupant Protection Instructor/Technician training;
 - n. Coordinate with the HSO and the other regional and national LEL's on a plan to promote and support traffic safety strategies to law enforcement agencies within the state;
 - o. Assist with coordination and promotion of current and future traffic safety programming initiatives involving the law enforcement community including Nebraska Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP), DRE Training Coordinator, and the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center;
 - p. Promote traffic law enforcement of DUI and seatbelt laws, aggressive driving and child passenger safety;
 - q. Be available for meetings, discussions, and reviews; will interact with the HSO and the various law enforcement agencies, relaying strategies and feedback of the agencies while soliciting comments from the HSO and its reactions to same; and
 - r. Be available to travel to state, regional and national traffic safety conferences as deemed appropriate by the LEL and/or the HSO.
2. **Subject Matter Expertise, Training & Technical Assistance**
- a. Possess broad array of highway safety product knowledge;
 - b. Possess general knowledge of traffic safety training and programs;
 - c. Coordinate state-level subject matter experts;
 - d. Provide specialized technical assistance to communities, state, and local law enforcement;
 - e. Identify critical elements of priority programs;
 - f. Identify law enforcement equipment needs and monitor HSO equipment;
 - g. Assist in recruiting participants for training (webinars, websites, traffic safety classes);
 - h. Provide training to law enforcement and guidance on effective traffic safety operations and enforcement strategies;
 - i. Maintain resources on traffic safety best practices;
 - j. Assist in the development and promotion of DRE programs;
 - k. Maintain training certifications;
 - l. Participate in meetings and conferences;
 - m. Conduct law enforcement highway safety needs assessments;
 - n. Participate in continuing education training; and
 - o. Utilize and be knowledgeable of tools for networking.
3. **Administrative**
- a. Prepare periodic activity reports;
 - b. Organize and assist with events, training and related reports;
 - c. Coordinate activities with the HSO program manager;
 - d. Organize meetings and draft agendas;
 - e. Collect and analyze data;
 - f. Respond to various inquiries from HSO staff, partners, law enforcement, advocates, citizens, etc.;
 - g. Maintain meeting minutes and notes;
 - h. Provide operational and administrative services which ensure quality and consistency through the State and guarantee compliance with all regulatory requirements;
 - i. Review and audit documents submitted by law enforcement for correctness, completeness and compliance with project parameters; and
 - j. Assist with highway safety program monitoring activities as needed.

4. Marketing & Public Relations

- a. In cooperation with the HSO, coordinate a marketing and recruiting plan that includes statewide law enforcement agencies (Police, Sheriff and University Police) to promote services and programs available and offer expertise in the areas covered under this agreement;
- b. Promote and support highway safety recognition and awards programs;
- c. Ensure law enforcement partners have adequate understanding of High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) strategies, techniques, and communications;
- d. Attend state law enforcement association meetings, i.e.: Sheriffs Association, Chiefs Association, Municipal Law Enforcement Association;
- e. Participate in local highway safety events and activities;
- f. Contribute to and organize law enforcement highway safety information for state communications channels (e.g.: newsletters, websites, social media accounts);
- g. Communicate with law enforcement partners through emails, telephone, and personal contact to promote events and other programmatic activities;
- h. Support and promote law enforcement participation in state highway safety press events;
- i. Provide highway safety information and data to policy makers to educate them regarding the benefits and outcomes resulting from campaign participation;
- j. Draft event press releases as requested; and
- k. Act as a spokesperson for law enforcement activities.

5. Networking & Relationship Building

- a. Provide link and act as point of contact between law enforcement community and HSO;
- b. Facilitate interactions within the highway safety network;
- c. Identify and recruit potential partner organizations;
- d. Develop and manage relationships with partner organizations;
- e. Develop and maintain close working relationships with state Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor(s) and Judicial Outreach Liaison (JOL);
- f. Build relationships with HSO staff, State Department of Transportation, Department of Motor Vehicles, etc.;
- g. Build relationships with local and state police academies;
- h. Provide leadership in traffic safety network and in relationship building;
- i. Participate in National Law Enforcement Liaison Program (NLELP);
- j. Attend monthly HSO staff meetings;
- k. Attend and participate in the Impaired Driving Task Force, Highway Safety Advocates meeting, as well as any other requested by the HSO;
- l. Attend meetings of law enforcement partner organizations; and
- m. Track relationships and networks.

H. LEL QUALIFICATIONS

The LEL shall work with the HSO to help foster a close working relationship between the law enforcement community and the HSO. A qualified LEL should exhibit, but not be limited to the following:

1. Contractor shall be trained and experienced in this type of service with a minimum of five (5) years of experience in traffic control enforcement, and knowledge in traffic safety training and programs;
2. Provide positive representation of the HSO through customer service and support, acting as a goodwill ambassador to positively portray and promote the State's message in person or through written or verbal communication;
3. Experience working as an officer currently or previously within a law enforcement agency;
4. Knowledge of current Nebraska Traffic Safety Laws;
5. Experience establishing, building and maintaining relationships within the law enforcement community;
6. Experience handling multiple tasks and prioritizing projects;
7. Ability to communicate effectively;
8. Well organized, self-motivated and dependable;
9. Instructor/Facilitator experience;
10. Experience utilizing Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Outlook, and other basic computer functions;
11. Possess a broad array of highway safety product knowledge;
12. Maintain training certifications

13. Knowledge of general police methods, practices and procedures;
14. Deep understanding of and commitment to traffic safety programs and issues;
15. Project management, administrative process and procedure, and management abilities;
16. Ability to influence/persuade.
17. Ability to travel in state.
18. Possess a valid State Driver's License.

I. NDOT HSO RESPONSIBILITIES

The Nebraska Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office shall be responsible for the following:

1. The HSO Supervisor is the contract administrator and coordinating liaison to ensure the program is properly staffed and operated in accordance with these specifications.
2. The HSO will conduct news conferences and issue news releases.
3. Prior to acquisition, the HSO must approve any purchase of items not specifically referenced or provided for in these specifications. Any item purchased without prior approval will be at the cost of the Contractor without reimbursement by the HSO.
4. The HSO will provide the following for the Contractor:
 - a. State email accounts to be used for all project communication;
 - b. VPN access to the appropriate portions of the state network;
 - c. Office space
 - 1) The HSO will provide sufficient office accommodations to allow the HSO team members and the LEL to be co-located for on-site work through the contract period. As a part of the contract requirements and at no additional cost to the NDOT, the LEL shall be present in Lincoln, Nebraska, on-site at the designated location provided by NDOT for the duration of the entire contract. *This individual shall be identified/determined and approved by the NDOT.*

Each workspace will include:

- a) Office furnishings (desk, chair, etc.); and
- b) Laptop computer.

The office space will include:

- a) A shared copier/printer/fax machine; and
- b) Standard office supplies

J. REPORTS

The Contractor shall provide the following reports related to the Program Management Plan at no additional cost to the State.

Reports shall be submitted to the HSO on a monthly and annual basis. These reports shall document achievements, results and financial status and progress towards completing contract objectives. The Contractor may be required to prepare and deliver oral status reports at any time during the contract period, as deemed appropriate.

1. Monthly Reports

The Contractor will be responsible for submitting monthly activity reports to the HSO. The reports shall be submitted by the 15th of the next month to the HSO Supervisor in an electronic format approved by the State. The HSO Supervisor shall communicate on a monthly basis (or as needed) to monitor the progress and objectives of the project, and to ascertain that the project is progressing in a timely manner. Monthly reports shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. One (1) paragraph descriptions of any noteworthy accomplishments and/or "success stories" that occurred in that month.
- b. Significant challenges that have occurred which impeded (or are likely to impede) achievement of project tasks, and descriptions of solutions attempted or proposed, and milestones missed, but expected to be achieved.
- c. Summary of the month's contractual activity and accomplishments. The summary should include partnerships and their contribution, enforcement activities, training, and public information and education activities.
- d. Proposed contractual activities for the upcoming month, including any decisions and actions required.
- e. Purchases and expenditures, including labor, materials, equipment, media and related purchases associated with public information and education activities, transportation, lodging and subsistence, conferences or meetings hosted.
- f. Milestones expected to be achieved in the next month and significant activities designed to accomplish them.

2. Annual Reports

The Contractor will be responsible for submitting an annual final report to the HSO. The annual report shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of the annual contract period to the HSO Supervisor in an electronic format approved by the State. The report shall be a comprehensive summary of the accomplishments of the contract year to include yearly activities, the number of agencies that were recruited successfully as safety partners and any other significant activity from the monthly reports. The HSO will furnish the format for the annual report.

K. DELIVERABLES

Contractor shall provide statewide services as a Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) to market and coordinate the Highway Safety Office (HSO) sponsored traffic safety programs to law enforcement agencies in Nebraska at an all-inclusive hourly rate as specified in this RFP and cost proposal bid sheet to the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT).

L. ALLOWABLE COSTS

Payments for services under the resulting contract shall be made based on the all-inclusive hourly rate bid on the submitted cost proposal. Allowable costs shall be considered as the actual hours the Contractor worked directly on the services described herein multiplied by the hourly rate on the Cost Proposal Bid Sheet.

The hours charged under the contract shall be supported by adequate records which clearly indicate the activities completed for the pay period, such as:

1. Description of program services/activities provided;
2. Name(s) of the agencies to which services were provided;
3. Date(s) of service(s)/activities;
4. Any additional supporting information.

M. DIRECT NON-LABOR COSTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Non-labor costs shall be considered as the necessary, actual, and properly documented costs related to completing services/activities under the contract. All costs must be supported by detailed receipts or invoices to be eligible for reimbursement by the HSO.

Direct non-labor costs include:

1. Transportation, mileage, lodging and meals, *subject to the limitations specified below*;
2. Communication costs;
3. Reproduction and printing costs;
4. Special equipment and materials required to complete services as approved by the State;
5. Such other allowable items as approved by the State.

The following non-labor costs will be reimbursed at actual costs; not exceed the rates as shown:

1. Transportation

Automobile rentals, air fares, and taxi/shuttle transportation will be actual reasonable cost and if discounts are applicable, the Contractor shall give the State the benefit of all discounts. Receipts must be submitted with invoices.

2. Mileage

Reimbursement for mileage associated with the use of Contractor owned vehicles will be the prevailing standard rate as established by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) through its Revenue Procedures. Reimbursement for mileage associated with the use of a privately-owned vehicle (POV), is limited to the prevailing standard rate as established by the IRS.

3. Lodging

Reimbursement for lodging rates will be limited to the prevailing standard rate as indicated on the U.S. General Services Administration's (GSA) website @ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/100120>. Contractor shall give the State the benefit of all lodging discounts. Receipts must be submitted with invoices.

4. Meals

Reimbursement for meals will be limited to the prevailing standard rate as indicated on the GSA website noted above. Expenses for alcoholic beverages are not allowed. Contractor shall give the State the benefit of all meal discounts.

For the Contractor and their employees to be eligible for the meal allowance, the following criteria must be met:

Breakfast:

- Contractor is required to depart at or before 6:30 a.m., or
- Contractor is on an overnight travel.

Lunch:

- Contractor must be on overnight travel; no reimbursement for same day travel;
- Contractor is required to leave for overnight travel at or before 11 a.m.; or
- Contractor returns from overnight travel at or after 2:00 p.m.

Dinner:

- Contractor leaves for overnight travel at or before 5:00 p.m.;
- Contractor returns from overnight travel or work location at or after 7:00 p.m.; or
- Contractor is on overnight travel.

Meals are not eligible for reimbursement if the Contractor eats within 20 miles of the headquarters town of the Contractor. Meal receipts must itemize all food and drink purchased; a credit card receipt alone is not sufficient documentation. Reimbursement for meal gratuities/tips will be whatever is usual, or customary, but shall not exceed 20 percent (20%).

N. REIMBURSEMENT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Direct non-labor expenses, other than travel related expenses, must be itemized and provide a complete description of each item billed with supporting receipts and invoices.

Travel related expenses must be itemized and submitted on Exhibit B Invoice Travel Log DR Form 163. Supporting receipts, must be submitted with the form when invoicing for these expenses. The Invoice Travel Log must document the employee name, locations traveled, date/time of departure to the project, date/time of return to the headquarters town, and expenses for transportation, meals, and lodging. Any item billed without a receipt will not be reimbursed. Final claim for reimbursement shall be due within thirty (30) days after the contract period ends.

O. INVOICE REQUIREMENTS

Each invoice submitted shall include a completed Cost Breakdown DR Form 162a (Exhibit A) and, if the invoice contains any travel related expenses, a completed Invoice Travel Log DR Form 163 (Exhibit B) shall also be included. Upon approval by State, Contractor may use a substitute Invoice Travel Log provided it documents substantially the same information as Exhibit B Invoice Travel Log DR Form 163. Contractor shall not substitute any form without prior approval of the NDOT.

VI. PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

This section documents the requirements that should be met by Contractors in preparing the Technical and Cost Proposal. Contractors 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. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FORM

By signing the "RFP for Contractual Services" form, the bidder guarantees compliance with the provisions stated in this RFP, agrees to the Terms and Conditions stated in this RFP unless otherwise agreed to, and certifies bidder maintains a drug free workplace environment, and will comply with State and Federal seat belt laws.

The RFP for Contractual Services form should be signed using an indelible method (not electronically) and returned per the schedule of events in order to be considered for an award.

Bidders must utilize the Bidder Requirements Response Matrix (Attachment A) which shall be used to respond. Further, Sections II through VI must be completed and returned with the proposal response.

2. CORPORATE OVERVIEW

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

a. CONTRACTOR IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION

The Contractor should provide their full name, address, entity organization (corporation, partnership, proprietorship if applicable), state in which the Contractor is able to do business, and year in which the Contractor first organized to do business.

b. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Contractor 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.

c. RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STATE

The Contractor should describe any dealings with the State over the previous five (5) years. If the organization, its predecessor, or any Party named in the Contractor's proposal response has contracted with the State, the Contractor should identify the contract number(s) and/or any other information available to identify such contract(s). If no such contracts exist, so declare.

d. CONTRACTOR'S EMPLOYEE RELATIONS TO STATE

If any Party named in the Contractor's proposal response is or was an employee of the State within the past five (5) months, identify the individual(s) by name, State agency with whom employed, job title or position held with the State, and separation date. If, after review of this information by the State, it is determined that a conflict of interest exists or may exist, the Contractor may be disqualified from further consideration in this proposal. If no such relationship exists or has existed, so declare.

e. CONTRACT PERFORMANCE

If the Contractor 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 Contractor's non-performance or poor performance, and the issue was either not litigated due to inaction on the part of the Contractor or litigated and such litigation determined the Contractor to be in default.

It is mandatory that the Contractor 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 Contractor's position on the matter. The State will evaluate the facts and will score the Contractor's proposal accordingly. If no such termination for default has been experienced by the Contractor in the past five (5) years, so declare.

If at any time during the past five (5) years, the Contractor 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.

f. SUMMARY OF CONTRACTOR'S EXPERIENCE

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

The Contractor should address the following:

1) Provide narrative descriptions to highlight the similarities between the Contractor's experience and this solicitation. These descriptions should include:

- a) The time period of the project;
- b) The scheduled and actual completion dates;
- c) The 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.

g. SUMMARY OF CONTRACTOR'S PROPOSED MANAGEMENT APPROACH

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

The Contractor should provide a resume. The State will consider the resume as a key indicator of the Contractor's understanding of the skill mixes required to carry out the requirements of the solicitation in addition to assessing the experience of the specific individual.

Resume should not be longer than three (3) pages. Resume 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.

3. TECHNICAL APPROACH

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

- a. Understanding of the project requirements;
- b. Project management approach;
- c. Technical considerations; and
- d. LEL Qualifications.

Form A
Contractor Proposal Point of Contact
Request for Proposal Number R209-21

Form A should be completed and submitted with each response to this solicitation. 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 Solicitation and agrees to the terms and conditions unless otherwise indicated in writing and certifies that Contractor maintains a drug free workplace, and will comply with all State and Federal seat belt laws.

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 Solicitation.

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

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

FORM MUST BE SIGNED USING AN INDELIBLE METHOD (NOT ELECTRONICALLY)

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