

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS)

Invitation for Bids #: 50-2425014

EMS, Fire & Rescue Equipment and Supplies Additional Manufacturers

Date of Issue: April 25, 2025

Bid Opening Date 2:00 PM, May 27, 2025

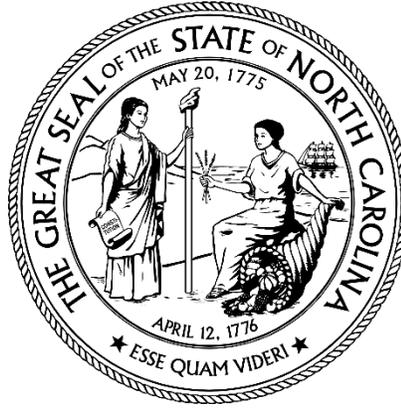
Direct all inquiries concerning this IFB to:

Grant F. Braley

Director of Procurement & Auxiliary Services

Email: braleyg@ncccommunitycolleges.edu

Phone: (919) 807-7199



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Invitation for Bids

50-2425014

For internal State agency processing, including tabulation of bids, provide your company's eVP (Electronic Vendor Portal) Number. Pursuant to G.S. 132-1.10(b) this identification number shall not be released to the public. **This page will be removed and shredded, or otherwise kept confidential**, before the procurement file is made available for public inspection.

**This page shall be filled out and returned with your bid.
Failure to do so may subject your bid to rejection.**

Vendor Name

Vendor eVP#

Note: For a contract to be awarded to you, your company (you) must be a North Carolina registered vendor in good standing. You must enter the vendor number assigned through eVP (Electronic Vendor Portal). If you do not have a vendor number, register at <https://vendor.ncgov.com/vendor/login>

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS)

Refer <u>ALL</u> Inquiries regarding this IFB to: The procurement lead through the Message Board in the Sourcing Tool. See section 2.5 for details:	Invitation for Bids #: 50-2425014
	Bids will be publicly opened: 2:00 PM EST, May 27, 2025
Using Agency: NCCCS	Commodity No. and Description: 46161700 – Rescue Equipment & Accessories
Requisition No.: N/a	

EXECUTION

In compliance with this Invitation for Bids (IFB), and subject to all the conditions herein, the undersigned Vendor offers and agrees to furnish and deliver any or all items upon which prices are bid, at the prices set opposite each item within the time specified herein.

By executing this bid, the undersigned Vendor understands that false certification is a Class I felony and certifies that:

- this bid is submitted competitively and without collusion (G.S. 143-54),
- that none of its officers, directors, or owners of an unincorporated business entity has been convicted of any violations of Chapter 78A of the General Statutes, the Securities Act of 1933, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (G.S. 143-59.2), and
- it is not an ineligible Vendor as set forth in G.S. 143-59.1.

Furthermore, by executing this bid, the undersigned certifies to the best of Vendor’s knowledge and belief, that:

- it and its principals are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal or State department or agency.

As required by G.S. 143-48.5, the undersigned Vendor certifies that it, and each of its sub-Contractors for any Contract awarded as a result of this IFB, complies with the requirements of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the NC General Statutes, including the requirement for each employer with more than 25 employees in North Carolina to verify the work authorization of its employees through the federal E-Verify system.

As required by Executive Order 24 (2017), the undersigned vendor certifies will comply with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and that it does not and will not discriminate, harass, or retaliate against any employee in connection with performance of any Contract arising from this solicitation.

G.S. 133-32 and Executive Order 24 (2009) prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee associated with the preparing plans, specifications, estimates for public Contract; or awarding or administering public Contracts; or inspecting or supervising delivery of the public Contract of any gift from anyone with a Contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of this bid response to the IFB, the undersigned certifies, for Vendor’s entire organization and its employees or agents, that Vendor are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees or agents of Vendor’s organization.

By executing this bid, Vendor certifies that it has read and agreed to the **INSTRUCTION TO VENDORS** and the **NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS incorporated below**. These documents can be accessed from the Ariba Sourcing Tool.

Failure to execute/sign bid prior to submittal may render bid invalid and it MAY BE REJECTED. Late bids cannot be accepted.

COMPLETE/FORMAL NAME OF VENDOR:		
STREET ADDRESS:	P.O. BOX:	ZIP:
CITY & STATE & ZIP:	TELEPHONE NUMBER:	TOLL FREE TEL. NO:
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE (SEE INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS ITEM #21):		
PRINT NAME & TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING ON BEHALF OF VENDOR:		FAX NUMBER:
VENDOR’S AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:	DATE:	E-MAIL:

Bid Number: 50-2425014

Vendor: _____

VALIDITY PERIOD

Offer shall be valid for at least 180 days from date of bid opening, unless otherwise stated here: _____ days, or if extended by mutual agreement in writing of the parties. Any withdrawal of this offer shall be made in writing, effective upon receipt by the agency issuing this IFB.

BID ACCEPTANCE

If your bid is accepted, all provisions of this IFB, along with the written results of any negotiations, shall constitute the written agreement between the parties ("Contract"). The NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS are incorporated herein and shall apply. Depending upon the Goods or Services being offered, other terms and conditions may apply, as mutually agreed.

FOR STATE USE ONLY: Offer accepted and Contract awarded this ____ day of _____, 20____, as indicated on the attached certification, by _____
(Authorized Representative of NCCCS)

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1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) through coordination with the North Carolina Community College System Office (NCCCSO) aids and guides in creating contracts to ensure more competitive pricing by procuring essential products and services for the 58 Community Colleges within the State of North Carolina.

The North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) is seeking qualified Vendors to co-term with the established Agency Specific Term Contract 50-2324009, in order to furnish, deliver and install a comprehensive multiple manufacturer’s product line for NEW, unused and in current production EMS, Fire and Rescue Equipment & Supplies on an “As Needed” basis, if and when ordered by the community colleges during the contract period in the following categories:

- Category A: EMS Equipment & Supplies
- Category B: Fire Equipment & Supplies
- Category C: Rescue Extraction Equipment

The EMS, Fire and Rescue Equipment & Supplies shall be for additional manufacturers not previously included in the current Contract # 50-2324009 - Rescue Equipment & Supplies

The contract resulting from this IFB is a convenience except under the conditions specified in [G.S. §115D-58.14\(a\)](#). The Community College System consists of the following colleges:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Alamance Community College | 30. Martin Community College |
| 2. Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College | 31. Mayland Community College |
| 3. Beaufort County Community College | 32. McDowell Technical Community College |
| 4. Bladen Community College | 33. Mitchell Community College |
| 5. Blue Ridge Community College | 34. Montgomery Community College |
| 6. Brunswick Community College | 35. Nash Community College |
| 7. Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute | 36. Pamlico Community College |
| 8. Cape Fear Community College | 37. Piedmont Community College |
| 9. Carteret Community College | 38. Pitt Community College |
| 10. Catawba Valley Community College | 39. Randolph Community College |
| 11. Central Carolina Community College | 40. Richmond Community College |
| 12. Central Piedmont Community College | 41. Roanoke-Chowan Community College |
| 13. Cleveland Community College | 42. Robeson Community College |
| 14. Coastal Carolina Community College | 43. Rockingham Community College |
| 15. College of The Albemarle | 44. Rowan-Cabarrus Community College |
| 16. Craven Community College | 45. Sampson Community College |
| 17. Davidson-Davie Community College | 46. Sandhills Community College |
| 18. Durham Technical Community College | 47. South Piedmont Community College |
| 19. Edgecombe Community College | 48. Southeastern Community College |
| 20. Fayetteville Technical Community College | 49. Southwestern Community College |
| 21. Forsyth Technical Community College | 50. Stanly Community College |
| 22. Gaston College | 51. Surry Community College |
| 23. Guilford Technical Community College | 52. Tri-County Community College |
| 24. Halifax Community College | 53. Vance-Granville Community College |
| 25. Haywood Community College | 54. Wake Technical Community College |
| 26. Isothermal Community College | 55. Wayne Community College |
| 27. James Sprunt Community College | 56. Western Piedmont Community College |
| 28. Johnston Community College | 57. Wilkes Community College |
| 29. Lenoir Community College | 58. Wilson Community College |

1.1 CONTRACT TERM

The Contract shall have an initial term of **Date of Award through September 13, 2027**. Additional manufacturers will be added to the existing Agency Specific Term Contract for **Rescue Equipment & Supplies # 50-2324009**. Bids shall be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this IFB and any addenda issued hereto.

2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Questions or issues related to using the Sourcing Tool itself can be directed to the North Carolina eProcurement Help Desk at 888-211-7440, Option 2. Help Desk representatives are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM ET to 5:00 PM ET.

2.1 INVITATION FOR BID DOCUMENT

The IFB is comprised of the base IFB document, any attachments, and any addenda released before Contract award, which are incorporated herein by reference.

2.2 E-PROCUREMENT FEE

ATTENTION: This is an NC eProcurement solicitation facilitated by the Ariba Network. The E-Procurement fee may apply to this solicitation. See paragraph entitled ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT of the North Carolina General Terms and Conditions.

General information on the E-Procurement Services can be found at: <http://eprocurement.nc.gov/>.

What is the Ariba Network?

The Ariba Network is a web-based platform that serves as a connection point for buyers and vendors. Vendors can log in to the Ariba Network to view purchase orders, respond to electronic requests for quotes, participate in Sourcing Events, and collaborate with buyers on contract documents.

For training on how to use the Sourcing Tool to view solicitations, submit questions, develop responses, upload documents, and submit offers to the State, Vendors should go to the following site: <http://eprocurement.nc.gov/training/vendor-training>.

2.3 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING IFB TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It shall be the Vendor's responsibility to read the Instructions to Vendors, the North Carolina General Terms and Conditions, all relevant exhibits and attachments, and any other components made a part of this IFB and comply with all requirements and specifications herein. Vendors also are responsible for obtaining and complying with all Addenda and other changes that may be issued in connection with this IFB.

If Vendors have questions, or issues regarding any component within this IFB, those must be submitted as questions in accordance with the instructions in the BID QUESTIONS Section. If the State determines that any changes will be made as a result of the questions asked, then such decisions will be communicated in the form of an IFB addendum. The State may also elect to leave open the possibility for later negotiation and amendment of specific provisions of the Contract that have been addressed during the question-and-answer period.

Other than through the process of negotiations under 01 NCAC 05B.0503, the State rejects and will not be required to evaluate or consider any additional or modified terms and conditions submitted with Vendor's bid. This applies to any language appearing in or attached to the document as part of the Vendor's bid that purports to vary any terms and conditions or Vendors' instructions herein or to render the bid non-binding or subject to further negotiation. Vendor's bid shall constitute a firm offer that shall be held open for the period required herein ("Validity Period" above).

The State may exercise its discretion to consider Vendor proposed modifications. By execution and delivery of this IFB Response, the Vendor agrees that any additional or modified terms and conditions, whether submitted purposely or inadvertently, shall have no force or effect, and will be disregarded unless expressly agreed to during negotiations and incorporated by way of a Best and Final Offer (BAFO). Noncompliance with, or any attempt to alter or delete, this paragraph shall constitute sufficient grounds to reject Vendor's bid as non-responsive.

2.4 IFB SCHEDULE

The table below shows the *intended* schedule for this IFB. The State will make every effort to adhere to this schedule.

Event	Responsibility	Date and Time
Issue IFB	State	April 25, 2025
Submit Written Questions	Vendor	May 7, 2025 at 2:00 PM EST
Provide Responses to Questions	State	May 13, 2025, 2025
Submit Bids	Vendor	May 27, 2025 at 2:00 PM ET The Public Bid Opening will be held virtually. To access the bid opening please follow the Microsoft Teams link ; Click here to join the meeting
Contract Award	State	TBD
Contract Effective Date	State	TBD

2.5 BID QUESTIONS

Upon review of the IFB documents, Vendors may have questions to clarify or interpret the IFB in order to submit the best bid possible. To accommodate the Bid Questions process, Vendors shall submit any such questions by the “Submit Written Questions” date and time provided in the IFB SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum.

Questions related to the content of the solicitation, or the procurement process should be directed to the person on the title page of this document via the Sourcing Tool's message board by the date and time specified in the IFB SCHEDULE Section of this IFB. Vendors will enter “**IFB # 50-2425014 – Questions**” as the subject of the message. Question submittals should include a reference to the applicable IFB section. This is the only manner in which questions will be received.

Questions received prior to the submission deadline date, the State’s response, and any additional terms deemed necessary by the State will be posted in the Sourcing Tool in the form of an addendum and shall become an Addendum to this IFB. No information, instruction or advice provided orally or informally by any State personnel, whether made in response to a question or otherwise in connection with this IFB, shall be considered authoritative or binding. Vendors shall rely *only* on written material contained in an Addendum to this IFB.

2.6 BID SUBMITTAL

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is an absolute requirement. Late bids, regardless of cause, will not be opened or considered, and will be automatically disqualified from further consideration. Vendor shall bear the sole risk of late submission due to unintended or unanticipated delay. It is the Vendor's sole responsibility to ensure its bid has been received as described in this IFB by the specified time and date of opening. Failure to submit a bid in strict accordance with instructions provided shall constitute sufficient cause to reject a Vendor's bid(s). Solicitation responses are subject to Sealed Bidding requirements.

Vendor's bids for this procurement must be submitted through the Sourcing Tool. For training on how to use the Sourcing Tool to view solicitations, submit questions, develop responses, upload documents, and submit offers to the State, Vendors should go to the following site: <https://eprocurement.nc.gov/training/vendor-training>.

Tips for Using the Sourcing Tool

1. Vendors should review available training and confirm that they are able to access the Sourcing Event, enter responses, and upload files well in advance of the date and time response are due to allow sufficient time to seek assistance from the North Carolina eProcurement Help Desk.
2. Vendors may submit their responses early to make sure there are no issues, and then submit a revised response any time prior to the response due date and time. The State will only review the most recent response.
3. Vendors should respond to all relevant sections of the Sourcing Event. Certain questions or items are required in order to submit a response and are denoted with an asterisk. The Sourcing Tool will not allow a response to be submitted unless all required items are completed. The Sourcing Tool will provide error messages to help identify any required information that is missing when response is submitted.
4. Simply saving your response in the Sourcing Tool is not the same as submitting your response to the State. Vendors should make sure they complete the submission process and receive a message that their response was successfully submitted.
5. **Only Bids submitted through the Content Section of the Ariba Sourcing Event will be considered. Bids submitted through the Message Board will not be accepted or considered for award.**

2.7 BID CONTENTS

Vendors shall provide responses to all questions and complete all attachments for this IFB that require the Vendor to provide information and upload them to the Sourcing Event in the Sourcing Tool. Vendor may not be able to submit its response in the Sourcing Tool unless all required items are addressed. Vendors shall provide authorized signatures where requested. Failure to provide all required items, or Vendor's submission of incomplete items, may result in the State rejecting Vendor's bid, in the State's sole discretion.

Vendors shall upload the following items and attachments in the Sourcing Tool:

- a) Cover Letter, must include the following: (i) a statement that confirms that the Vendor has read the IFB in its entirety, including all links, and all Addenda released in conjunction with the IFB; (ii) a statement that Vendor agrees to perform in accordance with the scope of work, requirements, and specifications contained herein; and (iii) Vendor's agreement to comply with all instructions, terms and conditions, and attachments.
- b) Completed and signed version of EXECUTION PAGES, along with the body of the IFB.
- c) Signed receipt pages of any addenda released in conjunction with this IFB, if required to be returned.
- d) Vendor Response including Sections 4.6 AUTHORIZED RESELLER, 4.7 WARRANTY, 4.9 DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE, and 4.14 REFERENCES.
- e) Completed version of ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM
- f) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION
- g) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM
- h) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR
- i) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
- j) Completed and signed version of CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS and OMB STANDARD FORM LLL

2.8 ALTERNATE BIDS

Unless provided otherwise in this IFB, Vendor may submit alternate bids for comparable Goods, various methods or levels of Service(s), or that propose different options. Alternate bids must specifically identify the IFB requirements and advantage(s) addressed by the alternate bid. Each bid must be for a specific set of Goods and Services and must include specific pricing. Each bid must be complete and independent of other bids offered. If a Vendor chooses to respond with various offerings, Vendor shall follow the specific instructions for uploading Alternate Bids in the Sourcing Tool

2.9 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

Relevant definitions for this IFB are provided in 01 NCAC 05A .0112 and in the Instructions to Vendors found Sourcing Tool, which are incorporated herein by this reference.

The following definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations are also relevant to this IFB:

- a) **EMS:** Emergency Medical Services
- b) **NCCCS:** North Carolina Community College System.
- c) **NCCCSO:** North Carolina Community College System Office.

3.0 METHOD OF AWARD AND BID EVALUATION PROCESS

3.1 METHOD OF AWARD

North Carolina G.S. 143-52 provides a general list of criteria the State shall use to award contracts, as supplemented by the additional criteria herein. The Goods or Services being procured shall dictate the application and order of criteria; however, all award decisions shall be in the State's best interest.

All responsive bids will be reviewed, and award or awards will be based on the responsive bids(s) to provide the estimated requirements as to breadth of lines, highest % discount offered off MSRP List, quantity, quality, delivery, service, and/or geographical coverage. It is the State's intent to have multiple manufacturers represented in each category.

It is the State's intent to have multiple manufacturers represented in each category. In the event that two (2), or more Vendors offer the same manufacturer's product(s), it is the intent of the State to make an award to the Vendor with the most complete offering per category, and highest percentage discount offered off the most recent MSRP List for a particular manufacturer's product(s).

While the intent of this IFB is to award a Contract(s) for all categories, the State reserves the right to make separate awards to one or more categories, to not award one or more categories, to delete categories prior to making the award, or to cancel this IFB in its entirety without awarding a Contract, if it is considered to be most advantageous to the State to do so.

In the event that two (2) or more Vendors offer the same manufacturer's product(s), it is the intent of the state to make an award to the Vendor with a combination of the most complete offering and highest % discount offered off most recent MSRP List for a particular manufacturer's product(s). Products offered must currently be available on the manufacturer's published MSRP. Submission of manufacturer's price schedules developed specifically for this Bid will result in disqualification from award consideration.

While the intent of this IFB is to award a Contract(s) to different Vendors for one or more manufacturers per category. The State reserves the right, to not award any portion(s) of the goods or services or to cancel this IFB in its entirety without awarding a contract, if it is considered to be most advantageous to the State to do so.

The State reserves the right to make partial awards to more than one Vendor of a manufacturer's products within a category, if the State's determines it is in its best interest to do so in order to obtain the most complete offering of a manufacturer's products at the highest % discount offered.

The State reserves the right to waive any minor informality or technicality in bids received.

3.2 CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS DURING EVALUATION

While this IFB is under evaluation, the responding Vendor, including any subcontractors and suppliers, is prohibited from engaging in conversations intended to influence the outcome of the evaluation. See the Paragraph of the Instructions To Vendors entitled COMMUNICATIONS BY VENDORS.

Each Vendor submitting a bid to this IFB, including its employees, agents, subcontractors, suppliers, subsidiaries and affiliates, is prohibited from having any communications with any person inside or outside the using agency; issuing agency; other government agency office or body (including the purchaser named above, any department secretary, agency head, members of the General Assembly and Governor's office); or private entity, if the communication refers to the content of Vendor's proposal or qualifications, the content of another Vendor's proposal, another Vendor's qualifications or ability to perform a resulting contract, and/or the transmittal of any other communication of information that could be reasonably considered to have the effect of directly or indirectly influencing the evaluation of proposals, the award of a contract, or both.

Any Vendor not in compliance with this provision shall be disqualified from evaluation and award. A Vendor's proposal may be disqualified if its subcontractor and/or supplier engage in any of the foregoing communications during the time that the procurement is active (i.e., the issuance date of the procurement until the date of contract award or cancellation of the procurement). Only those discussions, communications or transmittals of information authorized or initiated by the issuing agency for this IFB or inquiries directed to the purchaser named in this IFB regarding requirements of the IFB (prior to proposal submission) or the status of the award (after submission) are excepted from this provision.

3.3 BID EVALUATION PROCESS

Only responsive submissions will be evaluated.

The State will conduct an evaluation of responsive Bids, as follows:

Bids will be received according to the method stated in the Bid Submittal section above.

All bids must be received by the issuing agency not later than the date and time specified in the IFB SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum. Vendors are cautioned that this is a request for offers, not an offer or request to contract, and the State reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all offers at any time if such rejection is deemed to be in the best interest of the State.

At the date and time provided in the IFB SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum, the bids from each responding Vendor will be opened publicly and all offers (except those that have been previously withdrawn, or voided bids) will be tabulated. The tabulation shall be made public at the time it is created. When negotiations after receipt of bids is authorized pursuant to G.S. 143-49 and 01 NCAC 05B.0503, only the names of offerors and the Goods and Services offered shall be tabulated at the time of opening. Cost and price shall become available for public inspection at the time of the award... Interested parties are cautioned that these costs and their components are subject to further evaluation for completeness and correctness and therefore may not be an exact indicator of a Vendor's pricing position.

At their option, the evaluators may request oral presentations or discussions with any or all Vendors for clarification or to amplify the materials presented in any part of the bid. Vendors are cautioned, however, that the evaluators are not required to request presentations or other clarification—and often do not. Therefore, all bids should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the Vendor. Prices bid cannot be altered or modified as part of a clarification.

Bids will generally be evaluated, based on completeness, content, cost, and responsibility of the Vendor to supply the requested Goods and Services. Specific evaluation criteria are listed in Section 3.1 METHOD OF AWARD.

Upon completion of the evaluation process, the State will make Award(s) based on the evaluation and post the award(s) to **the electronic Vendor Portal (eVP)**, <https://evp.nc.gov>, under the IFB number for this solicitation. Award of a Contract to one Vendor does not mean that the other bids lacked merit, but that, all factors considered, the selected bid was deemed most advantageous and represented the best value to the State.

The State reserves the right to negotiate with one or more Vendors, or to reject all original offers and negotiate with one or more sources of supply that may be capable of satisfying the requirement, and in either case to require Vendor to submit a Best and Final Offer (BAFO) based on discussions and negotiations with the State.

3.4 PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR. In addition to any other evaluation criteria identified in this IFB, the State may also consider, for purposes of evaluating proposed or actual contract performance outside of the United States, how that performance may affect the following factors to ensure that any award will be in the best interest of the State:

- a) Total cost to the State
- b) Level of quality provided by the Vendor
- c) Process and performance capability across multiple jurisdictions
- d) Protection of the State's information and intellectual property
- e) Availability of pertinent skills
- f) Ability to understand the State's business requirements and internal operational culture
- g) Particular risk factors such as the security of the State's information technology
- h) Relations with citizens and employees
- i) Contract enforcement jurisdictional issues

3.5 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES

This IFB serves two functions: (1) to advise potential Vendors of the parameters of the solution being sought by the State; and (2) to provide (together with other specified documents) the terms of the Contract resulting from this procurement. The use of phrases such as "shall," "must," and "requirements" are intended to create enforceable contract conditions. In determining whether bids should be evaluated or rejected, the State will take into consideration the degree to which Vendors have proposed or failed to propose solutions that will satisfy the State's needs as described in the IFB. Except as specifically stated in the IFB, no one requirement shall automatically disqualify a Vendor from consideration. However, failure to comply with any single requirement may result in the State exercising its discretion to reject a bid in its entirety.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS

This Section lists the requirements related to this IFB. By submitting a bid, the Vendor agrees to meet all stated requirements in this Section, as well as any other specifications, requirements, and terms and conditions stated in this IFB. If a Vendor is unclear about a requirement or specification or believes a change in a requirement would allow for the State to receive a better bid, the Vendor is encouraged to submit these items in the form of a question during the question-and-answer period in accordance with the Bid Questions Section above.

4.1 PRICING

Bid price shall constitute the total cost to the State for delivery fully assembled and ready for use, including all applicable charges for shipping, delivery, handling, administrative and other similar fees. Complete ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM and upload in the Sourcing Tool. The pricing provided in ATTACHMENT A, or resulting from any negotiations, is incorporated herein and shall become part of any resulting Contract.

4.2 ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT OFFERS/REBATES

This component of the Pricing Response is optional, but the State encourages Vendors to provide additional financial incentives, if possible, within the scope of this IFB that will benefit the State. These additional incentives could include, but are not limited to additional discounts based on total spend volumes, tier pricing, rebates, additional discounts by manufacture or product type, etc. Additional Discount Offers shall be in addition to the discounts bid on Discount Off items.

Volume or tier discounts, if offered, shall also be based on the published retail price list. All discounts offered shall remain in effect for the entire contract period and cannot be decreased. However, the discount may be increased, and any such increase shall remain in effect for the remainder of the contract period and any subsequent extensions. Volume or tier discounts, if offered, shall apply to purchase orders placed for delivery to the same location. Vendor may provide volume or tier discounts to orders that include multiple delivery points from the same agency.

The State reserves the right to accept or reject all or part of proposed Additional Discount Offers as part of a Vendor’s Total Price Submittal Value. It is at the State’s sole discretion not to assign value to propose Additional Discount Offers which the State cannot quantify or to give only partial value for Additional Discount Offers. Vendors may offer the State additional discount using the Additional Discount Offers within ATTACHMENT A: PRICING SUBMITTAL WORKBOOK.

4.3 MAKE AND MODEL

Manufacturer’s name and model/catalog numbers used in this IFB are for the sole purpose of identification and to establish general quality level desired. Such references are not intended to be restrictive and comparable products of other manufacturers will be considered. However, Vendors are cautioned that any deviation from the specifications of the identified item are required to be pointed out in its bid. Vendor shall include with its bid sufficient documentary evidence to demonstrate the qualitative, functional, operational, organizational, and conformational equivalence of the bid item to the identified item.

4.4 TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION

When an order is placed using a purchase order, the purchase order number shall be shown on all packages and shipping manifests to ensure proper identification and payment of invoices. If an order is placed without using a purchase order, such as via phone, the Buyer’s name shall be show on all packages. A complete packing list shall accompany each shipment. Vendors shall not ship any products until they have received an order.

4.5 DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION

The Vendor shall deliver Free-On-Board (FOB) Destination to any of the 58 community colleges located within the State of North Carolina with all transportation costs included in the total bid price.

Vendor should complete delivery within thirty (30) consecutive calendar days after receipt of purchase order.

For completion by Vendor: Delivery will be made from _____ (city, state) within _____ consecutive calendar days after receipt of purchase order. Promptness of delivery may be used as a factor in the award criteria.

Successful Vendor(s) shall complete delivery as indicated on ATTACHMENT A-PRICING SUBMITTAL WORKBOOK. All orders shall be delivered to the location specified by the Buyer in the Purchase Order. The specified location may include a loading dock or area inside a building. Awarded Vendor shall notify Buyer at least two (2) business days in advance of a delivery to allow for the availability of agency personnel to receive the product(s) if the agency requires on its purchase order.

Vendor shall furnish all necessary transportation, materials, and supplies as may be required to deliver, install and set-in place ready for owner’s use. The successful Vendor(s) shall notify the Buyer when one or more items in an order cannot be delivered within the time specified. After notification to the Buyer of a fulfillment delay of one or more items in a shipment, the Buyer may cancel undelivered items within an order, or an order in its entirety, without penalty or charge, providing the cancellation occurs before the delayed item or order has shipped.

Installation of items requiring custom or complex fitting or assembly efforts due to the nature of the item may be billed under the following conditions: the amount of the installation charge is identified in Vendor’s catalogue in conjunction with the relevant item, the Buyer is provided an option to affirmatively accept or decline installation services at the time of ordering, and any approved charge is listed as a separate line item on the purchase order and invoice.

Acceptance and approval of charges for installation of such items shall be at the sole discretion of the Buyer. Any resulting damages to the item or to other State property during the installation by the Vendor shall be repaired at the Vendor's sole expense. **General set-up activities needed to make an item ready for use shall not be considered installation and shall be included in the contract price.** Upon completion of the installation, the Vendor shall remove and properly dispose of all waste and debris from the installation site. The Vendor shall be responsible for leaving the installation area clean and ready to use.

4.6 AUTHORIZED RESELLER

The Vendor shall be authorized by the manufacturer to distribute or resell the products and/or maintenance offered in this IFB. The Vendor shall provide a signed statement from the manufacturer confirming authorization with its bid response. Failure to provide this statement shall constitute sufficient grounds for rejection of Vendor’s offer, at the discretion of the State.

Vendor is the: Manufacturer Dealer Reseller Distributor
Authorized: Yes No Attached Manufacturer’s Authority: Yes No

4.7 DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE

Each bid shall be accompanied by complete descriptive literature, specifications, certifications, and all other pertinent data necessary for thorough evaluation of the item(s) offered and sufficient to determine compliance of the item(s) with the specifications. Failure to include such information shall be a sufficient basis for rejection of the bid, at the discretion of the State.

4.8 HUB PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute G.S. 143-48, it is State policy to encourage and promote the use of small, minority, physically handicapped, and women contractors in purchasing Goods and Services. As such, this IFB will serve to identify those Vendors that are minority owned or have a strategic plan to support the State’s Historically Underutilized Business program by meeting or exceeding the goal of 10% utilization of diverse firms as 1st or 2nd tier subcontractors. Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION.

4.9 WARRANTY

The Vendor shall state on ATTACHMENT A-PRICING SUBMITTAL WORKBOOK the warranty information for all products offered under this solicitation. Such warranty shall cover the cost of all defective parts replacement, labor, freight, and technicians travel at no additional cost to the State. To the extent not superseded by the terms of this paragraph, manufacturer’s warranty shall apply.

Vendor warrants that all products furnished under this IFB will be newly manufactured, of good material and workmanship. The warranty will apply from date equipment is put into operation for a minimum period of twelve (12) months or the length of the manufacturer’s warranty, whichever is longer. Such warranty shall cover the cost of all defective parts replacement, labor, freight, and technicians’ travel at no additional cost to the State, or as specified by the Purchasing Agency herein. To the extent not superseded by the terms of this paragraph, manufacturer’s warranty terms shall apply. Vendor’s warranty shall be at least the level of coverage provided for its comparable customers.

The report of a problem does not presuppose that every call must result in an “on-site” visit for service/repair. The Vendor and/or service sub-contractor shall utilize best efforts to resolve problems in a timely fashion by using acceptable servicing methods to include, but not limited to, verbal problem analysis and remote diagnosis. The warranty requirement does not impose any additional duty on the State to make other than normal and good faith problem resolution efforts or expenditures of time. Vendor shall be responsible for compliance with warranty terms by any third-party service provider. Vendor shall provide contact information for warranty service provider, below.

Vendor is authorized by manufacturer to repair equipment offered during the warranty period? YES NO

Will the Vendor provide warranty service? YES NO, a manufacturer-authorized third party will perform warranty service.

Contact information for warranty service provider:

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

Contact Person (name): _____

Contact Person (phone number): _____

Contact Person (email): _____

4.10 SERVICE

Services shall be provided during normal working hours (8:00 AM EST to 5:00 PM EST weekdays). Vendor shall state response time, telephone, information, and location from which service will be provided.

Maximum response time to this location after receipt of service call: _____ hours

Bidder has toll-free number for service calls: YES NO

If yes, state toll-free number: _____

Bidder will accept collect call for service. YES NO

State telephone number: _____

Address of service facility: _____

4.11 TRAINING

If required by the Using Agency, the Vendor shall provide qualified representative(s) to instruct owners' operators in the proper operation, safety issues, routine maintenance, troubleshooting and service based on the complexity of the equipment. Training shall be coordinated with the using agency.

4.12 MAINTENANCE MANUAL

The Vendor shall provide with the delivery of each piece of equipment an operation and maintenance manual, and a copy of all warranties.

4.13 INSTRUCTION MANUALS

Vendor shall furnish to the Buyer a hard copy or electronic copy of the complete set of instruction manuals for the products supplied. The manual shall include complete instructions for unpacking, inspecting, installing, adjusting, aligning, and operating the product, together with layout and interconnection diagrams, preventive and corrective maintenance procedures, and complete parts lists, manufacturer's catalog numbers, and ordering information, if applicable. If available, Vendor shall supply such information electronically with the order, or shall direct the Buyer to where the information can be found on the Internet.

4.14 REFERENCES

Vendors shall upload to the Sourcing Tool at least three (3) references, using ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM, for which your company has supplied the exact model of equipment offered. The State may contact these users to determine the quality level of the offered equipment; as well as, but not limited to user satisfaction with Vendor performance. Information obtained may be considered in the evaluation of the bid.

4.15 VENDOR'S REPRESENTATIONS

If Vendor's bid results in an award, Vendor agrees that it will not enter any agreement with a third party that may abridge any rights of the State under the Contract. If any Services, deliverables, functions, or responsibilities not specifically described in this solicitation are required for Vendor's proper performance, provision and delivery of the Service and deliverables under a resulting Contract, or are an inherent part of or necessary sub-task included within such service, they will be deemed to be implied by and included within the scope of the contract to the same extent and in the same manner as if specifically described in the Contract. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, Vendor will furnish all of its own necessary management, supervision, labor, facilities, furniture, computer and telecommunications equipment, software, supplies and materials necessary for the Vendor to provide and deliver the Services and/or other Deliverables.

4.16 FINANCIAL STABILITY

As a condition of contract award, the Vendor must certify that it has the financial capacity to perform and to continue to perform its obligations under the Contract; that Vendor has no constructive or actual knowledge of an actual or potential legal proceeding being brought against Vendor that could materially adversely affect performance of this Contract; and that entering into this Contract is not prohibited by any contract, or order by any court of competent jurisdiction.

Each Vendor shall certify it is financially stable by completing the ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION. The State is requiring this certification to minimize potential performance issues from Contracting with a Vendor that is financially unstable. This Certification shall be deemed continuing, and from the date of the Certification to the expiration of the Contract, the Vendor shall notify the State within thirty (30) days of any occurrence or condition that materially alters the truth of any statement made in this Certification.

4.17 AGENCY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS MODIFICATION

Default Insurance Coverage from the General Terms and Conditions applicable to this Solicitation:

- Small Purchases
- Contract value in excess of the Small Purchase threshold, but up to \$1,000,000.00
- Contract value in excess of \$1,000,000.00

4.18 LOBBYING ACTIVITY CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL GRANTS

Federal law prohibits recipients of federal funds, whether through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, from using those funds to influence or attempt to influence (lobby) a federal official in connection with obtaining, extending, or modifying any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. Further, federal law requires that applicants for federal funds certify:

- that they abide by the above restriction;
- that they disclose any permissible (non-federal) paid lobbying on the Federal Awards being applied for; and
- that such certification requirements will also be included in any subawards meeting the applicable thresholds.

Vendors must complete and submit the CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS and the OMB STANDARD FORM LLL when responding to this solicitation.

5.0 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

SPECIFICATIONS

Each Vendor shall offer the manufacturer’s complete product line for the categories shown. Items must be available at the percent discount off of the Manufacturer’s Standard Retail Price (MSRP) or other manufacturer’s current published price listing (List Price, Suggested Retail Price, etc.) as referenced for each line item’s category.

1. Category A: EMS Equipment & Supplies

5.1

Lot A: Equipment

- Ambulance stretchers and cots
- Other EMS Equipment

Lot B: Supplies

- Other EMS Supplies

Referenced below is a list of Manufacturer(s) currently used or requested by Community Colleges (preferred brands). Additional manufacturers are also welcome to be submitted and will be considered if not listed under Section 5.2 below.

- Code1 Supply
- Emergency Medical Products
- BoundTree Medical
- The EMS Store

2. Category B: Fire Equipment & Supplies

Lot A: Equipment

- Thermal Imaging Cameras
- Turn Out Gear (Jackets, Pants, Helmets, Gloves)
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
- Fire Hose washer
- 5’ Hydrassist Hydrant Valve
- Fire Service Ladders
- Fire extinguisher training system
- Ruth Lee Firehouse Manikins GEN2
 - Adult
 - Child
- Simulators
 - 3 position 911 simulator system
 - Falcon Fire Simulator
 - GSW Tommanikin Simulator- Wound
- Other Fire Equipment

Lot B: Supplies

- Bleeding control training kit
- Pick head ax
- Nozzle and valve for fire engine operating
- High density training smoke
- Other Fire Supplies

Referenced below is a list of Manufacturer(s) currently used or requested by Community Colleges (preferred brands). Additional manufacturers are also welcome to be submitted and will be considered if not listed under Section 5.2 below.

- Scott, Dräger
- Dalmatian
- FLIR
- Bullard
- Paratech
- Alcolite
- Duo-Safety
- Rhinehart Fire Services (RFS)
- Techline Tech
- Fire Hose Direct

3. Category C: Rescue Extraction Equipment

Lot A: Cutters

Lot B: Spreaders

Lot C: Combi Tools

Lot D: Rams

Lot E: Supplies

Lot F: Extrication Air Bags

Lot G: High Angle Rescue Equipment

Lot H: Vehicle Extrication Prop

Referenced below is a list of Manufacturer(s) currently used or requested by Community Colleges (preferred brands). Additional manufacturers are also welcome to be submitted and will be considered if not listed under Section 5.2 below.

- Paratech
- Holmatro
- MFC International
- Terradaptor
- PMI
- Paratech
- Genesis Rescue

5.2 CURRENT AWARDED MANUFACTURERS

The following manufacturers are awarded under the current Contract # 50-2324009 - Rescue Equipment & Supplies and will not be considered in this solicitation.

3M HEALTH CARE, 3M HEALTHCARE US OPCO LLC, 410 MEDICAL, A PLUS INTERNATIONAL INC., A. SMITH & SON, INC., ABBOTT, ACME UNITED CORPORATION, ACTION JANITORIAL PAPER SAFETY, ADI MEDICAL, ADROIT SURGICAL LLC, AERO-MED LTD, AFASSCO, AFFORDABLE MEDICAL SUPPLY, AIRGAS USA, LLC, AIRLIFE, Akron Brass, ALBAN SCIENTIFIC INC, ALIMED, INC., ALLCARE INC, ALLEGIS PHARMACEUTICALS, ALLIED 100 - A SARNOVA COMPANY, ALLIED MEDICAL LLC, ALPHA PRO TECH, ALWAYS GREAT PACKAGING PRODUCTS, AMBU INC., AMCON EYE CARE SUPPLY CENTER, AMERICAN DIAGNOSTIC CORP., AMERISOURCE BERGEN CORP/SMART SOURCE, AMICO CORPORATION, AMSINO INTERNATIONAL, INC., ANDA, INC., ANIMAL HEALTH, ANSELL HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS LLC, ANSELL SANDEL MEDICAL SOLUTIONS LLC, ANTHONY WELDED PRODUCTS, APCOR, AQUABILITI, ARAMSCO, ARJO.INC., ARKRAY USA, ARMAS PHARMACEUTICALS, ARMOR EXPRESS, ASP GLOBAL, ASPEN SURGICAL PRODUCTS, ASSOCIATED BAG COMPANY, AUSTMEL PTY LIMITED, AVANOS MEDICAL, AVANTE, B. BRAUN MEDICAL INC., BAKER MCMILLEN CO, BAXTER HEALTHCARE PHARM DIVISION, BAXTER HEALTHCARE-DMG, BAY CORPORATION, BEAUMONT PRODUCTS, BECTON DICKINSON, BECTON DICKINSON (BARD ACCESS DIVISION), BEIJING CHOICE ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY, BEMIS HEALTH CARE PRODUCTS, BEN NYE MAKEUP, BENCHMADE KNIFE COMPANY, BETA BIOMED SERVICES, BEUTLICH PHARMACEUTICALS LLC, BIO-MED DEVICES, BIOMEDIX, BIOSEAL MEDICAL, BLASTER COMMUNICATIONS, BLS SYSTEM LIMITED, BOWMAN DISPENSERS, BPI LABS, BRON TAPES, BRW DIVERSIFIED, BSN MEDICAL INC, BTG INTERNATIONAL, BUNZL/R3 CHICAGO, BUSHNELL (WAS VISTA OUTDOOR), BUSSE HOSPITAL DISPOSABLES, BV MEDICAL, BYRNA TECHNOLOGIES INC., CABBAGE CASE COMPANY, CALGONATE CORP, CALOLYMPIC

SAFETY, CAMBRIDGE SENSORS USA, CAPITAL WHOLESALE DRUG, CARDINAL HEALTH, CARDINAL HEALTH-PHARMA, CARE 2 INNOVATIONS, CARE LINE INC., CAREHEALTH AMERICA CORPORATION d/b/a EXPRESS DIAGNOS, CARETAKER MEDICAL, CAS MEDICAL SYS USE 230081, CAST PRODUCTS, CENTRAL SOLUTIONS, CERA PRODUCTS, CERTA DOSE - SPECIALTY PHARM SVC, CETYLITE INDUSTRIES, CHINOOK MEDICAL GEAR, CHS USA, Circul-Air Corp, CMC RESCUE, CMI HEALTH, COACHELLA VALLEY TRADING CO, CODAN INC., COMBAT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, COMPLIANCE MEDICAL MFG., COMPRESSION WORKS INC., CONCORDANCE HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS LLC, CONFIRM BIOSCIENCES, CONMED CORPORATION, CONTERRA INC, COOK MEDICAL INCORPORATED, COOPER SURGICAL, CORE PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL, COREVA HEALTH SCIENCE, CRAIG MEDICAL DISTRIBUTION INC., CRAMER PRODUCTS, CRASH CARDS, CURAPLEX BY BOUND TREE, CURAPLEX KITS, CUREUV, CUSTOM MEDICAL & SAFETY PRODUCTS, CYALUME TECHNOLOGIES, DANCOR INC., DARCO INTERNATIONAL, DAVES MEDICAL LLC, DEFIBTECH LLC, DEM TECHNOLOGY, DENTAL HEALTH PRODUCTS, DEROYAL INDUSTRIES, DICK MEDICAL SUPPLY, DISASTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, DOMETIC CORP., DOTY BELT LLC, DRAEGER MEDICAL INC, DRIVE/DEVILBISS HEALTHCARE, DUKAL, DUOPROSS MEDITECH CORP, DURHAM MANUFACTURING CO., DYNAREX CORPORATION, E.J. BROOKS COMPANY, EAGLE ENTERPRISES, ECOLAB INC, EDAN USA, EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES, Elkhart Brass, ELVEX CORPORATION (Delta Plus), EM INNOVATIONS, EME Company, EMEGEAR LLC, EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS, EMERGENCY PRODUCTS & RESEARCH, EMERGENT RESPIRATORY, EMERSON HEALTHCARE LLC, EMI, EMS INNOVATIONS, EMS SOLUTIONS LLC, EMSAR, ENGEL USA, ENGINEERED MEDICAL SYSTEMS, ERB, ERGOMED INC., ERIE COTTON, ESSENDANT, ESTILL MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, ETHOS EVACUATIONS STRATEGIES LLC dba MED SLED, EXEL INTERNATIONAL, EXERGEN CORPORATION, Extra Packaging LLC, FALCON EX CAR TRAINER, FARETEC, FIELDTEX PRODUCTS INC., FIREFIGHTER'S BOOKSTORE, FIREWIPES, FIT-RITE UNIFORM CO., FLAMBEAU PRODUCTS CORPORATION, FLEXICARE INC., FLEXPAC, FRESENIUS, GARMAN DECAL, GATEWAY SAFETY, GENSTAR TECHNOLOGIES CO, GERI-CARE, GETINGE USA SALES, GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS, Globe (TurnOut Gear), GRAHAM-FIELD HEALTH PRODUCTS, GRAINGER, GREAT PLAINS BALLISTICS, GROMAN INC dba AEROSOLESS MEDICAL, HAMILTON, HARBOR SAFETY PRODUCTS, Harrington, HARRIS INDUSTRIES, HARTWELL MEDICAL LLC, HAWKEPAKS.COM, HDT EXPENDITARY SYSTEMS, HEALTH CARE LOGISTICS, HEALTHFIRST, HEALTHMARK INDUSTRIES CO INC, HEALTHSMART INTERNATIONAL, HEARTSTATION, HEMCON MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, HF ACQUISITION CO, HIKMA PHARMACEUTICALS USA INC, HONEYWELL SAFETY PRODUCTS USA, HOPE PHARMACEUTICALS, HULL ANESTHESIA, HUMANE RESTRAINT, Hurst, HYPERKINETICS, HY-TAPE INTERNATIONAL, ICU MEDICAL, IDEAL SCIENCES, IMPERIAL DADE, IMS LIMITED, INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO, INNOVATIVE HEALTHCARE, INSOURCE, INSTRUMENTATION INDUSTRIES, INTEGRA YORK PA, INTEGRITY MEDICAL DEVICES, INTERSURGICAL, IRON DUCK INC., ITEC MANUFACTURING, IVY OFF, J.L. INDUSTRIES, JANT PHARMACAL CORP., JEM Financial LLC, JL DARLING LLC, JOHNSON & JOHNSON CONSUMER INC., JONES & BARTLETT LEARNING, kaleo, KEMP, KENSINGTON MEDICAL, KEY SURGICAL, KIRT'S ELECTRONICS, KJB SECURITY PRODUCTS INC., KRETZER SCISSORS, KWIKPOINT, L.A. RESCUE LLC, LASCAR ELECTRONICS INC, LCR-HALLCREST INC., LDI CORPORATION, LEATHERMAN TOOL GROUP, LEONHARD LANG USA, LIFE NUTRITION, LIFEFLOW, LINKS MEDICAL PRODUCTS, LION (PPE), LION (Training Products), LIPPENCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS, LIQUID CRYSTAL RESOURCES, LITTLE RAPIDS CORPORATION/GRAHAM MEDICAL, LOGISTICS SUPPLY, LONDON BRIDGE TRADING COMPANY, M2 INC, MACO INTERNATIONAL, MADA MEDICAL PRODUCTS, MAG INSTRUMENT, MAGNUM MEDICAL, MAINE THREAD & MACHINE, MAMMOTH MEDICAL, MANGAR USA INC., MASIMO, MASTER MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, MAXTEC, MAYFLOWER SPLINT CO., MCKESSON GENERAL MEDICAL, MED PLUS SERVICES USA, MED TECH SWEDEN, MEDEGEN MEDICAL PRODUCTS, MEDIAID INC., MEDICABLE USA, MEDICAL ACTION INDUSTRIES, MEDICAL CHEMICAL CORP., MEDICAL DEVICES, MEDICAL INNOVATIONS, MEDICAL SPECIALTIES, MEDICAL SUPPLY SOLUTIONS, MedicTech, MEDIPURPOSE, MEDIQUE PRODUCTS, MEDLINE INDUSTRIES, MEDSOURCE INTERNATIONAL, MEDTRADE PRODUCTS LTD., MEDTRONIC (COVIDIEN), MERCURY MEDICAL INC., MERET, MERIDIAN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, MES, METREX RESEARCH CORPORATION, METTAG PRODUCTS, MGM PLASTICS, MICRO DIRECT, MICROTEK MEDICAL, MODERN METAL PRODUCTS, Modern Strategic Branding & Communications, MOLDEX-METRIC, MONAGHAN MEDICAL CORPORATION, MOTION MEDICAL, MOYERTEX INC., MSA (SCBA), MSA/Cairns Helmets, MYLAN SPECIALTY L.P., NASCO HEALTHCARE, NATUS MEDICAL INC, NCE, NEOTECH PRODUCTS LLC, NEPHRON PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION, NEW ENGLAND MEDICAL SPECIALTIE, NISSHA MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES, NONIN MEDICAL, NORTH AMERICAN RESCUE, NORTHWEST WOOLEN MILLS, NUKEPILLS.INC., NUTECH SPECIALTIES, NUZONE MEDICAL, O&M HALYARD, OHIO MEDICAL CORP., OMNI MED, OPTIMAL HEALTHCARE INC, ORLANDO HOSE, OSI BATTERIES, OSSUR AMERICAS, O-TWO MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES INC, OWEN MUMFORD INC, OWENS & MINOR, PACIFIC REFLEX SIGNS, PADAGIS PHARMACEUTICALS (MINNESOTA DIVISION), PALMERO HEALTH CARE, PARENT PRODUCTION, PARKER LABORATORIES, PAULSON MFG CORPORATION, PAX USA, PEDICRAFT INC., Pedi-Ed-Trics Emergency Medical Solutions, PEERLESS PLASTICS, PELICAN BIOTHERMAL, PELICAN PRODUCTS, PETZL AMERICA, PFIZER INC., PHILIPS HEALTHCARE, PHOKUS RESEARCH GROUP, PINNACLE TECHNOLOGY GROUP, PJ HILTON & ASSOCIATES, PNEUMERIC, PRECISION CHARTS, PRECISION MEDICAL INC., PREMIER DENTAL PRODUCTS CO., PREMIER SAFETY & SVC, PRESTAN PRODUCTS, PRESTIGE MEDICAL, PRIMACARE MEDICAL, PrimeTime Products, PRINT MEDIA, PRINT SOLUTIONS LLC, PRO LAB DIAGNOSTICS, PROFESSIONAL HOSPITAL SUPPLY, PROPAK MANUFACTURING, PROTECTIVE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, PRO-VAC SYSTEMS, PULMODYNE, PURE FISHING, PYRAMEX SAFETY PRODUCTS, QA SUPPLIES, QINFLOW, QMED CORPORATION, QOSINA dba QOSMEDIX, QUADMED INC., QUANTUM EMS SOLUTIONS, QUARTERMASTER, R & B FABRICATIONS, R&D BATTERIES, RAPID EXTRACTION, READY ELECTRODES, REDD SLED LLC, REPRO-MED SYSTEMS, RESCUE ESSENTIALS, Resuscitation International LLC, REVMEDX, RICO SUCTION LABS, RIP SHEARS LLC, ROCHE DIAGNOSTICS CORP., ROCKY MOUNTAIN SUNSCREEN, ROTHCO, RR DONNELLEY, SAFEGUARD MEDICAL, SAFETEC OF AMERICA,

SAFETY FLAG COMPANY, SAFETY INTERNATIONAL, SAFETY TODAY, SAGENT PHARMACEUTICALS, SAM MEDICAL, SAUNDERS, Save Corp/911 Simulator, SAWYER PRODUCTS, SCHUERCH CORPORATION D/B/A SCHUREMED, Seek Thermal, Sempermed USA, SENSORONICS INC., SHARN, SHARPS COMPLIANCE, SKEDCO, SKLAR INSTRUMENTS, SMARTPRACTICE, SMITH COMPANY, SMITHS MEDICAL ASD, SMITHWORKS MEDICAL, SOMAR CORPORATION, SPACELABS HEALTHCARE, SPIRACLE TECHNOLOGY, SPIRIT CREATIONS, ST. PETE SAFETY, STAPLES INDUSTRIAL/CHISWICK, STAT MEDICAL EDUCATION LLC, STAT PRODUCTS, STATPACKS, STEARNS WEAR, STREAMLIGHT, STRYKER, SUNMEDICA, SURGICAL DESIGN, SYMBIO CORPORATION, SYNCHRONIS MEDICAL, TACTICAL MEDICAL SOLUTIONS, TAYLOR HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS, TEAM EQUIPMENT, TECHSTYLES DIVISION OF ENCOMPASS GROUP LLC, TECHTRADE, TELEFLEX LLC, TEMPO MEDICAL PRODUCTS, TEMPTIME CORPORATION, TENDER CORPORATION, TERUMO MEDICAL CORPORATION, THE BATTERY BANK, THE QUICK FIX, THE SAFETY ZONE LLC, THOMAS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SOLUTIONS, TIDI PRODUCTS, TQS CORP, TRI-ANIM HEALTH SERVICES, TRUCORP LTD, TRUER MEDICAL, TSSI, UE MEDICAL DEVICES INC., ULINE, UNIMED-MIDWEST, VACUMETRICS INC, VBM MEDICAL INC, VENOSCOPE, VENTEC LIFE SYSTEMS SALES, VERIDIAN HEALTHCARE LLC, VISTAPHARM, VITALPADS, VIVID MEDICAL INC., WALLACH SURGICAL DEVICES, WALLCUR PRODUCTS, WELCH ALLYN, WESTERN ENTERPRISES, WINCHESTER LABORATORIES LLC, WINDY CITY NOVELTIES, WNL PRODUCTS, WORLDPOINT ECC, WRIGHT PRODUCTS, XPONENT HEALTHCARE, Z & Z Medical, ZIAMATIC CORP, ZOE MEDICAL, ZOLL MEDICAL CORPORATION, ZULCO INTERNATIONAL, and ZYNO SOLUTIONS LLC

5.3 CERTIFICATION AND SAFETY LABELS

All manufactured items and/or fabricated assemblies subject to operation under pressure, operation by connection to an electric source, or operation involving a connection to a manufactured, natural, or LP gas source shall be constructed and approved in a manner acceptable to the appropriate state inspector which customarily requires the label or re-examination listing or identification marking of the appropriate safety standard organization; such as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for pressure vessels; the Underwriters Laboratories and /or National Electrical Manufacturers’ Association for electrically operated assemblies; or the American Gas Association for gas operated assemblies, where such approvals of listings have been established for the type of device offered and furnished. Further, all items furnished shall meet all requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), and state and federal requirements relating to clean air and water pollution.

5.4 DEVIATIONS

The nature of all deviations from the Specifications listed herein shall be clearly described by the Vendor. Otherwise, it will be considered that items offered by the Vendor are in strict compliance with the Specifications provided herein, and the successful Vendor shall be required to supply conforming goods. Deviations shall be explained in detail below or on an attached sheet. However, no implication is made or intended by the State that any deviation will be acceptable. Do not list objections to the North Carolina General Terms and Conditions in this section.

6.0 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

All Contract Administration requirements are conditioned on an award resulting from this solicitation. This information is provided for the Vendor’s planning purposes

6.1 PROJECT MANAGER AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Vendor shall be required to designate and make customer service available to the State. The customer service point of contact shall be the State’s point of contact for customer service-related issues (define roles and responsibilities).

Customer Service Point of Contact	
Name:	
Office Phone #:	
Mobile Phone #:	
Email:	

6.2 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The State encourages the Vendor to identify opportunities to reduce the total cost the State. A continuous improvement effort consisting of various ideas to enhance business efficiencies as performance progresses.

6.3 PERIODIC STATUS REPORTS

The Vendor shall be required to provide Contract Usage Management Reports to the designated Contract Lead on an annual basis. This report shall include, at a minimum, information concerning items purchased, manufacturer product description, purchased quantities, List Price, price paid, manufacturer name, unit of measure, any additional delivery charges such as specialty packaging or overnight delivery, ordering entity, delivery location, order date, and shipment date for consumables and delivery date for non-routine consumables and submitted to the Contract Specialist. Vendor shall include all issues identified by the Vendor related to Vendor performance or to the State’s usage of the Contract. These reports shall be well organized and easy to read. The Vendor shall submit these reports electronically using Microsoft Excel and, as needed, either Microsoft PowerPoint or Microsoft Word. The Vendor shall submit the reports in a timely manner and on a regular schedule as agreed by the parties.

6.4 INVOICES

Vendor shall invoice the Purchasing Agency. The standard format for invoicing shall be Single Invoices meaning that the Vendor shall provide the Purchasing Agency with an invoice for each order. Invoices shall include detailed line item information to allow Purchasing Agency to verify pricing at point of receipt matches the correct price from the original date of order. At a minimum, the following fields shall be included on all invoices:

Vendor’s Billing Address, Customer Account Number, NC Contract Number, Order Date, Buyer’s Order Number, Manufacturer Part Numbers, Vendor Part Numbers, Item Descriptions, Price, Quantity, and Unit of Measure.

INVOICES MAY NOT BE PAID UNTIL AN INSPECTION HAS OCCURRED AND THE GOODS ACCEPTED.

6.5 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

During the performance of the Contract, the Parties agree that it is in their mutual interest to resolve disputes informally. Any claims by the Vendor shall be submitted in writing to the State's Contract Manager for resolution. Any claims by the State shall be submitted in writing to the Vendor's Project Manager for resolution. The Parties shall agree to negotiate in good faith and use all reasonable efforts to resolve such dispute(s).

During the time the Parties are attempting to resolve any dispute, each shall proceed diligently to perform their respective duties and responsibilities under this Contract. The Parties will agree on a reasonable amount of time to resolve a dispute. If a dispute cannot be resolved between the Parties within the agreed upon period, either Party may elect to exercise any other remedies available under the Contract, or at law. This provision, when agreed in the Contract, shall not constitute an agreement by either party to mediate or arbitrate any dispute.

6.6 RETURN/RESTOCKING POLICY

Vendor shall accept merchandise returns from users for a period of thirty (30) business days after delivery. Vendor shall provide full credit or full refund to users, whichever a user requests, within thirty (30) business days on all returns of ordered products that are in original packaging and in re-sellable conditions. Vendor shall not impose a restocking fee on users for merchandise that has been returned, unless it is a specialty item and the user has been notified, at the time of placement of order, of the potential restocking fee.

Equipment or Supplies which are unacceptable because of quality problems, duplicated shipments, outdated product, breakage, or other issues related to Vendor or product performance, shall be returned at Vendor's expense within five (5) business days after receipt of notification from the Ordering Entity; with no restocking charge.

6.7 PRODUCT RECALL

Vendor expressly assumes full responsibility for prompt notification to the Buyer listed on the face of this IFB of any product recall in accordance with the applicable state or federal regulations. The Vendor shall support the State, as necessary, to promptly replace any such products, at no cost to the State.

6.8 OUT-OF-STOCK & BACK-ORDERS

The Vendor shall notify the Buyer when one or more items in an order cannot be delivered within the time specified. After notification to Buyer by Vendor of a fulfillment delay of one or more items in the order, the Buyer may cancel undelivered items within an order, or an order in its entirety, without penalty or charge, to the extent that the notice of cancellation occurs before Buyer is notified that the delayed item or other cancelled items in the order have shipped.

6.9 PRICE ADJUSTMENTS

Prices proposed by the Vendor shall be firm against any increase for the **first year** of the Contract.

Price increase requests shall be submitted in writing to the Contract Lead, which shall include the reason(s) for the request and contain supporting documentation for the need. Price increases will be negotiated and agreed to by both the State and Vendor in advance of any price increase going into effect. The State is not obligated to accept pricing adjustments or increases and reserves the right to accept or reject them in part or in whole. Price de-escalation or decreases may be requested by the State at any time.

It is understood and agreed that orders will be shipped at the established Contract prices in effect on the date an order is placed. Invoicing that deviates from this provision may result in Contract to cancellation.

6.10 CONTRACT CHANGES

Contract changes, if any, over the life of the Contract shall be implemented by contract amendments agreed to in writing by the State and Vendor.

6.11 POST AWARD PRODUCT SUBSTITUTIONS, ADDITIONS & REMOVALS

Post award product substitutions are not permitted without prior written approval from the Contract Specialist. Proposed substitutions shall be at the same or higher quality and at the same or lower price as the original item. Failure of the Vendor to comply with this requirement shall constitute sufficient cause to hold the Vendor in default or for removal from the contract.

The products included in this IFB are expected to cover the NCCC’s needs for the term of the Contract. In the case that the NCCC’s needs change over the term of the Contract, the State reserves the right to add additional products to the Contract that can be supplied by an awarded Vendor in the product category if such products have been duly qualified through PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS. The price for these added products will be mutually agreed to by the State and the Vendor but shall be assumed to be offered for at least a discount similar to what the Vendor has bid on similar products listed in the IFB. The State may remove products from this Contract at its discretion in accordance with the General Terms and Conditions in ATTACHMENT C: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS. A Vendor may request additions to the contract from time to time, and it is the Vendor’s responsibility to submit documentation sufficient to demonstrate that the requested addition meets all relevant requirements of this IFB. This paragraph shall not be construed as implying that the State must or will add any product to the contract, regardless of qualification under the PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS.

6.12 ATTACHMENTS

All attachments to this IFB are incorporated herein and shall be submitted by responding in the Sourcing Tool. These attachments can be found at the following Vendor Forms link for reference purposes only: <https://ncadmin.nc.gov/documents/vendor-forms>

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