

**State of Nebraska Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

RETURN TO:
Name: Mike Yates
Address: 3977 Air Park Road
City/State/Zip Lincoln, NE 68524
Phone: 402-471-8824

SOLICITATION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE
RFI 8824	January 22, 2024
OPENING DATE AND TIME	PROCUREMENT CONTACT
February 12, 2024 2:00 p.m. Central Time	Mike Yates

This form is part of the specification package and must be signed in ink and returned, along with information documents, by the opening date and time specified.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

SCOPE OF SERVICE

The State of Nebraska (State), Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory, is issuing this Request for Information RFI 8824 for the purpose of gathering information to Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) Quote for Instrument, Reagents and Service.

Written questions are due no later than January 29, 2024, and should be submitted via e-mail to Mike.Yates@Nebraska.gov Written questions may also be sent by email to: Mike.Yates@Nebraska.gov

Bidder should submit one (1) original of the entire RFI response. RFI responses should be submitted by the RFI due date and time.

Sealed RFI responses should be received at Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory by the date and time of RFI opening indicated above.

BIDDER MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

By signing this Request For Information form, the bidder guarantees compliance with the provisions stated in this Request for Information.

FIRM: _____

COMPLETE ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

TYPED NAME & TITLE OF SIGNER: _____

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I. SCOPE OF THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The State of Nebraska, Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory, is issuing this Request for Information, RFI 8824 for the purpose of gathering information to Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELIZA) Quote for Instrument, Reagents and Service.

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

A. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The State expects to adhere to the tentative procurement schedule shown below. It should be noted, however, that some dates are approximate and subject to change.

ACTIVITY		DATE/TIME
1	Release Request for Information	January 22, 2024
2	Last day to submit written questions	January 29, 2024
3	State responds to written questions through Request for Information "Addendum" and/or "Amendment" to be posted to the internet at: http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html	February 1, 2024
4	RFI opening Location: Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory 3977 Air Park Road Lincoln, NE. 68524	February 12, 2024 2:00 PM Central Time
5	Conduct oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations	To Be Determined

II. RFI RESPONSE PROCEDURES

A. OFFICE AND CONTACT PERSON

Responsibilities related to this Request for Information reside with the State Purchasing Bureau. The point of contact for the RFI is as follows:

Name: Mike Yates
Agency: Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory
Address: 3977 Air Park Road
Lincoln, NE. 68524
Telephone: (402) 471-8824
E-Mail: Mike.Yates@Nebraska.gov

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

A subsequent Request for Proposal (RFP) may not be issued as a result of this RFI. There will not be a contract as a result of this RFI and the State is not liable for any cost incurred by vendors in replying to this RFI. If an RFP is issued, the information provided will assist the State of Nebraska in developing the Request for Proposal. This RFI does not obligate the State to reply to the RFI responses, to issue an RFP, or to include any RFI provisions or responses provided by vendors in any RFP.

C. COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF

From the date the Request for Information is issued and until RFI opening (as shown in the Schedule of Events), contact regarding this RFI between potential vendors and individuals employed by the State should be restricted to written communication with the staff designated above as the point of contact for this Request for Information.

The following exceptions to these restrictions are permitted:

1. Written communication with the person(s) designated as the point(s) of contact for this Request for Information;
2. contacts made pursuant to any pre-existing contracts or obligations; and
3. State-requested presentations, key personnel interviews, clarification sessions, or discussions.

Violations of these conditions may be considered sufficient cause to reject a vendor's response to the RFI. No individual member of the State, employee of the State, or member of the Interview Committee is empowered to make binding statements regarding this RFI. The State of Nebraska will issue any clarifications or opinions regarding this RFI in writing.

D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Any explanation desired by a vendor regarding the meaning or interpretation of any Request for Information provision should be submitted in writing to the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory and clearly marked "RFI Number 8824; Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay Instrument (ELIZA) Quote for Instrument, Reagents and Service Questions". It is preferred that questions be sent via e-mail to Mike.Yates@Nebraska.gov

It is recommended that Bidders submit questions sequentially numbered, include the RFI reference and page number using the following format.

Question Number	RFI Section Reference	RFI Page Number	Question

Written answers will be provided through an addendum to be posted on the Internet at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html> on or before the date shown in the Schedule of Events.

E. ORAL INTERVIEWS/PRESENTATIONS AND/OR DEMONSTRATIONS

The Review Committee(s) may conclude that oral interviews/presentations and/or demonstrations are required. All vendors may not have an opportunity to interview/present and/or give demonstrations. The presentation process will allow the vendors to demonstrate their RFI offering, explaining and/or clarifying any unusual or significant elements related to their response.

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

F. SUBMISSION OF RESPONSE

The following describes the requirements related to the RFI submission, handling and review by the State.

To facilitate the response review process, one (1) original of the entire RFI response should be submitted. RFI responses should be submitted by the RFI due date and time.

A separate sheet must be provided that clearly states which sections have been submitted as proprietary or have copyrighted materials. RFI responses should reference the request for information number and be sent to the specified address. Please note that the address label should appear as specified on the face of each container. If a recipient phone number is required for delivery purposes, 402-471-8824 should be used. The Request for Information number must be included in all correspondence.

G. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

Data contained in the response and all documentation provided therein, become the property of the State of Nebraska and the data become public information upon opening the response. If the vendor wishes to have any information withheld from the public, such information must fall within the definition of proprietary information contained within Nebraska's public record statutes. All proprietary information the vendor wishes the state to withhold must be submitted in a sealed package, which is separate from the remainder of the response. The separate package must be clearly marked PROPRIETARY on the outside of the package. Vendor may not mark their entire Request for Information as proprietary. Failure of the vendor to follow the instructions for submitting proprietary and copyrighted information may result in the information being viewed by other vendors and the public. 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 serve no public purpose (see Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05(3)). In accordance with Attorney General Opinions 92068 and 97033, vendors submitting information as proprietary may be required to prove specific, named competitor(s) who would be advantaged by release of the information and the specific advantage the competitor(s) would receive. Although every effort will be made to withhold information that is properly submitted as proprietary and meets the State's definition of proprietary information, the State is under no obligation to maintain the confidentiality of proprietary information and accepts no liability for the release of such information.

H. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION OPENING

The sealed responses will be publicly opened and the responding entities announced on the date, time, and location shown in the Schedule of Events.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK

The bidder should provide the following information in response to this Request for Information.

- A. Quote for cost of Instrument, to include all shipping and handling charges, cost of hardware, software and onsite customer familiarization/training. Also to include onsite assay setup in software. Cost of hardware, software, computer, printer, installation, customer familiarization, warranty, reagent kits for drugs/metabolites.**
- B. Quote for cost of listed reagents to include cost of necessary and optional consumables (whether equipment, chemicals, or reagents (e.g., “stop reagent” or “color developing” reagent, etc.).**
- C. Separate quote for cost of a service agreement following the expiration of any warranty is required. Service agreement shall explicitly state what services are included (e.g., whether onsite repair is included, what parts are covered within the agreement, etc.).**

See attachments for REQUIRED Instrument and Reagent Specifications.

Required Instrument Specifications

Toxicology casework screening instrumentation MUST meet the following criteria:

- The basic detection technology must be enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).
- The system must be able to analyze both blood and urine samples.
- Hardware and software must be designed to be used with ELISA immunoassay reagents that can detect drugs of abuse as well as pharmaceutical drugs known to cause central nervous system impairment.
 - At a minimum, the system must be able to detect the drugs / metabolites at the concentrations provided for each sample matrix that are described in Table 1 (at end of document).
- System must be capable of producing semi-quantitative results with ELISA immunoassay kits.
- System must be capable of semi-automated liquid handling, at a minimum.
- System must be capable of providing hardcopy calibration, quality control, and sample data.
- Vendor must provide onsite installation of hardware and software, and onsite customer familiarization / training. It is preferred that the vendor assist with on-site assay set-up in the software.
- Quotes shall include the cost of hardware, software, computer, printer, installation, customer familiarization, warranty/warranties, shipping and handling, and reagent kits for drugs / metabolites listed in Table 1.
 - Shipping and Handling shall be FOB.
 - The vendor may assume a caseload of approximately 500 cases per year when pricing reagents.
 - It is preferred that information be provided regarding the cost of necessary and optional consumables (whether equipment, chemicals, or reagents [e.g., “stop reagent,” or “color developing reagent,” etc.]).
- Technical support must be readily available via phone and email. When necessary, it is preferred that onsite technical support be provided.
- Warranty conditions shall be explicitly stated, e.g., whether onsite repair is included, what parts are covered by the warranty, etc.
- A quote for the cost of (a) service contract(s) following the expiration of any warranty / warranties is required.
- Service contract(s) shall explicitly state what services are included, e.g., whether onsite repair is included, what parts are covered by the service contract, etc.
- Vendor shall comply with State of Nebraska Purchasing Requirements.

REQUIRED INSTRUMENT REAGENT SPECIFICATIONS

Table 1. Available immunoassay reagents should enable the detection of the following drugs at the given concentrations (or lower) for the specified sample matrix / matrices:

Drug / Metabolite	Detectable Concentration
<i>Cannabinoids</i> • Carboxy-THC	• Blood: 10 ng/mL • Urine: 20 ng/mL
<i>CNS Stimulants</i> • Amphetamine • Methamphetamine • MDMA • MDA	• Blood: 20 ng/mL • Urine: 200 ng/mL
<i>CNS Stimulants</i> • Benzoylcegonine	• Blood: 50 ng/mL • Urine: 200 ng/mL
<i>CNS Depressants</i> • Carisoprodol	• Blood and Urine: 1000 ng/mL
<i>CNS Depressants</i> • Zolpidem	• Blood: 10 ng/mL • Urine: 20 ng/mL
<i>CNS Depressants</i> • Alprazolam • Clonazepam • Lorazepam • Diazepam • Oxazepam • Temazepam	• Blood: 80 ng/mL • Urine: 150 ng/mL
<i>CNS Depressants</i> • Secobarbital	• Blood and Urine: 200 ng/mL
<i>Narcotic analgesics</i> • Morphine • Codeine • Hydrocodone	• Blood: 10 ng/mL • Urine: 200 ng/mL
<i>Narcotic analgesics</i> • Oxycodone	• Blood: 10 ng/mL • Urine: 100 ng/mL
<i>Narcotic analgesics</i> • Methadone	• Blood: 50 ng/mL • Urine: 300 ng/mL
<i>Narcotic analgesics</i> • Fentanyl	• Blood and Urine: 1 ng/mL
<i>Narcotic analgesics</i> • Buprenorphine	• Blood: 1 ng/mL • Urine: 5 ng/mL
<i>Narcotic analgesics</i> • Tramadol	• Blood: 50 ng/mL • Urine: 200 ng/mL
<i>Dissociative anesthetics</i> • Phencyclidine	• Blood and Urine: 5 ng/mL

Form A

Vendor Contact Sheet

Request for Information Number 8824

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

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

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