



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL
Request for Proposal #: 65-UNC-CH_R&D_RFP_GEN 03
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GOODS AND SERVICES

Date Issued: January 22th, 2026

Proposal Opening Date: March 23rd, 2026

At 3:00 PM (ET)

Direct all inquiries concerning this RFP to:

Lynn Barello & Connie Dragicevich

Commodities Managers

Email: cdrag1@unc.edu; lynnbare@email.unc.edu



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Request for Proposal

65-UNC-CH_R&D_RFP_GEN 03

For internal State agency processing, including tabulation of proposals, 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 proposal.
Failure to do so may subject your proposal 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>

Electronic responses ONLY via the electronic Vendor Portal (eVP) will be accepted for this solicitation.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Refer <u>ALL</u> Inquiries regarding this RFP to: Lynn Barello & Connie Dragicevich	Request for Proposal # 65-UNC-CH_R&D_RFP_GEN 03
	Proposals will be publicly opened: March 23rd 2026 at 3:00 PM (ET)
Using Agency: UNC at Chapel Hill	
Requisition No.: N/A	

EXECUTION

In compliance with this Request for Proposal (RFP), 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 proposal, the undersigned Vendor understands that false certification is a Class I felony and certifies that:

- this proposal 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 proposal, 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 RFP, 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 response to the RFP, 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 proposal, Vendor certifies that it has read and agreed to the **INSTRUCTION TO VENDORS** and the **NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS incorporated herein**. These documents can be accessed from the ATTACHMENTS page within this document.

Failure to execute/sign proposal prior to submittal may render proposal invalid and it MAY BE REJECTED. Late proposals 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:

VALIDITY PERIOD

Offer shall be valid for at least sixty (60) days from date of bid opening, unless otherwise stated here: _____ days, or if extended by mutual agreement of the parties in writing. Any withdrawal of this offer shall be made in writing, effective upon receipt by the agency issuing this RFP.

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

If your proposal is accepted, all provisions of this RFP, 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 The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

1.0	PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND	8
1.1	CONTRACT TERM.....	9
2.0	GENERAL INFORMATION.....	9
2.1	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENT.....	10
2.2	UNIVERSITY’S E-COMMERCE FUNCTIONALITY	10
2.3	NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING RFP TERMS AND CONDITIONS.....	10
2.4	RFP SCHEDULE	11
2.5	SITE VISIT or PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE.....	11
2.6	PROPOSAL QUESTIONS.....	11
2.7	PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL.....	11
2.8	PROPOSAL CONTENTS	12
2.9	ALTERNATE PROPOSALS	13
2.10	DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS.....	13
3.0	METHOD OF AWARD AND PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCESS	13
3.1	METHOD OF AWARD	13
3.2	CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS DURING EVALUATION.....	13
3.3	PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCESS	14
3.4	EVALUATION CRITERIA	15
3.5	PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES	15
3.6	INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES.....	16
4.0	REQUIREMENTS.....	16
4.1	PRICING.....	16
4.2	INVOICES AND PAYMENT	16
4.3	UNIVERSITY’S E-COMMERCE FUNCTIONALITY	17
4.4	TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION	17
4.5	DELIVERY.....	17
4.6	AUTHORIZED RESELLER	18
4.7	WARRANTY	18
4.8	MAINTENANCE OPTION.....	18
4.9	PUBLICBIDOPENING.....	19
4.10	HUB PARTICIPATION.....	19
4.11	[RESERVED].....	19
4.12	REFERENCES.....	19
4.13	VENDOR’S REPRESENTATIONS	19
4.14	[RESERVED].....	20
4.15	FINANCIAL STABILITY	20
4.16	[RESERVED].....	20
4.17	LOBBYING ACTIVITY CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL GRANTS.....	20
4.18	BACKGROUND CHECKS.....	20

4.19	PERSONNEL.....	20
4.20	SUPPLIER'S REPRESENTATIONS.....	21
5.0	PRODUCT SPECIFICAFIONS AND SCOPE OF WORK.....	21
5.1	GENERAL.....	21
5.2	CATEGORIES OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	21
5.3	WARRANTIES	22
5.4	[RESERVED].....	22
5.5	CERTIFICATION AND SAFETY LABELS	22
6.0	CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION	23
6.1	CONTRACT MANAGER AND CUSTOMER SERVICE	23
6.2	POST AWARD PROJECT REVIEW MEETINGS	23
6.3	CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT	24
6.4	ADOPTION LANGUAGE.....	24
6.5	[RESERVED].....	24
6.6	INVOICES.....	25
6.7	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	25
6.8	PRODUCT RECALL	25
6.9	PRICE ADJUSTMENTS.....	25
6.10	CONTRACT CHANGES.....	25
7.0	ATTACHMENTS	26
	ATTACHMENT A: PRICING	26
	ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS.....	28
	ATTACHMENT C: UNC CHAPEL HILL GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS.....	36
	ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR.....	56
	ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION.....	57
	ATTACHMENT F: SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION.....	58

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (the “University”), a North Carolina public university, seeks an experienced Supplier to provide Research and Development Goods and Services (“R&D”). This RFP is part of a competitive procurement process which helps to serve the University's best interests. It also provides Suppliers with a fair opportunity for its goods and services to be considered. The process of competitive negotiation being used in this case should not be confused with the different process of competitive sealed bidding. The latter process is usually used where the goods or services being procured can be described precisely and price is generally the determinative factor. With competitive negotiation, however, price is not required to be the determinative factor, although it may be, and the University has the flexibility it needs to negotiate with Suppliers to arrive at a mutually agreeable relationship.

For ease of reference, each Supplier receiving this RFP is referred to as a “Supplier” or “Vendor” and the Supplier selected to provide goods and services for the University is referred to as the “Selected Supplier(s)” or “Selected Vendor(s)”. This RFP states the instructions for submitting proposals, the procedure and criteria by which a Supplier may be selected, and the contractual terms by which the University proposes to govern the relationship between it and the Selected Supplier(s).

This RFP is the third generation (GEN 03) of the original RFP which was issued in 2022. Suppliers awarded contracts from the GEN 01 or GEN 02 RFP should not respond to this third generation RFP.

Proposals will be accepted only from manufacturers or OEMs. Distributors or resellers may submit proposals only if explicitly authorized in writing by the manufacturer, and such authorization must be included with the proposal. The issuing organization reserves the right to reject proposals submitted by distributors.

Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP and any addenda issued hereto.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (“UNC-Chapel Hill”), the nation’s first public university, is a global higher education leader known for innovative teaching, research and public service. A member of the prestigious American Association of Universities (AAU), Carolina regularly ranks as the best value for academic quality in U.S. public higher education.

UNC-Chapel Hill is a top-ranked public R1 research university. UNC houses five major health affairs schools (Medicine, Public Health, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Nursing) on our main campus, adjacent to our College of Arts & Sciences and co-located with a statewide health care system and five on-campus hospitals. This arrangement drives a highly collaborative culture among scientists of all disciplines that helps make possible our \$1 billion in annual research activity. UNC is home to over 50 research centers and institutes and is one of the three corners of North Carolina’s Research Triangle Park, along with neighbors Duke University and N.C. State University.

By fostering and supporting collaborative, interdisciplinary teams, UNC Research is accelerating new discoveries and solutions to emerging challenges in these areas: BRAIN, CANCER, DATA SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT, OPPORTUNITY, WELL-BEING, AND CULTURE, PRECISION HEALTH AND SOCIETY.

The Vice Chancellor for Research’s funding Initiatives and award programs accelerate the work of UNC researchers with diverse perspectives to develop solutions to scientific challenges, promote creative pursuits, and benefit North Carolina and the world. Through these initiatives, we seek to build a culture of collaboration that promotes discovery and curiosity, supports creative inventions, and recognizes and rewards exceptional performance.

In support of its mission and in an effort to maintain the highest quality services for its customers, the University seeks an experienced Supplier(s) to provide Research and Development Goods and Services to begin in 2026.

The University invites Suppliers responding to this RFP to submit proposals that present different options for provision of the Goods and Services, and/or alternate creative proposals. The University will, in its sole judgment, consider such options and/or alternatives as long as the functionality and minimum requirements of the University are met. The University reserves the right to award to different Selected Supplier(s) to respectively provide any part of the goods and services discussed in this RFP.

1.1 CONTRACT TERM

It is the intent of this RFP to continue to have multiple open award enrollment periods. The University reserves the right to award to new Selected Supplier(s) and/or re-negotiate pricing with currently Selected Supplier(s) during these open enrollment periods.

Bi-annual periods of open enrollment will be initiated the first quarter of the calendar year, January 1st through March 31st of each even year for the ten (10) year term until the year **2036**. These periods of open enrollment will be referred to as specific "Generation(s)" of vendor award(s). Selected Supplier(s) may be awarded for one, more than one, or all Goods/Services Categories. Supplier(s) will be asked to provide proposals in a similar process as described in this RFP, during each Generation open enrollment period.

Selected Supplier(s) who have been awarded in the prior year will be subject to renewals every 2 years for the full ten (10) year period unless otherwise determined by the University. Selected Supplier(s) pricing and discounts will remain for a period of one year from date of Agreement. Selected Supplier(s) and the University may negotiate or re-negotiate pricing or service terms bi-annually during the open enrollment period. Selected Supplier(s) awarded in subsequent Generation(s) will have the same ten (10) year contract term and pricing requirements as identified in this RFP and same renegotiation terms.

An example of the Generation award structure:

Generation	Anticipated Expiration Term
01 (2022)	10 years from award date (2032)
02 (2024)	10 years from award date (2034)
03 (2026)	10 years from award date (2036)
04 (2028)	10 years from award date (2038)
05 (2030)	10 years from award date (2040)

Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP and any addenda issued hereto.

2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

This Request for Proposal (RFP) has been posted on the State of North Carolina electronic Vendor Portal (NC eVP) web site. Addenda and attachments are posted to the NC eVP web site if issued. The RFP can be downloaded at this web site <https://evp.nc.gov>. It is the Supplier's responsibility to ensure that the latest version of the entire RFP and related links are reviewed prior to submission of a proposal. We encourage you to check the web site frequently for any changes prior to the due date. For questions about the content of the RFP, contact the buyer listed herein via email.

By entering into an agreement with The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a result of this Request-For-Proposal (RFP), Supplier agrees to honor the prices, terms, and conditions of this agreement with any other University of North Carolina institution, including any of the 17 University of North Carolina constituent institutions and University of North Carolina System Office, at that University of North Carolina institution's option, in a separate, written agreement between Supplier and the other University of North Carolina institution. Should another University of North Carolina institution choose to enter into a separate agreement with Supplier with terms similar or identical to an agreement resulting from this RFP, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill shall not be responsible for payments or other obligations contained in that separate agreement. If Supplier will charge different rates to different institutions for goods and services provided pursuant to this agreement, Supplier shall list the prices Supplier will charge to each respective University of North Carolina institution here.

2.1 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

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

2.2 UNIVERSITY'S E-COMMERCE FUNCTIONALITY

BuyCarolina (Coupa Platform)

The University of *North Carolina at Chapel Hill* currently maintains an e-commerce (Marketplace) platform, BuyCarolina, which is operated via the University's chosen e-commerce platform vendor (currently *Coupa Software*). The Selected Supplier(s) should be capable of implementing the following e-commerce functions for the University:

- a. A *Coupa* e-commerce catalog – specifically, due to the nature of this commodity, a University-specific “punchout” catalog that coordinates seamlessly with the University’s Marketplace platform, and/or;
- b. A customized quote to order feature in the catalog offering for orders that fall outside the scope of the standard catalog items, such as, customized orders. (the Selected Supplier’s e-commerce capability should include a method of capturing these customized quotes within the e-commerce business environment), and/or;
- c. Electronic receipt of University POs, and/or;
- d. Electronic Invoicing submission upon provision of the goods and services [Please Note: “Electronic Invoicing” is defined as a University-approved methodology for automated University receipt and entry of invoices. Simply delivering copies of invoices via facsimile transmission or e-mail is not considered to be “Electronic Invoicing” for the purposes of this RFP], and/or;
- e. Receipt of the subsequent University payment via a University approved method of electronic payment. (Virtual Payables, Ghost Card, etc.)

2.3 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING RFP 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 RFP 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 RFP.

If Vendors have questions or issues, regarding any component within this RFP, those must be submitted as questions in accordance with the instructions in the PROPOSAL QUESTIONS Section. If the University 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 RFP addendum. The University may also elect to leave open the possibility for later negotiation of specific provisions of the Contract that have been addressed during the question-and-answer period, prior to contract award.

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

The University may exercise its discretion to consider Vendor proposed modifications. By execution and delivery of this RFP 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 upon

through negotiation 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 proposal as nonresponsive.

2.4 RFP SCHEDULE

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

Event	Responsibility	Date and Time
Issue RFP	University	1.22.26
Hold Pre-Proposal Conference/Site Visit	University	N/A
Submit Written Questions	Vendor	2.16.26 By 5PM (ET)
Provide Responses to Questions	University	On or about 3.2.26
Submit Proposals	Vendor	3.23.26 By 3PM (ET)
Contract Award	University	TBD

2.5 SITE VISIT or PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

N/A to this RFP.

2.6 PROPOSAL QUESTIONS

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

Written questions shall be e-mailed to both *cdrag1@unc.edu* and *lynnbare@email.unc.edu* by the date/time specified above. Vendors will enter “RFP # 65-UNC-CH_R&D_RFP_GEN 03: Questions” as the subject for the email. Question submittals will include a reference to the applicable RFP section and be submitted in a format shown below:

Reference	Vendor Question
RFP Section, Page Number	Vendor question ...?

Questions received prior to the submission deadline date, the University’s response, and any additional terms deemed necessary by the University will be posted in the form of an addendum to *the electronic Vendor Portal (eVP)*, <https://evp.nc.gov>, and shall become an Addendum to this RFP. No information, instruction or advice provided orally or informally by any University personnel, whether made in response to a question or otherwise in connection with this RFP, shall be considered authoritative or binding. Vendors shall rely *only* on written material contained in an Addendum to this RFP.

2.7 PROPOSAL 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 proposal has been received as described in this RFP by the specified time and date of opening. The date and time of receipt will be marked on each proposal when received. Any proposal or portion thereof received after the proposal submission deadline will be rejected.

[eVP]

All proposal responses shall be submitted electronically via the electronic Vendor Portal (eVP). Additional information can be found at the eVP updates for Vendors link: <https://eprocurement.nc.gov/news-events/evp-updates-vendors>.

If confidential and proprietary information is included in the proposal, also submit one (1) signed, REDACTED copy of the proposal. Such information may include trade secrets defined by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 66-152 and other information exempted from the Public Records Act pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §132- 1.2. Vendor may designate information, Products, Services or appropriate portions of its response as confidential, consistent with and to the extent permitted under the statutes and rules set forth above. By so redacting any page, or portion of a page, the Vendor warrants that it has formed a good faith opinion, having received such necessary or proper review by counsel and other knowledgeable advisors, that the portions determined to be confidential and proprietary and redacted as such, meet the requirements of the Rules and Statutes set forth above. However, under no circumstances shall price information be designated as confidential.

If the Vendor does not provide a redacted version of the proposal with its proposal submission, the Department may release an unredacted version if a record request is received.

Failure to submit a proposal in strict accordance with these instructions shall constitute sufficient cause to reject a Vendor's proposal(s). Vendors are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to upload proposals.

Critical updated information may be included in Addenda to this RFP. It is important that all Vendors responding on this RFP periodically check the University's eVP website for any Addenda that may be issued prior to the proposal opening date. All Vendors shall be deemed to have read and understood all information in this RFP and all Addenda thereto.

2.8 PROPOSAL CONTENTS

Vendors shall populate all attachments of this RFP that require the Vendor to provide information and include an authorized signature where requested. Failure to provide all required items, or Vendor's submission of incomplete items, may result in the University rejecting Vendor's proposal, in the University's sole discretion.

Vendor RFP responses shall include the following items and attachments, which shall be arranged in the following order:

- a) Cover Letter, which must contain the following: (i) a statement that confirms that the Vendor has read the RFP in its entirety, including all links, and all Addenda released in conjunction with the RFP, (ii) a statement that the 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) Title Page: Include the company name, address, phone number and authorized representative along with the Proposal Number.
- c) Completed and signed version of EXECUTION PAGES, along with the body of the RFP.
- d) Signed receipt pages of any addenda released in conjunction with this RFP, if required to be returned.
- e) Vendor's Proposal addressing all Specifications of this RFP. *[Indicate relative section references as a guide to responding to sections requiring additional responses outside of the solicitation document. If not required, delete.]*
- f) Completed version of ATTACHMENT A: PRICING
- g) ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS
- h) Vendor's requested revisions to ATTACHMENT C: UNC CHAPEL HILL GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS
- i) Completed version of ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR

- j) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
- k) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT F: SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION

2.9 ALTERNATE PROPOSALS

Unless provided otherwise in this RFP, Vendor may submit alternate proposals for comparable Goods, various methods or levels of Service(s), or that propose different options. Alternate proposals must specifically identify the RFP requirements and advantage(s) addressed by the alternate proposal. Any alternate proposal, in addition to the marking described above, must be clearly marked with the legend: “Alternate Proposal #___ [for ‘name of Vendor’]”. Each proposal must be for a specific set of Goods and Services and must include specific pricing. If a Vendor chooses to respond with various offerings, each must be offered with a separate price and be contained in a separate proposal. Each proposal must be complete and independent of other proposals offered.

2.10 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

Relevant definitions for this RFP are provided in 01 NCAC 05A .0112 and in the Instructions to Vendors (Attachment B) found below which are incorporated herein by this reference.

3.0 METHOD OF AWARD AND PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCESS

3.1 METHOD OF AWARD

Contracts will be awarded in accordance with G.S. 143-52 and the evaluation criteria set out in this solicitation. Prospective Suppliers shall not be discriminated against on the basis of any prohibited grounds as defined by Federal or State law.

All qualified proposals will be evaluated, and awards will be made to the Supplier(s) meeting the RFP requirements and achieving the highest and best final evaluation, based on the criteria described below.

The intent of this RFP is to award a Contract(s) to *multiple Suppliers*. The University reserves the right to make separate awards to different Suppliers for one or more-line items, to not award one or more line items, or to cancel this RFP in its entirety without awarding a Contract, if it is considered to be most advantageous to the University to do so.

The status of a Supplier’s E-Procurement Services account(s) shall be considered a relevant factor in determining whether to approve the award of a contract under this RFP. Any Supplier with an E-Procurement Services account that is in arrears by 91 days or more at the time of proposal opening may, at the University’s discretion, be disqualified from further evaluation or consideration.

The University reserves the right to waive any minor informality or technicality in proposals received.

3.2 CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS DURING EVALUATION

While this RFP 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 VI. BID SUBMISSION, Section 27 of the Instructions To Vendors (Attachment B) entitled COMMUNICATONS BY VENDORS..

Each Vendor submitting a proposal to this RFP, 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 RFP or inquiries directed to the purchaser named in this RFP regarding requirements of the RFP (prior to proposal submission) or the status of the award (after submission) are excepted from this provision.

3.3 PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCESS

Only responsive submissions will be evaluated.

The University will conduct a One-Step evaluation of Proposals:

Proposals will be received according to the method stated in the Proposal Submittal Section above.

All proposals must be received by the issuing agency not later than the date and time specified in the RFP 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 University 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 University.

At the date and time provided in the RFP SCHEDULE Section above, unless modified by Addendum, the proposal 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. If negotiation is anticipated, 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 proposal. Vendors are cautioned, however, that the evaluators are not required to request presentations or other clarification—and often do not. Therefore, all proposals should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the Vendor.

Upon completion of the evaluation process, the University 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 RFP number for this solicitation. Award of a Contract to one Vendor does not mean that the other proposals lacked merit, but that, all factors considered, the selected proposal was deemed most advantageous and represented the best value to the University.

The University 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 University.

3.4 EVALUATION CRITERIA

BEST VALUE: "Best Value" procurement methods are authorized by N.C.G.S. §§143-135.9 and 143B-1350(h). The award decision is made based on multiple factors, including: total cost of ownership, meaning the cost of acquiring, operating, maintaining, and supporting a product or service over its projected lifetime; the evaluated technical merit of the Vendor's offer; the Vendor's past performance; and the evaluated probability of performing the specifications stated in the solicitation on time, with high quality, and in a manner that accomplishes the stated business objectives and maintains industry standards compliance. The intent of "Best Value" procurement is to enable Vendors to offer and the Agency to select the most appropriate solution to meet the business objectives defined in the solicitation and to keep all parties focused on the desired outcome of a procurement.

A ranking method of source selection will be utilized in this procurement using evaluation criteria listed in order of importance in the Evaluation Criteria section below to allow the State to award this RFP to the Vendor(s) providing the Best Value and recognizing that Best Value may result in award other than the lowest price or highest technically qualified offer. By using this method, the overall ranking may be adjusted up or down when considered with, or traded-off against, other non-price factors.

EVALUATION METHOD:

All qualified proposals will be evaluated independently, and awards will be made based on considering the following criteria listed in order of importance. Each vendor selected for contract will be evaluated to determine if the proposed market basket is a good fit for the University E-Procurement system and if so determined will be engaged to develop punch-out catalog capability.

Criteria
Market Basket represents a mix of goods considered relevant to the needs of the University.
Selected Supplier(s) proposed discount on goods and/or services to the University.
Selected Supplier(s) identification of Representative(s) to be available either on site or remotely to University users.
The contractual terms which would govern the relationship between the University and the Selected Supplier(s)
Selected Supplier(s) e-commerce capabilities. Specifically, either electronic invoicing, electronic e-commerce catalog, or both, etc.
Selected Supplier(s) warranty or guarantee on goods and/or services.
The Supplier's references from institutions of higher education, teaching hospitals, and clients which are comparable to the University

3.5 PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR. In addition to any other evaluation criteria identified in this RFP, the University 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 University:

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

3.6 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES

This RFP serves two functions: (1) to advise potential Vendors of the parameters of the solution being sought by the University; 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 proposals should be evaluated or rejected, the University will take into consideration the degree to which Vendors have proposed or failed to propose solutions that will satisfy the University's needs as described in the RFP. Except as specifically stated in the RFP, no one requirement shall automatically disqualify a Vendor from consideration. However, failure to comply with any single requirement may result in the University exercising its discretion to reject a proposal in its entirety.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS

This Section lists the requirements related to this RFP. By submitting a proposal, 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 RFP. If a Vendor is unclear about a requirement or specification, or believes a change in a requirement would allow for the University to receive a better proposal, the Vendor is encouraged to submit these items in the form of a question during the question-and-answer period in accordance with the Proposal Questions Section above.

4.1 PRICING

Bid prices shall be based on a percentage discount off the current manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) or other manufacturer's current published price listing (List Price, Suggested Retail Price, etc.) for each supplier defined category or subcategory. Any price list other than a manufacturer's current published price list is unacceptable. Pricing schedule should be provided for each defined category or sub-category in **ATTACHMENT A-PRICING**. A separate discount may be offered for each line item in each category, or a single discount may be offered for the entire category.

ADDITIONAL SAVINGS OFFERS/REBATES

This component of the Pricing Response is optional, but the University encourages Vendors to provide additional financial incentives/rebates, 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, rebates, additional discounts by manufacturer etc. Additional Discount Offers shall be in addition to the discounts Vendor offers as a Discount Off MSRP List Price. Additional Discount Offers should be provided in **ATTACHMENT A: PRICING**.

4.2 INVOICES AND PAYMENT

- a) If Supplier is a BuyCarolina (eProcurement) Supplier, invoices shall be submitted through the BuyCarolina system.

- b) If Supplier is not a BuyCarolina (eProcurement) Supplier, invoices shall be submitted through the University's Vendor Invoice Submission Portal (VISP) system. Instructions will be provided for submitting invoices through the VISP system upon contract award.
- c) The University's preferred supplier payment method is virtual card payment through our Bank of America VCARD program. If Supplier is unable to receive payment through this method, Supplier should provide all feasible methods of payment they can support in your proposal (see Attachment F. SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLIER INFORMATION).

4.3 UNIVERSITY'S E-COMMERCE FUNCTIONALITY

BuyCarolina (Coupa Platform)

The UNC-Chapel Hill currently maintains an e-commerce (Marketplace) platform, BuyCarolina, which is operated via the University's chosen e-commerce platform supplier (currently *Coupa Software*). The Selected Supplier(s) should be capable of implementing the following e-commerce functions for the University:

- a. A *Coupa* e-commerce catalog – specifically, due to the nature of this commodity, a University-specific “punchout” catalog that coordinates seamlessly with the University's Marketplace platform, and/or;
- b. A customized quote to order feature in the catalog offering for orders that fall outside the scope of the standard catalog items, such as, customized orders. (the Selected Supplier's e-commerce capability should include a method of capturing these customized quotes within the e-commerce business environment), and/or;
- c. Electronic receipt of University POs, and/or;
- d. Electronic Invoicing submission upon provision of the goods and services [Please Note: “Electronic Invoicing” is defined as a University-approved methodology for automated University receipt and entry of invoices. Simply delivering copies of invoices via facsimile transmission or e-mail is not considered to be “Electronic Invoicing” for the purposes of this RFP], and/or;
- e. Receipt of the subsequent University payment via a University approved method of electronic payment. (Virtual Payables, Ghost Card, etc.)

4.4 TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION

The Vendor shall deliver Free-On-Board (FOB) Destination to any requested location within the State of North Carolina with all transportation costs and fees included in the total proposal price.

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

The Vendor shall deliver Free-On-Board (FOB) Destination to the following location(s):

Chapel Hill (campus), Kannapolis (Nutrition Research Institute), Morehead City (Institute of Marine Sciences), North Carolina

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.

4.6 AUTHORIZED RESELLER

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

Vendor is the: Manufacturer Dealer Reseller Distributor

Authorized: Yes No Attached Manufacturer's Authority: Yes No

4.7 WARRANTY

Vendor warrants that all equipment furnished under this RFP 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 University, 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 University 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): _____

4.8 MAINTENANCE OPTION

Following the expiration of the foregoing warranty, the system shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's published specifications and the requirements of this RFP. Such maintenance may be performed by the Vendor or, at the University's sole discretion, by a qualified third-party service provider. Nothing herein shall be construed to require the University to obtain maintenance services exclusively from the Vendor.

Maintenance shall include all required parts, remedial maintenance labor, and any associated travel and living expenses. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, maintenance coverage shall be provided at a minimum during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding University-recognized holidays. The University shall have the option, but not the obligation, to accept the maintenance coverage described in the pricing set forth in Attachment A: Pricing, if applicable.

4.9 PUBLIC BID OPENING - OPTIONAL

The name of each Vendor will be announced at a public, virtual Zoom meeting to be held at 3:00 PM EST on March 24, 2026.

Meeting Zoom Link: <https://unc.zoom.us/j/94599963106> (Meeting ID: 945 9996 3106)

4.10 HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (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 RFP 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 F 1.: SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLIER INFORMATION – HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES.

4.12 REFERENCES

Suppliers shall provide at least three (3) references for which your company has provided products and/or services of similar size and scope to that proposed herein. The University may contact these users to determine whether the products and/or services provided are substantially similar in scope to those proposed herein and Supplier’s performance has been satisfactory. The information obtained may be considered in the evaluation of the the proposal. At least one (1) reference shall be a **Tier 1 Higher Education research university**.

COMPANY NAME	CONTACT NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER

4.13 VENDOR’S REPRESENTATIONS

If the proposal results in an award, Vendor agrees that it will not enter any agreement with a third party that may abridge any rights of the University 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.

4.14 [RESERVED]

4.15 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 ATTACHMENT D: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION. The University 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 University within thirty (30) days of any occurrence or condition that materially alters the truth of any statement made in this Certification.

4.16 [RESERVED]

4.17 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.

4.18 BACKGROUND CHECKS

Any personnel or agent of the Supplier performing Services on University premises under any contract arising from this RFP may be required to undergo a background check at the expense of the Supplier, if so, requested by the University. The same personnel or agent of the Supplier may be required to undergo subsequent background checks after 60 months at the expense of the Supplier, if so requested by the University.

4.19 PERSONNEL

Supplier shall not substitute key personnel assigned to the performance of this Contract without prior written approval by the Contract Lead. Supplier shall notify the Contract Lead of any desired substitution, including the name(s) and references of Supplier's recommended substitute personnel. The University will approve or disapprove the requested substitution in a timely manner. The University may, in its sole discretion, terminate the services of any person providing services under this Contract. Upon such termination, the University may request acceptable substitute personnel or terminate the contract services provided by such personnel.

4.20 SUPPLIER'S REPRESENTATIONS

- a) Supplier warrants those qualified personnel shall provide Services under this Contract in a professional manner. "Professional manner" means that the personnel performing the Services will possess the skill and competence consistent with the prevailing business standards in the industry. Supplier agrees that it will not enter any agreement with a third party that may abridge any rights of the University under this Contract. Supplier will serve as the prime contractor under this Contract and shall be responsible for the performance and payment of all subcontractor(s) that may be approved by the University. Names of any third-party Suppliers or subcontractors of Supplier may appear for purposes of convenience in Contract documents and shall not limit Supplier's obligations hereunder. Supplier will retain executive representation for functional and technical expertise as needed in order to incorporate any work by third party subcontractor(s).
- b) If any Services, deliverables, functions, or responsibilities not specifically described in this Contract are required for Supplier's proper performance, provision and delivery of the service and deliverables under this 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, Supplier will furnish all of its own necessary management, supervision, labor, facilities, furniture, computer and telecommunications equipment, software, supplies and materials necessary for the Supplier to provide and deliver the Services and Deliverables.
- c) Supplier warrants that it has the financial capacity to perform and to continue perform its obligations under the contract; that Supplier has no constructive or actual knowledge of an actual or potential legal proceeding being brought against Supplier 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.

5.0 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS AND SCOPE OF WORK

5.1 GENERAL

It is the University's intent to enter into an Agreement with Selected Supplier(s) for Research and Development Goods and Services to help the University achieve its goals as outlined in this RFP. This R&D Request for Proposal (RFP) will include: a broad spectrum of goods and services that are procured to increase scientific knowledge; apply increased scientific knowledge; or explore the potential of scientific discoveries and improvements in technology to advance scientific knowledge. In order to achieve this goal, the Selected Supplier(s) may be requested to provide those goods and services that will be included in one (1) or more categories as outlined in this RFP. Suppliers are encouraged to identify a niche or specialty category that is associated with the strengths of their business model. This opportunity will seek to form Agreements primarily with Manufacturers and Authorized Distributors. The University requests that Distributors do not provide proposals. The University desires to streamline the research contracting process, obtain the best possible pricing, and ensure compliance with Federal, State, and University requirements. This RFP will provide an opportunity for the University research community and Selected Supplier(s) to collaborate and support growth in the research enterprise, minimize administrative burden, reduce costs and risks, and ensure regulatory and policy compliance.

5.2 CATEGORIES OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Selected Supplier(s) will be categorized based on groupings similar to those listed below.

- 1.0 **Laboratory Equipment** (e.g., testing and measuring equipment, centrifuge, chromatography, fume hood)

- 2.0 **Microscope Equipment and Services** (e.g., measuring, observing, and testing instruments, maintenance services)
- 3.0 **Laboratory Animals** (e.g., animals used for laboratory purposes)
- 4.0 **Laboratory Chemicals** (e.g., compounds and mixtures, elements and gases, additives, solvents, colorants)
- 5.0 **Equipment Maintenance and Testing Services** (e.g., annual maintenance services, calibration services)
- 6.0 **Life Science Materials and Testing Services** (e.g., proteins, enzymes, molecular biology kits, microorganisms, nucleic acids, libraries, arrays, molecular biology reagents, vectors and vector systems, nucleic acid synthesis)
- 7.0 **Medical, Dental and Orthopedic Goods and Services** (e.g., clinical goods and services, equipment and surgical instruments, orthopedics, splints and braces, pharmaceuticals)
- 8.0 **R&D Goods and Services/Specialty Goods and Services** that are procured to increase scientific knowledge, apply increased scientific knowledge, or explore the potential of scientific discoveries and improvements in technology to advance scientific knowledge.

Listed subsections are meant to demonstrate possible goods/services that would be contained within these categories and are in no way all-inclusive.

5.3 WARRANTIES

Supplier warrants to the University that all items furnished will be new (unless otherwise specifically requested in this RFP), of good material and workmanship, and Supplier agrees to replace any items which fail to comply with the specifications by reason of defective material or workmanship under normal use, free of University's negligence or accident for a minimum of 90 days from date of acceptance. Such replacement shall include transportation costs free of any charge to the University. This statement is not intended to limit any additional coverage, which may normally be associated with a product. Supplier shall assign to the University all third-party warranties applicable to such deliverables. Supplier warrants that the University has all rights necessary to utilize all deliverables for their intended purpose free from all third-party claims.

5.4 [RESERVED]

5.5 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.

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 CONTRACT MANAGER AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Vendor shall be required to designate and make available to the University a contract manager. The contract manager shall be the University's point of contact for Contract related issues and issues concerning performance, progress review, scheduling, and service.

Contract Manager Point of Contact	
Name:	
Office Phone #:	
Mobile Phone #:	
Email:	

The Vendor shall be required to designate and make available to the University a customer service point of contact. The customer service point of contact shall be the University'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 POST AWARD PROJECT REVIEW MEETINGS

The Vendor, at the request of the University, shall be required to meet periodically (*frequency to be determined*) with the University for Project Review meetings. The purpose of these meetings will be to review project progress reports,

discuss Vendor and University performance, address outstanding issues, review problem resolution, provide direction, evaluate continuous improvement and cost saving ideas, and discuss any other pertinent topics.

6.3 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

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

6.4 ADOPTION LANGUAGE

Any resulting contract may be extended to any other University of North Carolina System (UNC System) institution (each an "Institution") to allow Institution to purchase relevant products and services from Vendor at then-current prices in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract. Use of the contract by another Institution shall be strictly voluntary.

Execution of a separate contract is not required to participate, unless an amendment to the material terms of the contract is required by either the Institution or Vendor, in which case the resulting contract shall be between the Institution and Vendor. Other Institutions shall place their own orders directly with Vendor and shall fully and independently administer their use of the contract, including contractual disputes, invoicing, and payments, without any participation from the University.

The University shall not be responsible for any costs, damages, or other obligations incurred by any other Institution as a result of any use of the contract. It is understood and agreed that the University (a) is not responsible for the acts or omissions of any other Institution, and (b) will not be considered in default of the contract due to the acts or omissions of any other Institution, no matter the circumstances.

UNC System institutions currently include the following:

Appalachian State University
East Carolina University
Elizabeth City State University
Fayetteville State University
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
North Carolina Central University
North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics
North Carolina State University
University of North Carolina at Asheville
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
University of North Carolina at Wilmington
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
University of North Carolina System Office
Western Carolina University
Winston-Salem State University

6.5 [RESERVED]

6.6 INVOICES

Vendor shall invoice the University. The standard format for invoicing shall be Single Invoices meaning that the Vendor shall provide the University with an invoice for each order. Invoices shall include detailed line-item information to allow University 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, Order Date, University'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.

6.7 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 University's Contract Manager for resolution. Any claims by the University 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.

6.8 PRODUCT RECALL

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

6.9 PRICE ADJUSTMENTS

Prices proposed by the Vendor shall be firm against any increase for 365 days from the effective date 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 University and Vendor in advance of any price increase going into effect. The University 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 University 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 University and Vendor.

7.0 ATTACHMENTS

****IMPORTANT NOTICE****

RETURN THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS WITH YOUR RESPONSE

ATTACHMENT A: PRICING

Pricing in Microsoft Excel spreadsheet format only. Pricing documents should include the following information (as applicable):

- Manufacturer Sku/Number
- Item Description
- Manufacturer Name
- Category Discount/Category Discount Code (CDC)/Manufacturer internal category designation
- UNSPSC Code
- UNSPSC Name
- Unit of Measure
- List Price
- Net Price
- Core List/Top List item(s) (assigned discounts to core products or additional values)
- Volume Discount(s)/Incentive(s)/Rebate(s)

- Equipment Maintenance (if applicable)
 - If equipment maintenance services are available after warranty, provide maintenance plan options.
 - If maintenance services are not provided, please provide contact information for up to three third-party vendors who are authorized to provide maintenance and repair services.

Describe the fees (shipping, re-stocking for returns) that will be charged for the goods and services. Ensure that fees are provided for all Goods and Services Categories proposed by Supplier.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to describe shipping and re-stocking fees for goods and services.

ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

I. READ, REVIEW AND COMPLY

It shall be the Vendor's responsibility to read this entire document; review all enclosures, attachments, and any Addenda; and comply with all requirements specified, whether appearing in these Instructions to Vendors or elsewhere in the Solicitation document.

Any gender-specific pronouns used herein, whether masculine or feminine, shall be read and construed as gender neutral, and the singular of any word or phrase shall be read to include the plural and vice versa.

II. REQUEST FOR OFFERS

Vendors are cautioned that this is a request for Offers, not an offer or request to contract, and the University reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all bids at any time if such rejection is deemed to be in the best interest of the University.

By submitting Your Bid or Proposal, You are offering to enter into a contract with the University.

The Contract is a separate document that represents the Vendor's and the University's entire agreement. If Your bid is accepted and results in a Contract, You will be expected to accept the UNC Chapel Hill General Terms And Conditions included in the Solicitation document as part of the Contract. Depending upon the good or service being offered, other terms and conditions may apply.

III. DUTY TO INQUIRE

Offeror, by submitting an Offer, represents that it has read and understands the Solicitation and that its Offer is made in compliance with the Solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the Solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation for any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. All ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation shall be interpreted to require the better quality or greater quantity of work and/or materials, unless otherwise directed by Addendum. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the University's attention.

IV. DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations may be used within the Solicitation document.

1. **AGENCY SPECIFIC TERM CONTRACT:** A contract generally intended to cover all normal requirements for a commodity for a specified period of time based on estimated quantities for a single entity.
2. **ADDENDUM:** a document issued to supplement or modify the original Solicitation document. Addenda may be issued following a pre-bid/pre-proposal conference or as a result of a specification or work scope changes to the Solicitation.
3. **BAFO:** Best and Final Offer, submitted by a Vendor to alter its initial bid, made in response to a request by the issuing agency.
4. **BUYER:** The employee of the University or Other Eligible Entity that places an order with the Vendor.
5. **COMMUNITY COLLEGE:** Any of the fifty-eight (58) public North Carolina Community Colleges.

6. **CONTRACT:** A contract resulting from or arising out of Vendor responses to this Solicitation.
7. **CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR:** A representative of the Agency who is responsible for the functions that are performed after all parties have signed a contract, including any modifications to the contract.
8. **CONTRACT MANAGER:** A representative of the agency or awarded vendor who ensures compliance with the contract terms and conditions while giving attention to the achievement of the stated output and outcome of the contract.
9. **Electronic Vendor Portal (eVP):** System for vendors to do business with the State of North Carolina, including registering to do business, responding to bid opportunities, and certifying as a HUB and/or NCSBE
10. **E-PROCUREMENT SERVICES:** The program, system, and associated services through which the University conducts electronic procurement.
11. **FOB-DESTINATION:** Title changes hand from Vendor to purchaser at the destination point of the shipment; Vendor owns the commodity in transit and files any claims. Vendor pays all freight and any related transportation charges. A Solicitation may request that a Vendor separately identify freight charges in its bid, but no amount or charge not included as part of the total bid price will be paid.
12. **HUB:** Historically Underutilized Business <https://ncadmin.nc.gov/businesses/hub>
13. **IFB:** Invitation for Bids (a type of Solicitation document)
14. **LOT:** A grouping of similar products within this Solicitation document.
15. **OFFER:** the bid or proposal submitted in response this Solicitation. The terms Bid and Proposal are used interchangeably with the term Offer.
16. **OFFEROR:** the single legal entity submitting the Offer. The term Bidder is used interchangeably with the term Offeror. See bidding provisions entitled Signing Your Offer and Bid/Proposal As Offer To Contract.
17. **ON-TIME DELIVERY:** The delivery of all items within a single order to the receiving point designated by the ordering entity within the delivery time required.
18. **PROCUREMENT LEAD:** Representative of the agency identified on the first page of the Solicitation document who will correspond with potential Vendors concerning Solicitation issues, will contract with the Vendor providing the best offer to the University, and is the individual who will administer the Contract for the University.
19. **QUALIFIED BID/PROPOSAL:** A responsive bid submitted by a responsible Vendor.
20. **RESPONSIBLE:** Refers to a Vendor who demonstrates in its Offer that it has the capability to perform the requirements of the Solicitation.
21. **RESPONSIVE:** Refers to an Offer that conforms to the Requirements of the Solicitation in all respects to be considered by the University for award.
22. **RFI:** Request for Information (an information gathering tool that does not result in a contract)
23. **RFP:** Request for Proposals (a type of Solicitation document)
24. **RFPQ:** Request for Pre-Qualifications (a type of Solicitation document)
25. **RFQ:** Request for Quotes (a type of Solicitation document)
26. **STATE:** The State of North Carolina, including any of its sub-units recognized under North Carolina law.
27. **STATE AGENCY:** Any of the more than 400 sub-units within the executive branch of the State, including its departments, institutions, boards, commissions, universities, and units of the State.
28. **STATE DEPARTMENTS:** Department of Administration, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Commerce, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Information Technology, Department of Insurance, Department of Justice, Department of Labor, Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, Department of Public Instruction, Department of Public Safety, Department of Revenue, Department of State Treasurer, Office of the Secretary of the State,

Department of Transportation, Wildlife Resources Commission, Office of Budget and Management, Office of the Governor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Office of The State Auditor, Office of the State Controller.

29. **VENDOR:** The supplier, bidder, proposer, company, firm, corporation, partnership, individual or other entity submitting a response to a Solicitation document. Following award of a contract, the term refers to an entity receiving such an award.
30. **WORK:** All labor, materials, equipment, services, or property of any type, provided or to be provided by the Contractor to fulfill the Contractor's obligations under the Contract.
31. **YOU and YOUR:** Offeror.

V. INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES

The Solicitation document serves to advise potential Vendors of the parameters of the solution being sought by the State. 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 University will take into consideration the degree to which Vendors have proposed or failed to propose solutions that will satisfy the University's needs as described in the Solicitation. Except as specifically stated in the Solicitation, no one requirement shall automatically disqualify a Vendor from consideration. However, failure to comply with any single requirement, if determined to be essential under the circumstances then existing, may result in the University exercising its discretion to reject a bid in its entirety.

VI. BID SUBMISSION

1. **VENDOR'S REPRESENTATIVE:** Each Vendor shall submit with its bid the name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) with authority to bind the Vendor and answer questions or provide clarification concerning the Vendor's bid.
2. **SIGNING YOUR OFFER:** Every Offer must be signed by an individual with actual authority to bind the Offeror.
 - a) If the Offeror is an individual, the Offer must be signed by that individual. If the Offeror is an individual doing business as a firm, the Offer must be submitted in the firm name, signed by the individual, and University that the individual is doing business as a firm.
 - b) If the Offeror is a partnership, the Offer must be submitted in the partnership name, followed by the words by its Partner, and signed by a general partner.
 - c) If the Offeror is a corporation, the Offer must be submitted in the corporate name, followed by the signature and title of the person authorized to sign.
 - d) An Offer may be submitted by a joint venture involving any combination of individuals, partnerships, or corporations. If the Offeror is a joint venture, the Offer must be submitted in the name of the Joint Venture and signed by every participant in the joint venture in the manner prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (c) above for each type of participant.
 - e) If an Offer is signed by an agent, other than as stated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) above, the Offer must state that it has been signed by an Agent. Upon request, Offeror must provide proof of the agent's authorization to bind the principal.
3. **EXECUTION:** Failure to sign the Execution Page (numbered page 1 of the Solicitation document) in the indicated space may render an Offer nonresponsive, and it may be rejected.
4. **STATE OFFICE CLOSINGS:** If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal government processes so that Offers cannot be received at the State office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the Solicitation, the time specified for receipt of Offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the Solicitation on the first work day on which normal government processes resume. In lieu of an automatic extension, an Addendum may be issued to reschedule the bid opening. If State offices are closed at the time a pre-bid or pre-proposal conference is scheduled, an Addendum will be issued to reschedule the conference.

5. **BID IN ENGLISH and DOLLARS:** Offers submitted in response to this Solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the Solicitation.
6. **LATE BIDS:** Late bids, regardless of cause, will not be opened or considered, and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be the Vendor's sole responsibility to ensure delivery at the designated office by the designated time.
 - a) Vendor shall bear the risk for late submission due to unintended or unanticipated delay—whether submitted electronically, delivered by hand, U.S. Postal Service, courier or other delivery service. It is the Vendor's sole responsibility to ensure that its bid has been received by this Office by the specified time and date of opening. The date and time of submission will be marked on each bid when received, and any bid received after the bid submission deadline will be rejected.
 - b) For proposals submitted via U.S. mail, please note that the U.S. Postal Service generally does not deliver mail to a specified street address but to the University's Mail Service Center. Vendors are cautioned that proposals sent via U.S. Mail, including Express Mail, may not be delivered by the Mail Service Center to the agency's purchasing office on the due date in time to meet the proposal deadline. All Vendors are urged to take the possibility of delay into account when submitting a proposal by U.S. Postal Service, courier, or other delivery service.
7. **DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIVENESS:** Any Offer which fails to conform to the material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected as nonresponsive. Offers which impose conditions that modify material requirements *of the Solicitation may be rejected. If a fixed price is required, an Offer will be rejected if the total possible cost to the University cannot be determined. Offerors will not be given an opportunity to correct any material nonconformity. Any deficiency resulting from a minor informality may be cured or waived at the sole discretion of the Procurement Officer.*
8. **CONTENTS OF OFFER:**
 - a) Offers should be complete and carefully worded and should convey all of the information requested.
 - b) Offers should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the Offeror's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the Solicitation. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content.
 - c) If Your Offer includes any comment over and above the specific information requested in the Solicitation, You are to include this information as a separate appendix to Your Offer. Offers which include either modifications to any of the Solicitation's contractual requirements or an Offeror's standard terms and conditions may be deemed non-responsive and not considered for award at the University's discretion.
9. **MULTIPLE OFFERS.** If specifically stated in the Solicitation document, Offerors may submit more than one Offer, provided that each Offer has significant differences other than price. Each separate Offer must satisfy all Solicitation requirements.
10. **CLARIFICATION:** The University may elect to communicate with You after bid opening for the purpose of clarifying either Your Offer or the requirements of the Solicitation. Such communications may be conducted only with Offerors who have submitted an Offer which obviously conforms in all material aspects to the Solicitation. Clarification of an Offer must be documented in writing and included with the Offer. Clarifications may not be used to revise an Offer or the Solicitation.
11. **ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION:** The University reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in bids and, unless otherwise specified by the Vendor, to accept any item in the bid. If either a unit price or an extended price is obviously in error and the other is obviously correct, the incorrect price will be disregarded. Regardless of error or omission, a Vendor shall not be permitted to increase its pricing after the deadline for submitting bids.
12. **BASIS FOR REJECTION:** Pursuant to 01 NCAC 05B .0501, the University reserves the right to reject any

and all Offers, in whole or in part, by deeming the Offer unsatisfactory as to quality or quantity, delivery, price or service offered, non-compliance with the requirements or intent of this Solicitation, lack of competitiveness, error(s) in specifications or indications that revision would be advantageous to the University, cancellation or other changes in the intended project or any other determination that the proposed requirement is no longer needed, limitation or lack of available funds, circumstances that prevent determination of the best offer, or any other determination that rejection would be in the best interest of the University.

13. **INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE:** Vendor shall furnish all information requested in the Solicitation document. Further, if required elsewhere in this bid, each Vendor shall submit with its bid any sketches, descriptive literature, and/or complete specifications covering the goods and services offered. Reference to literature submitted with a previous bid or available elsewhere will not satisfy this provision. **Do not submit bid samples or descriptive literature unless expressly requested.** Unsolicited bid samples or descriptive literature will not be examined or tested, will not be used to determine responsiveness, and will not be deemed to vary any of the provisions of the Solicitation. Failure to comply with these requirements shall constitute sufficient cause to reject a bid without further consideration.
14. **WITHDRAWAL OF BID OR PROPOSAL:** Proposals submitted electronically may be withdrawn at any time prior to the date for bid opening identified on the cover page of this Solicitation document (or such later date included in an Addendum). Proposals that have been delivered by hand, U.S. Postal Service, courier, or other delivery service may be withdrawn **only** in writing and if receipt is acknowledged by the office issuing the Solicitation document prior to the time for opening identified on the cover page of the Solicitation document (or such later date included in an Addendum). Written withdrawal requests shall be submitted on the Vendor's letterhead and signed by an official of the Vendor authorized to make such request. Any withdrawal request made after bid opening shall be allowed only for good cause shown and in the sole discretion of the Division of Purchase and Contract.
15. **COST FOR BID OR PROPOSAL PREPARATION:** Any costs incurred by Vendor in preparing or submitting Offers *are the Vendor's sole responsibility.*
16. **INSPECTION AT VENDOR'S SITE:** The University reserves the right to inspect, at a reasonable time, the equipment, item, plant, or other facilities of a prospective Vendor prior to Contract award, and during the Contract term as necessary for the University's determination that such equipment, item, plant, or other facilities conform with the specifications/requirements and are adequate and suitable for the proper and effective performance of the Contract.
17. **RECYCLING AND SOURCE REDUCTION:** It is the policy of the University to encourage and promote the purchase of products with recycled content to the extent economically practicable, and to purchase items which are reusable, refillable, repairable, more durable, and less toxic to the extent that the purchase or use is practicable and cost-effective. We also encourage and promote using minimal packaging and the use of recycled/recyclable products in the packaging of commodities purchased. However, no sacrifice in quality of packaging will be acceptable. The company remains responsible for providing packaging that will adequately protect the commodity and contain it for its intended use. Companies are strongly urged to bring to the attention of purchasers those products or packaging they offer which have recycled content and that are recyclable.
18. **CERTIFICATE TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN NORTH CAROLINA:** As a condition of Contract award, each out-of-State Vendor that is a corporation, limited-liability company, or limited-liability partnership shall have received, and shall maintain throughout the term of The Contract, a Certificate of Authority to Transact Business in North Carolina from the North Carolina Secretary of State, as required by North Carolina law. A University contract requiring only an isolated transaction completed within a period of six months, and not in the course of a number of repeated transactions of like nature, shall not be considered transacting business in North Carolina and shall not require a Certificate of Authority to Transact Business.

19. **SUSTAINABILITY:** To support the sustainability efforts of the State of North Carolina we solicit Your cooperation in this effort. Pursuant to Executive Order 156 (1999), it is desirable that all responses meet the following:
- a) If paper copies are requested, all copies of the bid are printed double sided. All submittals and copies are printed on recycled paper with a minimum post-consumer content of 30%.
 - b) Unless absolutely necessary, all bids and copies should minimize or eliminate use of non-recyclable or non-reusable materials such as plastic report covers, plastic dividers, vinyl sleeves, and GBC binding. Three-ringed binders, glued materials, paper clips, and staples are acceptable.
 - c) Materials should be submitted in a format which allows for easy removal, filing and/or recycling of paper and binder materials. Use of oversized paper is strongly discouraged unless necessary for clarity or legibility.
20. **HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (HUB):** The University is committed to retaining Vendors from diverse backgrounds, and it invites and encourages participation in the procurement process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled. In particular, the University encourages participation by Vendors certified by the State Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses, as well as the use of HUB-certified vendors as subcontractors on University contracts.
21. **RECIPROCAL PREFERENCE:** G.S. 143-59 establishes a reciprocal preference requirement to discourage other states from favoring their own resident Vendors by applying a percentage increase to the price of any bid from a North Carolina resident Vendor. To the extent another state does so, North Carolina applies the same percentage increase to the bid of a Vendor resident in that state. Residency is determined by a Vendor's "Principal Place of Business," defined as that principal place from which the overall trade or business of the Vendor is directed or managed.
22. **INELIGIBLE VENDORS:** As provided in G.S. 147-86.59 and G.S. 147-86.82, the following companies are ineligible to contract with the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision of the State:
- a) any company identified as engaging in investment activities in Iran, as determined by appearing on the Final Divestment List created by the State Treasurer pursuant to G.S. 147-86.58, and
 - b) any company identified as engaged in a boycott of Israel as determined by appearing on the List of restricted companies created by the State Treasurer pursuant to G.S. 147-86.81.
- A contract with the State or any of its political subdivisions by any company identified in a) or b) above shall be void ab initio.* **VALID TAXPAYER INFORMATION:** All persons or entities desiring to do business with the University must provide correct taxpayer information on North Carolina specified forms. The Substitute W-9 and Instructions are here:
- https://files.nc.gov/ncosc/documents/NCAS_forms/State_of_North_Carolina_Sub_W-9_01292019.pdf
23. **VENDOR REGISTRATION AND SOLICITATION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM:** The North Carolina electronic Vendor Portal (eVP) allows Vendors to electronically register free with the State to receive electronic notification of current procurement opportunities available as well as notifications of status changes to those Solicitations. Online registration and other purchasing information is available at the following website: <https://evp.nc.gov>.
24. The status of a Vendor's E-Procurement Services account(s) shall be considered a relevant factor in determining whether to approve the award of a Contract resulting from this Solicitation document. Any Vendor with an E-Procurement Services account that is in arrears by 91 days or more at the time of bid opening may be suspended or deactivated, at the State's discretion, and may be disqualified from further evaluation or consideration.
25. **TABULATIONS:** Bid tabulations can be electronically retrieved at the Electronic Vendor Portal (eVP), <https://evp.nc.gov>. Tabulations will normally be available at this web site not later than one working day after the bid opening. If negotiation is anticipated under 01 NCAC 05B.0503, pricing may not be public until award. Lengthy or complex tabulations may be summarized, with other details not made

available on eVP. Requests for additional details or information concerning such tabulations cannot be honored.

26. **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:** To the extent permitted by applicable statutes and rules, the University will maintain as confidential trade secrets in bids that the Vendor does not wish disclosed. As a condition to confidential treatment, each page containing trade secret information shall be identified in boldface at the top and bottom as "CONFIDENTIAL" by the Vendor, with specific trade secret information enclosed in boxes, marked in a distinctive color or by similar indication. Cost information shall not be deemed confidential under any circumstances. Regardless of what a Vendor may label as a trade secret, the determination whether it is or is not entitled to protection will be determined in accordance with G.S. 132-1.2. Any material labeled confidential constitutes a representation by the Vendor that it has made a reasonable effort in good faith to determine that such material is, in fact, a trade secret under G.S. 132-1.2. Vendors are urged to limit the marking of information as a trade secret or as confidential so far as is possible. If a legal action is brought to require the disclosure of any material so marked confidential, the University will notify Vendor of such action and allow Vendor to defend the confidential status of its information.
27. **COMMUNICATIONS BY VENDORS:** In submitting its bid, the Vendor agrees not to discuss or otherwise reveal the contents of its bid to any source, government or private, outside of the using or issuing agency until after the award of the Contract or cancellation of this Solicitation. All Vendors are forbidden from having any communications with the using or issuing agency, or any other representative of the University concerning the Solicitation, during the evaluation of the bids (i.e., after the public opening of the bids and before the award of the Contract), unless the University directly contacts the Vendor(s) for purposes of seeking clarification or another reason permitted by the Solicitation. A Vendor shall not: (a) transmit to the issuing and/or using agency any information commenting on the ability or qualifications of any other Vendor to provide the advertised good, equipment, commodity; (b) identify defects, errors and/or omissions in any other Vendor's bid and/or prices at any time during the procurement process; and/or (c) engage in or attempt any other communication or conduct that could influence the evaluation or award of a Contract related to this Solicitation. Failure to comply with this requirement shall constitute sufficient justification to disqualify a Vendor from a Contract award. Only those communications with the using agency or issuing agency authorized by this Solicitation are permitted.
28. **INFORMAL COMMENTS:** The University shall not be bound by informal explanations, instructions or information given at any time by anyone on behalf of the University during the competitive process or after award. The University is bound only by information provided in writing in this Solicitation document and in formal Addenda.
29. **PROTEST PROCEDURES:** When a Vendor wishes to protest a contract awarded by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill under our delegated purchasing authority, a Vendor shall submit a written request addressed to the Lead Contract Officer listed in the solicitation. The protest request must be received in the proper office within thirty (30) consecutive calendar days from the date of the Contract award. Protest letters shall contain specific grounds and reasons for the protest, how the protesting party was harmed by the award made and any documentation providing support for the protesting party's claims.
30. **ORDER OF PRECEDENCE:** In cases of conflict between specific provisions in this Solicitation or those in any resulting Contract documents, the order of precedence shall be (high to low) (1) any special terms and conditions specific to this Solicitation document, including any negotiated terms, (2) requirements and specifications and administration, (3) The University of North Carolina Terms and Conditions as specified in the solicitation document, (4) Instructions To Vendors, (5) Pricing, and (6) Vendor's Bid.
31. **ADDENDA:** Critical updated information may be included in Addenda to the Solicitation. It is important that all Vendors bidding on the Solicitation periodically check for any Addenda that may be issued prior to the bid opening date. All Vendors shall be deemed to have read and understood all information in the Solicitation document and all Addenda thereto. Vendors are also responsible

for obtaining and complying with all Addenda and other changes that may be issued concerning the Solicitation.

32. **ORAL EXPLANATIONS NON-BINDING:** Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding. Any information given a prospective Offeror concerning a Solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Offerors as an Addendum to the Solicitation, if that information is necessary for submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective Offerors. See clause herein entitled "Duty to Inquire." The University will not identify You in its answer to Your question.
33. **MAXIMUM COMPETITION:** The University seeks to permit the maximum practicable competition. Offerors are urged to advise the University, as soon as possible, regarding any aspect of this procurement, including any aspect of the Solicitation that unnecessarily or inappropriately limits full and open competition. If the University determines that any changes will be made resulting from the questions asked, then such decisions will be communicated in the form of an Addendum.
34. **FIRM OFFER:** Vendor's bid shall constitute a firm offer. By execution and delivery of a bid in response to a Solicitation, the Vendor agrees that any additional or modified terms and conditions, whether submitted purposefully or inadvertently, shall have no force or effect, and will be disregarded. Any bid that contains language that indicates the bid is non-binding or subject to further negotiation before a contractual document may be signed shall be rejected.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR PROCUREMENT OF
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

By shipping Products, commencing performance of Services, or responding to the Purchase Order, the Supplier accepts and agrees to the following terms and conditions:

1. DEFINITIONS. As used herein,

(a) "Agreement" or "Contract" means these General Terms and Conditions for Procurement of Products and Services and incorporating the University's Purchase Order(s), Solicitation Document(s), and any Statement(s) of Work executed by the Parties under this Agreement, as applicable.

(b) "Parties" means the University and the Supplier, collectively (each, individually, a "Party").

(c) "Products" means all equipment, merchandise, hardware, goods, and documentation to be delivered to the University by the Supplier under this Agreement, the Purchase Order(s), Solicitation Document(s), and any Statement(s) of Work, as applicable.

(d) "Purchase Order" means the document used by the University to order Products and/or any type of Service(s) provided by the Supplier in sufficient detail to allow the Supplier to accept and accurately fulfill the University's order, and including terms describing price, quantity, invoicing and delivery addresses, and purchasing agent contact information.

(e) "Services" means all services to be performed by the Supplier for the University under this Agreement, the Purchase Order(s), Solicitation Document(s), and any Statement of Work(s), as applicable.

(f) "Solicitation Document" means the University's request for proposal, request for information, invitation for bid, and/or other solicitation document issued by the University to solicit offers for the Products and Services.

(g) "State" means the State of North Carolina.

(h) "Statement of Work" means a document that defines, for each project under this Agreement, the (1) work activities to be performed by the Supplier, (2) payment rates, (3) additional payment terms (if any), (4) Products and/or Services, (5) work schedule governing the Supplier's provision of Services, and (6) any other relevant information the Parties wish to include.

(i) "University" means The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and its successors and assigns.

(j) "Supplier" means the Party providing the Products and/or Services to the University under this Agreement, and its successors and assigns.

2. PERFORMANCE.

(a) It is anticipated that the tasks and duties undertaken by the Supplier under the contract which results from the University's solicitation in this matter (Contract) shall include Services, and/or the manufacturing, furnishing, or development of goods and other tangible features or components, as deliverables.

(b) Except as provided herein, and unless otherwise mutually agreed in writing prior

to award, any deliverables not subject to an agreed Supplier license and provided by Supplier in performance of this Contract shall be and remain property of the University. During performance, Supplier may provide proprietary components as part of the deliverables that are identified in this Contract. Supplier grants the University a personal, permanent, non-transferable license to use such proprietary components of the deliverables and other functionalities, as provided under this Contract. Any technical and business information owned by Supplier or its suppliers or licensors made accessible or furnished to the University shall be and remain the property of the Supplier or such other party, respectively. Supplier agrees to perform under the Contract in at least the same or similar manner provided to comparable users and customers. The University shall notify the Supplier of any defects or deficiencies in performance or failure of deliverables to conform to the standards and specifications provided in this Contract. Supplier agrees to timely remedy defective performance or any nonconforming deliverables on its own or upon such notice provided by the University.

(c) Supplier has a limited, non-exclusive license to access and use University data provided to Supplier, but solely for performing its obligations under and during this Agreement and in confidence as further provided for herein or by law.

(d) Supplier or its suppliers, as specified and agreed in the Contract, shall provide support and assistance to the University related to all Services performed or other deliverables procured hereunder during the University's normal business hours. Supplier warrants that its support, customer service, and assistance will be performed at a minimum in accordance with generally accepted and applicable industry standards.

(e) The State may document and take into account in awarding or renewing future procurement contracts the general reputation, performance and performance capabilities of the Supplier under this Contract as provided by N.C Gen. Stat. §§ 143-52 and 143-135.9 (a) and (b) (Best Value).

3. PAYMENT TERMS.

(a) All invoices shall be submitted to the University's Systems and Operations Department unless otherwise instructed on the face of the Purchase Order. Payment terms are net thirty (30) days after the University's receipt of a correct invoice or acceptance of the Products or Services, whichever is later.

(b) The University retains the right to determine the most appropriate method to remit payments to the Supplier.

(c) Upon written request approved by the University and solely as a convenience to the Supplier, the University may: (i) forward the Supplier's payment check directly to any person or entity designated by the Supplier, and (ii) include any person or entity designated by Supplier as a joint payee on the Supplier's payment check. In no event shall such approval and action obligate the University to anyone other than the Supplier and the Supplier shall remain responsible for fulfillment of all contract obligations.

(d) The University does not agree in advance, in contract, pursuant to Constitutional limitations, to pay costs such as interest, late fees, penalties, or attorney's fees. This Agreement will not be construed as an agreement by the University to pay such costs and will be paid only as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

4. TAXES. Any applicable taxes shall be invoiced as a separate item. Invoices shall not include any sales or use tax (or fees) unless required by the North Carolina Department of

Revenue. The University is exempt from North Carolina Sales and Use Tax for all qualifying purchases. The University's North Carolina Sales and Use Tax exemption number is 400028. The University is exempt from Federal Taxes, such as excise and transportation. The University shall not be responsible for income or property taxes.

5. TRANSPORTATION OF PRODUCTS. Transportation of Products shall be FOB Destination unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Document or Purchase Order. Freight, handling, hazardous material charges, and distribution and installation charges shall be included in the total price of each item. Any additional charges shall not be honored for payment unless authorized in writing by the University. In cases where parties other than the Supplier ship materials against this order, the shipper must be instructed to show the Purchase Order number on all packages and shipping manifests to ensure proper identification and payment of invoices. A complete packing list must accompany each shipment.

6. CONDITION AND PACKAGING. Unless otherwise provided by special terms and conditions or specifications, it is understood and agreed that any item offered or shipped has not been sold or used for any purpose and shall be in first class condition. All containers/packaging shall be suitable for handling, storage, or shipment.

7. STANDARDS.

(a) *Manufacturing Requirements.* 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 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.

(b) *Energy Star Compliance.* All Products constituting electronic office equipment, including but not limited to, computers, monitors, printers, scanners, photocopy machines, and facsimile machines, shall be Energy Star compliant. If any of the Products do not satisfy Energy Star requirements, the Supplier shall provide a justification statement explaining why the Products are not Energy Star compliant.

(c) *Quality Assurance.* The Supplier will provide and maintain a quality assurance system or program that includes any Products and will tender to the University only those Products that have been inspected and found to conform to the requirements of this Agreement. All manufactured items and/or fabricated assemblies comprising Products are subject to operation, certification, or inspection, and accessibility requirements as required by State or federal regulation.

(d) *Site Preparation.* The Supplier shall provide the University complete site requirement specifications for the Products, to the extent applicable. These specifications shall ensure that the Products to be installed shall operate properly and efficiently within the site environment. Any subsequent alterations or modifications required to be made to the site

which are directly attributable to incomplete or erroneous specifications provided by the Supplier shall be made at the expense of the Supplier.

(e) *Specifications.* The apparent silence of the specifications in the Solicitation Document as to any detail concerning the Products shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practice is to prevail and only material and workmanship of the first quality may be used. Unless otherwise specified in the University's Solicitation Document, the Products shall be new and not refurbished, field-upgraded, previously opened, or otherwise used.

(f) *Information Security Compliance and Certifications.* At all times during the term of this Agreement, the Supplier shall (1) use information security best practices for transmitting and storing potentially sensitive information; (2) employ information security best practices with respect to network security techniques, including, but not limited to, firewalls, intrusion detection, and authentication protocols; (3) comply with all applicable laws and regulations regarding privacy and data security to maintain database security on any online financial transactions conducted on the University's behalf through the use of the Supplier's Software or records belonging to the University that contain sensitive and confidential information; (4) provide most current SOC 2 Type II report at least once every two (2) years; (5) maintain ISO/IEC 27000 series information security best practices; and (6) in the event the Supplier is acting as a Service Provider as defined by the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS), comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS) and provide appropriate PCI attestation documentation, such as a valid Attestation of Compliance (AOC). The University reserves the right to conduct or request the Supplier to have an independent third-party security audit performed.

8. TRAVEL EXPENSES. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Supplier may be reimbursed for documented travel expenses arising under the performance of this Agreement at the out-of-state rates set forth in N.C Gen. Stat. § 138-6, as amended from time to time. The Supplier personnel whose travel expenses are to be paid or reimbursed by University funds are subject to University travel regulations, which are located at <https://finance.unc.edu/departments/strategic-sourcing-payment/procurement/accounts-payable-travel-services/travel/>. The Supplier agrees to use the lowest available airfare not requiring a weekend stay and to use the lowest available rate for rental vehicles, and to require employees to share rental vehicles whenever the Services to be provided reasonably allow. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, all Supplier-incurred travel expenses shall be billed on a monthly basis, shall be supported by receipt, and shall be paid by the University within thirty (30) days after invoice approval. Travel expenses exceeding the foregoing rates shall not be paid by the University unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. The University will reimburse travel allowances only for days on which the Supplier is required to be in North Carolina performing Services for which it is necessary to be on site under this Agreement.

9. OWNERSHIP OF WORK PRODUCT. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties, deliverables developed or prepared specifically for the University hereunder (the "Deliverables") shall be deemed "works made for hire" under the federal copyright laws. The Supplier hereby assigns to the University any and all rights, title, and interest, including, without limitation, copyrights, trade secrets, and proprietary rights to the Deliverables. To the extent the Deliverables include data, modules, components, designs, utilities, subsets, objects, processes, tools, models, and specifications ("Technical Elements") owned or developed by the

Supplier prior to, or independently from, its engagement hereunder, the Supplier retains ownership of such Technical Elements and the Supplier hereby grants to the University a perpetual, worldwide, fully paid-up limited license to use such Technical Elements for University related purposes.

10. QUALIFIED PERSONNEL; INTERVIEWS. For Services procurements, the Supplier shall ensure that qualified personnel of the Supplier will provide the Services under this Agreement in a professional manner. "Professional manner" means that the personnel performing the Services will possess the skill and competence consistent with the prevailing business standards in the applicable industry. Prior to the Supplier commencing the provision of the Services and upon the University's request, the University shall have the opportunity to review resumes and conduct interviews of the personnel who the Supplier proposes to deploy to provide the Services to the University. If the University is not satisfied with the proposed personnel, the University may request acceptable substitute personnel to be provided by the Supplier.

11. KEY PERSONNEL. For Services procurements, the Supplier shall not substitute key personnel assigned to the performance of this Agreement without express prior written approval by the University's designated contract administrator. Any desired substitution shall be noticed to the University's contract administrator accompanied by the names and references of the Supplier's recommended substitute personnel. The University will approve or disapprove the requested substitution in a timely manner. The University may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Services of any person providing Services under this Agreement. Upon such termination, the University may request acceptable substitute personnel to be provided by the Supplier.

12. CARE OF UNIVERSITY PROPERTY.

(a) The Supplier agrees that it shall be responsible for the proper custody and care of any University real or personal property, information, data, instruments, documents, studies, or reports given to or prepared or assembled by or provided to the Supplier under this Agreement, furnished for use in connection with the performance of this Agreement, or purchased by it for this Agreement and will reimburse the University for loss or damage of such property.

(b) Any University property, information, data, instruments, documents, studies, or reports given to or prepared or assembled by or provided to the Supplier under this Agreement shall be kept as confidential, used only for the purpose(s) required to perform this Agreement and not divulged or made available to any individual or organization without the express prior written approval of the University.

(c) The University's property in the hands of the Supplier shall be protected from unauthorized disclosure, loss, damage, or destruction by a natural event or another eventuality. The Supplier agrees to reimburse the University for loss or damage of University property while in Supplier's custody. Such University property shall be returned to the University upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement as directed by the University.

13. INSPECTION AT VENDOR'S SITE. The University reserves the right to inspect, at a reasonable time during normal business hours, the equipment/item, plant, or other facilities of a prospective vendor prior to Purchase Order award, and during the Purchase Order term as necessary for the University's determination that such equipment/item, plant, or other facilities conform with the specifications/requirements and are adequate and suitable for the proper

and effective performance of the Agreement.

14. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR. The Supplier and its employees, officers and executives, and subcontractors, if any, shall be independent contractors and not employees or agents of the University. This Agreement shall not operate as a joint venture, partnership, trust, agency, or any other business relationship.

15. INSURANCE COVERAGE. This section provides minimum insurance coverage rates that are applicable to most moderate risk solicitations. The University will determine, in its sole and absolute discretion, if higher insurance coverage amounts are needed based on the likelihood and severity of exposure to the University.

(a) *Generally.* Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of the Supplier and is of the essence of this Agreement. All such insurance shall meet all laws of the State. Such insurance coverage shall be obtained from companies with an A.M. Best rating of not less than A-VII that are authorized to provide such coverage and that are authorized by the North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance to do business in the State. The Supplier shall at all times comply with the terms of such insurance policies, and all requirements of the insurer under any such insurance policies, except as they may conflict with existing North Carolina laws or this Agreement. The minimum coverage limitations under each insurance policy indicated below shall not be interpreted as limiting the Supplier's liability and obligations or the indemnification requirements under this Agreement.

(b) *Coverage.* During the term of the Agreement, the Supplier, at its sole cost and expense, shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with such terms and limits as indicated. The University shall not be deemed or construed to have assessed the risk that may be applicable to the Supplier. The Supplier shall assess its own risks and, if it deems appropriate, maintain higher limits and broader coverages. The University shall be listed as an additional insured. The Supplier will provide thirty (30) days advance notice to the University, either directly or through the insurer, of any cancellation or non-renewal of a policy. The insurance policies must be written on a primary basis and any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the University shall be non-contributing.

i. **For Small Purchases** as defined under North Carolina Administrative Code 01 NCAC 05A.0112 (35) and 05B.0301 (1), the minimum applicable insurance requirements for Worker's Compensation and Automobile Liability will apply as required by North Carolina law. The University may require Commercial General Liability coverage consistent with the assessed risks involved in the procurement.

ii. **For contracts valued in excess of the Small Purchase threshold, but up to \$1,000,000.00, the following limits shall apply:**

a. Worker's Compensation - The Supplier shall provide and maintain Worker's Compensation Insurance, as may be required by the laws of North Carolina, as well as employer's liability coverage, with minimum limits of \$250,000.00, covering all of Supplier's employees who are engaged in any work under this Agreement. If any work is subcontracted, the Supplier shall require the subcontractor to provide the same coverage for any of its employees engaged in any work under this Agreement.

b. Commercial General Liability - General Liability Coverage on a Comprehensive Broad Form on an occurrence basis in the minimum amount of \$500,000.00 Combined Single Limit. Defense costs shall be in excess of the limit of liability.

c. Automobile - Automobile Liability Insurance, to include liability coverage covering all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles, used within North Carolina in connection with the Contract. The minimum combined single limit shall be \$250,000.00 bodily injury and property damage; \$250,000.00 uninsured/under insured motorist; and \$2,500.00 medical payment.

d. Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions Liability), including Cyber Liability - Supplier, at its sole cost and expense, shall maintain Professional Liability insurance with the following minimum limits of liability: (i) \$1,000,000.00 per loss and (ii) \$1,000,000.00 per aggregate. This insurance shall provide coverage for: (A) liability arising from theft, dissemination, and/or use of Sensitive and Confidential Information; (B) network security liability arising from the unauthorized access to, use of, or tampering with computer systems; and (C) liability arising from the introduction of a computer virus into, or otherwise causing damage to a computer system, network or similar related property. If professional liability insurance is written on a claims-made basis, Supplier warrants that any retroactive date under the policy shall precede the effective date of this Agreement and that either continuous coverage will be maintained or an extended discovery period will be exercised for a period of two (2) years beginning at the time work under this Agreement is completed. If such insurance is maintained on an occurrence form basis, Supplier shall maintain such insurance for an additional period of one (1) year following termination of the Agreement. If such insurance is maintained on a claims-made basis, Supplier shall maintain such insurance for an additional period of three (3) years following termination of the Agreement.

iii. **For contracts valued in excess \$1,000,000.00, the following limits shall apply:**

a. Workers' Compensation Insurance - The Supplier, at its sole cost and expense, shall maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance in accordance with the limits and terms required by the laws of North Carolina, as well as Employers' Liability coverage with minimum limits of \$500,000.00, covering all of the Supplier's employees who are engaged in any work under this Agreement. If any work is subcontracted, the Supplier shall require the subcontractor to provide the same coverage for any of its employees engaged in any work under this Agreement.

b. Commercial General Liability - The Supplier, at its sole cost and expense, shall maintain Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance (ISO form CG0001 or equivalent) with the following minimum

limits of liability: (i) General Aggregate: \$2,000,000.00; (ii) Products/Completed Operations Aggregate: \$2,000,000.00; (iii) Personal/Advertising Injury: \$1,000,000.00; and (iv) Each Occurrence Limit: \$1,000,000.00. Umbrella or excess liability insurance may be used to meet the CGL coverage limit requirements.

c. Automobile Liability Insurance - The Supplier, at its sole cost and expense, shall maintain Automobile Liability Insurance, to include liability coverage, covering all owned, non-owned, employee non-owned, leased, and hired vehicles used in connection with this Agreement. The minimum combined single limit shall be \$1,000,000 bodily injury and property damage per accident. Umbrella or excess liability insurance may be used to meet the Automobile Liability coverage limit requirements.

d. Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions Liability), including Cyber Liability - Supplier, at its sole cost and expense, shall maintain Professional Liability insurance with the following minimum limits of liability: (i) \$2,000,000.00 per loss and (ii) \$5,000,000.00 per aggregate. This insurance shall provide coverage for: (A) liability arising from theft, dissemination, and/or use of Sensitive and Confidential Information; (B) network security liability arising from the unauthorized access to, use of, or tampering with computer systems; and (C) liability arising from the introduction of a computer virus into, or otherwise causing damage to a computer system, network or similar related property. If professional liability insurance is written on a claims-made basis, Supplier warrants that any retroactive date under the policy shall precede the effective date of this Agreement and that either continuous coverage will be maintained or an extended discovery period will be exercised for a period of two (2) years beginning at the time work under this Agreement is completed. If such insurance is maintained on an occurrence form basis, Supplier shall maintain such insurance for an additional period of one (1) year following termination of the Agreement. If such insurance is maintained on a claims-made basis, Supplier shall maintain such insurance for an additional period of three (3) years following termination of the Agreement.

16. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS. Any and all payments to the Supplier shall be dependent upon and subject to the availability of funds appropriated or allocated to the University for the purpose set forth in this Agreement.

17. GENERAL INDEMNITY.

(a) The Supplier shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the University, its trustees, officers, employees, and agents (collectively, "Indemnitees") from and against any and all damages, costs, liabilities, losses, and expenses incurred by Indemnitees arising from or related to (i) the Products delivered, the Services performed, or materials or supplies furnished in connection with the performance of this Agreement; (ii) a breach of this Agreement by the Supplier; or (iii) any misconduct or acts of negligence by the Supplier or its employees or agents

in the performance of this Agreement.

(b) The Supplier represents and warrants that it shall make no claim of any kind or nature against the University's agents who are involved in the delivery or processing of Supplier deliverables or Services as part of this Agreement with the University.

(c) As part of this provision for General Indemnity, if federal funds are involved in this procurement, the Supplier warrants that it will comply with all relevant and applicable federal requirements and laws, and will indemnify, defend and hold and save the University harmless from any claims or losses resulting to the University from the Supplier's noncompliance with such federal requirements or law in the performance of this Agreement. The representations and warranties in the preceding two (2) sentences shall survive the termination or expiration of the Contract.

(d) The Supplier will indemnify the University for any breach of confidentiality or failure of its responsibilities to protect confidential information, including by not limited to, the cost of notification of affected persons as a result of its accidental or negligent release of University data provided to the Supplier pursuant to the Agreement.

18. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WARRANTY AND INDEMNITY.

(a) Supplier shall hold and save the University, its officers, agents, and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including costs and expenses, resulting from infringement of the rights of any third party in any Services or copyrighted material, patented or patent-pending invention, article, device or appliance delivered in connection with this Agreement.

(b) Supplier warrants to the best of its knowledge that:

- i. Performance under this Agreement does not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of any thirdparty; and
- ii. There are no actual or threatened actions arising from, or alleged under, any intellectual propertyrights of any third party.

(c) Should any deliverables supplied by Supplier become the subject of a claim of infringement of a patent, copyright, trademark, or a trade secret, the Supplier, shall at its option and expense, either procure for the University the right to continue using the deliverables, or replace or modify the same to become non-infringing. If neither of these options can reasonably be taken in Supplier's judgment, or if further use shall be prevented by injunction, the Supplier agrees to cease provision of any affected deliverables and refund any sums the University has paid Supplier for such deliverables and make every reasonable effort to assist the University in procuring substitute deliverables. If, in the sole opinion of the University, the cessation of use by the University of any such deliverables due to infringement issues makes the retention of other items acquired from the Supplier under this Agreement impractical, the University shall then have the option of terminating this Agreement, or applicable portions thereof, without penalty or termination charge; and Supplier agrees to refund any sums the University paid for unused Services or other deliverables.

(d) The Supplier, at its own expense, shall defend any action brought against the University to the extent that such action is based upon a claim that the deliverables supplied by the Supplier or their use or operation, infringe on a patent, copyright, trademark or violate a trade secret. The Supplier shall pay those costs and damages finally awarded or agreed in a settlement against the University in any such action.

(e) Supplier will not be required to defend or indemnify the University to the

extent any claim by a third party against the University for infringement or misappropriation results solely from the University's material alteration of any Supplier-branded deliverables or Services, or from the continued use of the Services or other deliverables after receiving written notice from the Supplier of the claimed infringement.

19. SUSPENSION. The University will have the right to suspend performance of this Agreement at any time by providing written notice to the Supplier and specifying the dates of the suspension. The University will be responsible for paying the Supplier in accordance with the terms of the Agreement for the delivery of Products and Services accepted by the University at the time of the suspension.

20. DEFAULT AND TERMINATION FOR CAUSE.

(a) If, through any cause, the Supplier shall fail to fulfill in timely and proper manner the obligations under this Agreement, including, without limitation, in these Terms and Conditions, the University shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the Supplier and specifying the effective date thereof. In that event, any or all finished or unfinished deliverables under this Agreement prepared by the Supplier shall, at the option of the University, become the University's property (and under any applicable Supplier license to the extent necessary for the University to use such property), and the Supplier shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such materials. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Supplier shall not be relieved of liability to the University for damages sustained by the University by virtue of any breach of this Agreement, and the University may withhold any payment due the Supplier for the purpose of setoff until such time as the exact amount of damages due to the University from such breach can be determined. The University reserves the right to require a performance bond or other acceptable alternative performance guarantees from the successful offeror without expense to the University. N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 25-2-609 and 143-52(a); 01 NCAC 05B.1521.

(b) In case of default by the Supplier, the University may, as provided by North Carolina law, procure the Products or Services necessary to complete performance hereunder from other sources and hold the Supplier responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 25-2-712. In addition, and in the event of default by the Supplier, or upon the Supplier filing a petition for bankruptcy or the entering of a judgment of bankruptcy by or against the Supplier, the University may immediately cease doing business with the Supplier, terminate this Agreement for cause, take action to recover relevant damages, and initiate proceedings to debar the Supplier from doing future business with agencies of the State of North Carolina. 01 NCAC 05B.1520.

(c) The Supplier shall be in default if it submitted a certification for price-matching preference under Executive Order #50 and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-59 that was false and/or contained materially misleading or inaccurate information, and/or the Supplier failed to provide information and documentation requested by the University to substantiate the Supplier's certification. The State of North Carolina may take action against the Supplier under the False Claims Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1-605 et seq., for submitting a false certification for the price-matching preference under Executive Order #50 (including but not limited to treble damages and civil penalties).

21. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE. The University may terminate this Agreement without penalty for any reason upon thirty (30) days written notice to the Supplier. In that

event, all finished or unfinished deliverable items prepared by the Supplier under this Agreement shall, at the option of the University, become its property, and under any applicable Supplier license to the extent necessary for the University to use such property. If this Agreement is terminated by the University for convenience, the Supplier shall be paid for those items or services satisfactorily completed, less any payment or compensation previously made.

22. FORCE MAJEURE. Neither Party shall be deemed to be in default of its obligations hereunder if and so long as it is prevented from performing such obligations as a result of events beyond its reasonable control, including without limitation, fire, flood, power failures, acts or threats of war, acts or threats of terrorism, hostile foreign action, nuclear explosion, riot, strike, civil insurrection, pandemic, epidemic, quarantine, acts or regulations of public or University officials including measures to limit the spread of contagious disease, governmental acts, orders, or restrictions, national, regional, or local emergency, severely inclement weather, interruption or delay of transportation service, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic natural event or Act of God; provided that such Party uses reasonable efforts, under the circumstances, to promptly notify the other Party of the cause of such delay and to resume performance as soon as possible in light of the circumstances giving rise to the force majeure event

23. CONFIDENTIALITY; CARE OF INFORMATION.

(a) *Confidentiality.* Any information, data, documents, studies, and reports given to or prepared or assembled by the Supplier under this Agreement shall be kept as confidential and not divulged or made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the University.

(b) *Response to Third-party Requests for University Data.* If the Supplier is served with a subpoena related to University data, then, unless prohibited by law, the Supplier will provide prior notice of such subpoena to the University to allow the University an opportunity to seek injunctive relief before disclosure of the information.

(c) *Protection of Supplier Trade Secrets under NC Public Records Act.* The University will maintain the confidentiality of the Supplier's "trade secrets", in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 132-1, et seq. (the "NC Public Records Act"). Trade secrets are defined by North Carolina statute as "business or technical information, including but not limited to a formula, pattern, program, device, compilation of information, method, technique, or process that derives independent actual or potential commercial value from (i) not being generally known or readily ascertainable through independent development or reverse engineering by persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use, and (ii) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy." (See N.C. Gen. Stat. § 66-152). The Supplier shall designate the portions of the materials it delivers to the University that meet this definition of "trade secrets," or that otherwise are exempt from disclosure under the NC Public Records Act, by printing "CONFIDENTIAL" in boldface at the top and bottom of the applicable pages or sections. Under the North Carolina Administrative Code, price information shall not be deemed confidential (NCAC 05B.0103). In spite of what is labeled as confidential, the determination as to whether the information is subject to disclosure shall be determined by North Carolina law. The Supplier is notified that if the confidentiality of material is challenged by other parties, the Supplier has the responsibility of defending the assertion of confidentiality. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-52(a).

(d) *Protection of University's Sensitive and Confidential Information.* The Supplier shall safeguard and protect Sensitive and Confidential Information of the University in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and consistent with ISO/IEC 27000 series information security best practices. "Sensitive and Confidential Information" means any, but not limited to, the following: "Personal Information" under the North Carolina Identity Theft Protection Act of 2005, confidential "personnel information" under the North Carolina Human Resources Act, "Protected Health Information" under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), student "education records" under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), "customer record information" under Gramm Leach Bliley Act (GLBA), "cardholder data" as defined by the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS), and any information protected from disclosure under the North Carolina Public Records Act. Sensitive and Confidential Information must be restricted by the Supplier to those with a legitimate business need for access to such information. For purposes of illustration, Sensitive and Confidential Information may appear in research data, public safety information, financial donor information, information concerning select agents, system access passwords, information security records, and information file encryption keys.

If the Supplier becomes aware of a confirmed or suspected exposure of Sensitive and/or Confidential University Information, the Supplier shall notify the University's IT Help Desk (919-962-HELP) and ask that a "Critical Remedy Ticket" be created with the University's Information Security Office. The Supplier shall provide a telephone number at which the reporting party can be reached for more detail. The Help Desk takes calls 24x7x365. The Supplier shall not provide any information regarding the risk to Sensitive Information or Confidential Information until contacted via telephone by a University incident handler. Upon being contacted by the incident handler, the Supplier agrees to provide the University with access to any information that is pertinent to the investigation of the possible compromise of the University's sensitive information or mission critical system, including, but not limited to: log data, metadata, and forensic images.

(e) *Grant of Limited Right to Use University Data.* Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the University grants to the Supplier a non-exclusive, non-transferable, limited right to use University data received or accessed by the Supplier in the course of performing services under this Agreement. All right, title, and interest in the data shall remain with the University or end users, as applicable. The Supplier may not access and/or duplicate the data for any reasons other than those stated herein without the prior written consent of University.

(f) *Limitations on Use of University Data.* The Supplier shall not collect, mine, save, disclose, or otherwise use any end user personal information or University data for any purpose other than to provision and support the services expressly contemplated under this Agreement.

(g) *FERPA Acknowledgement.* If the Supplier's Services involve the hosting or accessing of student education records, the Supplier acknowledges and agrees that (i) the University has outsourced to the Supplier the performance of institutional services or functions for which the University would otherwise use its own employees, (ii) the Supplier is considered to be a "school official" with "legitimate educational interests" in "personally identifiable information" from "education records" of University students, as those terms have been defined under FERPA (34 C.F.R. 99), (iii) the Supplier is under the direct control of the University

with respect to the Supplier's use and maintenance of data in the education records, and (iv) the Supplier will abide by the limitations and requirements imposed by 34 C.F.R. 99.33(a) on school officials. The Supplier will use such data only for the purpose of fulfilling its duties under this Agreement, and will not monitor or share such data with or disclose it to any third party except as required by law, or authorized in writing by the University.

(h) *Data Security.* The Supplier shall adopt and apply data security standards and procedures that comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and rules.

(i) *Costs Borne by Supplier.* If the Supplier experiences a security incident or breach concerning any Confidential Information covered by this Agreement, and such breach is covered by applicable federal or state laws and regulations, then the Supplier will (a) fully comply with the Supplier's obligations under such laws and regulations, including but not limited to the NC Identity Theft Protection Act, (b) immediately notify the University regarding the breach pursuant to the process outlined in subsection (d) above and provide the information listed in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-65(d)(1-4) and other federal or state laws and regulations required by the University, and (c) fully cooperate with the University in carrying out the University's obligations under said Identity Theft Protection Act.

24. IMPLEMENTATION; CONFLICTS/INCONSISTENCIES. This Agreement shall be implemented by a University Purchase Order. For purposes of construing a transaction as an integrated contract, the following provisions shall apply: (a) the definitions in the Instructions to Vendors in the relevant solicitation for this Contract, and in 01 NCAC 05A.0112 are specifically incorporated herein; (b) if federal funds are involved in the transactions under this Contract, the Supplier shall comply with all applicable state and federal requirements and laws, except where State requirements are more restrictive. See the additional federal requirements included in the "Federal Funds Provisions" section below; (c) "Purchasing Agency" herein is as defined in 01 NCAC 05A.0112, except that if this Contract has been entered into by the NC Department of Administration, Division of Purchase and Contract (P&C) as indicated in the Contract (e.g., a State Term Contract), then P&C will then be a Purchasing Agency for the purposes herein and in the Federal Funds Provisions, below; (d) contracts made in contravention of General Statutes, Chapter 143, Article 3 and the Rules in 05 NCAC Chapter 5, are void. G.S. 143-58; (e) in cases of conflict between specific provisions in this Contract and any other referenced documents, the Order of Precedence shall be (high to low) (1) any special terms and conditions specific to this Contract, including any negotiated terms; (2) requirements, specifications and administrative terms; (3) these NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS, including the Federal Funds Provisions; (4) Definitions and other provisions in INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS in this solicitation, which is specifically incorporated in this Contract; (5) PRICING, and (6) Supplier's Bid, to the extent specifically and mutually incorporated into this Contract. In the event of conflict of terms between applicable provisions of the Federal Funds Provisions and the other provisions of these General Contract Terms and Conditions, the more restrictive provision will govern.

25. SUBCONTRACTING. The Supplier may subcontract performance of this Agreement to third parties only with the express prior written consent of the University. The Supplier remains solely responsible for the performance of its subcontractors. Subcontractors, if any, shall adhere to the same obligations and standards required of the Supplier under this Agreement, and the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be specifically incorporated into any

agreements with subcontractors relating thereto.

26. ASSIGNMENT OR DELEGATION OF DUTIES. This Agreement may not be assigned or delegated by Supplier without the written consent of the University. If Supplier requests any assignment, or delegation of duties, the Supplier shall remain responsible for fulfillment of all Agreement obligations. Upon written request, the University may, in its unfettered discretion, approve an assignment or delegation to another responsible entity acceptable to the University, such as the surviving entity of a merger, acquisition or a corporate reorganization if made as part of the transfer of all or substantially all of the Supplier's assets. 01 NCAC 05B.1507. Any purported assignment or delegation made in violation of this provision shall be void and a material breach of this Agreement. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-58.

27. AMENDMENTS/CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) This Agreement may not be amended orally or by performance. Any amendment, in order to be effective, must be made in written form and signed by duly authorized representatives of the University and the Supplier in accordance with this section.

(b) This Agreement is made subject to the shipment of quantities, qualities, and prices indicated on the Purchase Order and all conditions and instructions on the Purchase Order or the Solicitation Document, as applicable. Any changes made to this Agreement or Purchase Order proposed by the Supplier are hereby rejected unless accepted in writing by the University's Purchasing Services Department or the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations. The University shall not be responsible for products or delivered without a Purchase Order or authorization from the University's Purchasing Services Department. In order to be effective, contracts for University purchases of products or services exceeding \$5,000.00 must be signed by a duly authorized officer of the University's Purchasing Services Department, or the University's Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations or his/her delegate.

28. USE OF UNIVERSITY NAME AND TRADEMARK. The Supplier shall not appropriate or use the existence of this Agreement or the names, logos, photographs, images, property, service marks, or trademarks of the University or the State of North Carolina as a part of any marketing, advertising, endorsement, promotion, or otherwise, without express prior written approval of the University. Requests to use the University's names, logos, photographs, images, property, service marks, or trademarks should be directed to the University's Office of Trademarks and Licensing (<http://www.licensing.unc.edu>). If the University grants express prior written consent to use the University's names, logos, photographs, images, property, service marks, or trademarks, for marketing, advertising, endorsement, promotion, or otherwise, the University shall have the right to reject any such use proposed by the Supplier which in the University's sole discretion violates the University's standards of advertising or is inconsistent with the University's role and reputation as a public institution of higher education.

29. EXPORT CONTROL.

(a) The Supplier agrees to comply with all applicable export control laws and regulations with jurisdiction over hardware, software, or technology used or accessed in connection with performing this Agreement, including but not limited to, U.S. Export Control Regulations, including the Export Administration Regulations (15 C.F.R. 730-744), the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 C.F.R. 120-130), and the Office of Foreign Asset Controls regulations (31 C.F.R. 500-599) in all transactions required to fulfill the terms of this Agreement. Supplier agrees to cooperate with any recordkeeping, certification, license, security

measure, or other action required to confirm or maintain compliance with export control regulations, including provision of personal information specifically required for such export compliance purposes.

(b) The Supplier shall not transfer or disclose to the University any equipment, information, substance, or material that is controlled under the federal government's Export Administration Regulations (15 C.F.R. 730-774) or International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 C.F.R. 120-130) (collectively, any "Export Controlled Material") without first informing the University of the Export Controlled Material's Export Control Classification Number ("ECCN"), or other applicable export control designation other than EAR99.

30. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. The Supplier shall abide by the requirements of 41 C.F.R. 60-1.4(a), 60-300.5(a), and 60-741.5(a). These regulations prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals based on their status as protected veterans or individuals with disabilities, and prohibit discrimination against all individuals based on their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or appropriate inquiries regarding compensation. The Supplier will take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran status, disability, or appropriate inquiries regarding compensation.

31. NOTICES. Any notices required under this Agreement should be delivered to the contract administrator for each Party. Unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Document, any notices shall be delivered in writing by U.S. Mail, commercial courier, or by hand.

32. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES. Each Party shall comply with all laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, and licensing requirements that are applicable to the conduct of its business and performance in accordance with this Agreement, including those of federal, state, and local agencies having jurisdiction and/or authority. The Supplier agrees to comply with all applicable University policies.

33. NO BRIBERY; NO BOYCOTT. Supplier shall adhere to and comply with U.S. anti-boycott laws and all applicable anti-bribery laws, including the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Supplier shall not directly or indirectly offer, give, promise to give, or authorize the giving of any money, loan, gift, donation, or other thing of value to induce a government official to do or to omit from doing any act in violation of their lawful duty, in order to obtain any improper advantage, or to induce a government official to use his or her influence improperly to affect or influence any act or decision.

34. ACCESS TO PERSONS AND RECORDS. During, and after the term hereof during the relevant period required for retention of records by State law (N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 121-5 and 132-1 *et seq.*, typically five years), the State Auditor and the University's internal auditors shall have access to persons and records related to this Agreement to verify accounts and data affecting fees or performance under this Agreement, as provided in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-49(9), § 147-64.7. However, if any audit, litigation, or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Agreement is commenced before the end of the such retention of records period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the record retentions period, whichever is later.

35. SITUS, GOVERNING LAW, AND VENUE.

(a) The place of this Agreement, its situs and forum, shall be North Carolina, where all matters, whether sounding in contract or tort, relating to its validity, construction,

interpretation, and enforcement shall be determined. This Agreement is made under and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, without regard to its conflict of laws rules.

(b) In the event the Parties are unable to resolve any dispute relating to this Agreement, the exclusive venue for any judicial action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be the state or federal courts located in the State of North Carolina.

(c) Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 55A-15-01, non-resident Supplier corporations not formed under North Carolina law must be domesticated in the Office of the North Carolina Secretary of State in order to contract with the State of North Carolina.

36. SEVERABILITY. In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction holds that a provision or requirement of this Agreement violates any applicable law, each such provision or requirement shall be enforced only to the extent it is not in violation of law or is not otherwise unenforceable and all other provisions and requirements of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. All promises, requirements, terms, conditions, provisions, representations, guarantees, and warranties contained herein shall survive the expiration or termination date unless specifically provided otherwise herein, or unless superseded by applicable federal or State statute, including statutes of repose or limitation.

37. CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES. The Supplier shall not provide to the University, or cause the University to use, covered telecommunications equipment or services, as defined in 48 CFR 52.204-25, in the performance of any contract, subcontract or other contractual instrument between the Supplier and the University. In the event the Supplier identifies, during contract performance, covered telecommunications equipment or services as part of any item or service Supplier provides to the University, the Supplier shall immediately notify the University via email to purchasing_team@unc.edu.

38. CERTIFICATIONS UNDER STATE LAW. The Supplier certifies as follows: (a) its proposal was submitted competitively and without collusion (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-54); (b) 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 (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-59.2); (c) it is not an ineligible vendor as set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-59.1; (d) no gift has been offered, extended, or promised by any of its employees or representatives to any University employee associated with preparing plans, specifications, or estimates for the solicitation, or in awarding or administering this Agreement resulting from the solicitation, or in inspecting or supervising the services to be rendered (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 133-32); (e) the Supplier and each of its subcontractors for this Agreement comply 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 (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-48.5); and (g) neither the Supplier nor any assignee of the Supplier is identified on a list maintained by the NC State Treasurer noting either: (i) persons engaged in investment activities in Iran (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 147-86.60) or (ii) persons engaged in business activities boycotting Israel (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 147-86.80 et seq.). False certification may constitute a Class I felony under North Carolina law.

39. *[Provision for purchase orders made using federal grant funds.]* CERTIFICATIONS UNDER

FEDERAL LAW. The Supplier certifies as follows:

(a) Lobbying (2 C.F.R. 200.450).

(i) To the best of its knowledge and belief, no federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the Supplier, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the award of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant or loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.450;

(ii) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or intending to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the Supplier shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," to the University.

(iii) This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000.00 and not more than \$100,000.00 for each such failure.

(b) Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters (2 C.F.R. 200.213 and 2 C.F.R. 180). To the best of its knowledge and belief, neither the Supplier nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.213 and 2 C.F.R. 180.

(c) Protection from Reprisal (41 U.S.C. 4712). The Supplier will: (i) inform in writing its employees working on a federal award of whistleblower protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712 in the predominant language of the workforce; and (ii) include such requirements in any agreement made with a subcontractor or subgrantee.

(d) Environmental Law Compliance. The Supplier will: (i) comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387) and the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201); and (ii) report all violations to the University.

40. ELECTRONIC RECORDKEEPING. The University may preserve electronically all documents related to this Agreement, and such electronic documents will have the same force and effect as the original hardcopy documents. Any printout or other output readable by sight that accurately duplicates the electronic record will be considered an "original" document.

41. WARRANTY TERMS.

(a) If the Supplier is not the manufacturer of the Products, the Supplier represents and warrants to the University that it has been designated by the manufacturer as an authorized reseller of the Products and any manufacturer warranties will pass from the manufacturer through the Supplier and inure to the benefit of the University. In the event such manufacturer warranties fail to pass through the Supplier and inure to the benefit of the

University, the Supplier shall pay, indemnify, and hold the University harmless from all losses, damages, and expenses resulting from such failure.

(b) If the Supplier is the manufacturer of the Products:

(i) The Supplier represents and warrants to the University that for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of installation ("Warranty Period") the Products shall perform in good working order in accordance with industry practices and standards and meet the specifications set forth in the Solicitation Document. Following receipt of written notice thereof, the Supplier shall promptly respond to any failure to comply with the representations and warranties in this subsection, and the Supplier shall promptly repair, replace, or correct the Products at the Supplier's sole cost and expense. The remedies set forth in this section shall be in addition to any other rights and remedies that may be available to the University.

(ii) Supplier represents and warrants to University that, to the best of its knowledge: (1) the licensed Products and associated materials do not infringe any intellectual property rights of any third party; (2) there are no actual or threatened actions arising from, or alleged under, any intellectual property rights of any third party; (3) the Software and associated materials do not contain any surreptitious programming codes, viruses, Trojan Horses, "back doors" or other means to facilitate or allow unauthorized access to the University's information systems; and (4) the Software and associated materials do not contain any timer, counter, lock or similar device (other than security features specifically approved by Customer in the Specifications) that inhibits or in any way limits the Software's ability to operate.

(iii) The Supplier represents and warrants to the University that any Product which performs any date and/or time data recognition functionality, calculation, or sequencing, will provide accurate date/time data and leap year calculations. This warranty shall survive termination or expiration of the Agreement.

(iv) Supplier represents and warrants to University that the Software demonstrated to University, to the extent applicable, during Supplier's on-campus demonstrations: (1) represents a generally available version of the Software; and (2) was configured but not otherwise modified by Supplier or otherwise manipulated in any way to display features or functions that do not exist in a generally available version of the Software as of the date of the Supplier's demonstrations.

(v) Supplier represents and warrants to University that the Products and Services meet the accessibility requirements (to the extent applicable) outlined in Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (<http://section508.gov/>), and the best practices outlined in the W3C Web Accessibility Initiative reference: <http://www.w3.org/WAI/>.

42. NO WAIVER OF REMEDIES OR DEFAULT. Notwithstanding any other language or provision in this Agreement or in any Supplier-supplied material, nothing herein is intended or shall be interpreted as a waiver of any right, remedy, default or breach otherwise available to the University. The waiver by the University of any right, remedy, default, or breach on any one occasion or instance shall not constitute or be interpreted as a waiver of that or any other right or remedy on any other occasion or instance.

43. RETENTION OF RECORDS. During the term of this Agreement and for a period thereafter as determined by the University, the Supplier and its employees, agents, and subcontractors shall maintain complete and professionally adequate records and shall retain them according to

the North Carolina Public Records Act and applicable University policies.

44. GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS. In the event any governmental restrictions are imposed which necessitate alteration of the material, quality, workmanship, or performance of the Products or Services offered, prior to acceptance, it shall be the responsibility of the Supplier to notify, in writing, the University's issuing purchasing officer at once, indicating the specific regulation which requires such alterations. The University reserves the right to accept any such alterations, including any price adjustments occasioned thereby, or to cancel the Agreement.

45. GOVERNMENT REVIEW. To the extent required by applicable law and pursuant to written requests from any appropriate governmental authority, the Supplier and the University shall make available to such appropriate governmental authority this Agreement and any books, records, documents, and other records that are necessary to certify the nature and extent of the services provided and the costs claimed for services rendered pursuant to this Agreement or so as to otherwise comply with the requirements of any lawful agreement between the party and such governmental authority.

46. LICENSES, PERMITS, AND CERTIFICATIONS. During the term of this Agreement, the Supplier and its employees, agents, and subcontractors shall hold current licenses, permits, and certifications, at the levels required to practice their professions and to provide the contracted services in the relevant jurisdiction(s). Upon the University's request, Supplier shall provide proof of such licenses, permits, and certifications.

47. OUTSOURCING. If, after award of this Agreement, and consistent with any applicable NC DIT security provisions, the Supplier wishes to relocate or outsource any portion of performance to a location outside the United States, or to contract with a subcontractor for any such performance, which subcontractor and nature of the work has not previously been disclosed to the University in writing, prior express written approval must be obtained from the University unit or department responsible for the Agreement. The Supplier shall give prompt notice to the University of any relocation of the Supplier, employees of the Supplier, subcontractors of the Supplier, or other persons performing services under a University agreement to a location outside of the United States. Any vendor or subcontractor providing call or contact center services to the University shall disclose to inbound callers the location from which the call or contact center services are being provided.

48. REJECTION OF NON-SOLICITATION. The University rejects and disaffirms any non-solicitation provision or other similar term contained in any material related to the Agreement that would require that the Parties refrain from recruiting or hiring the employees of the other Party unless the non-solicitation provision is expressly agreed to in a writing signed and specifically initialed by an authorized University representative and the Office of University Counsel.

49. HEADINGS, GENDER, AND NUMBER. The headings contained herein are not material parts of the Agreement and should not be used to construe the meaning thereof. The singular of any word or phrase shall be read to include the plural and vice-versa.

50. PARTIAL INVALIDITY. If any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby.

51. SURVIVAL OF PROMISES. All promises, requirements, terms, conditions, provisions, representations, guarantees, and warranties contained herein that by their sense and context are intended to survive the contract expiration or termination date shall so survive, unless

specifically provided otherwise herein, or unless superseded by applicable Federal or State of North Carolina statutes of limitation.

52. SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY. Notwithstanding any other term or provision in this Agreement, nothing herein is intended nor shall be interpreted as waiving any claim or defense based on the principle of sovereign immunity or other State or federal constitutional provision or principle that otherwise would be available to the University under applicable law.

ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR

In accordance with NC General Statute 143-59.4, the Vendor shall detail the location(s) at which performance will occur, as well as the manner in which it intends to utilize resources or workers outside of the United States in the performance of this Contract. The State will evaluate the additional risks, costs, and other factors associated with such utilization prior to making an award. Please complete items a, b, and c below.

a) Will any work under this Contract be performed outside the United States? YES NO

If the Vendor answered “YES” above, Vendor must complete items 1 and 2 below:

1. List the location(s) outside the United States where work under this Contract will be performed by the Vendor, any sub-Contractors, employees, or other persons performing work under the Contract:

2. Describe the corporate structure and location of corporate employees and activities of the Vendor, its affiliates or any other sub-Contractors that will perform work outside the U.S.:

b) The Vendor agrees to provide notice, in writing to the State, of the relocation of the Vendor, employees of the Vendor, sub-Contractors of the Vendor, or other persons performing services under the Contract outside of the United States YES NO

NOTE: All Vendor or sub-Contractor personnel providing call or contact center services to the State of North Carolina under the Contract **shall** disclose to inbound callers the location from which the call or contact center services are being provided.

c) Identify all U.S. locations at which performance will occur:

ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

Name of Vendor: _____

The undersigned hereby certifies that: [check all applicable boxes]

The Vendor is in sound financial condition and, if applicable, has received an unqualified audit opinion for the latest audit of its financial statements.

Date of latest audit: _____

The Vendor has no outstanding liabilities, including tax and judgment liens, to the Internal Revenue Service or any other government entity.

The Vendor is current in all amounts due for payments of federal and state taxes and required employment-related contributions and withholdings.

The Vendor is not the subject of any current litigation or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law.

The Vendor has not been the subject of any past or current litigation, findings in any past litigation, or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law that may impact in any way its ability to fulfill the requirements of this Contract.

He or she is authorized to make the foregoing statements on behalf of the Vendor.

Note: This is a continuing certification and Vendor shall notify the Contract Lead within 15 days of any material change to any of the representations made herein.

If any one or more of the foregoing boxes is NOT checked, Vendor shall explain the reason in the space below:

Signature Date

Printed Name Title

Vendor: _____

ATTACHMENT F: SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION

Please complete the following information below.

1. HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES

Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) consist of minority, women and disabled business firms that are at least fifty-one percent owned and operated by an individual(s) of the categories. Also included in this category are disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled.

Pursuant to G.S. 143B-1361(a), 143-48 and 143-128.4, the State invites and encourages participation in this procurement process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled. This includes utilizing subcontractors to perform the required functions in this RFP. Any questions concerning NC HUB certification, contact the [North Carolina Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses](#) at (919) 807-2330. The Vendor shall respond to question #1 and #2 below.

a) Is Vendor a Historically Underutilized Business? Yes No

b) Is Vendor Certified with North Carolina as a Historically Underutilized Business? Yes No

If so, state HUB classification: _____

2. VENDOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Vendor Contact for questions regarding this proposal.

Name:	
Telephone/Email	

Vendor Contact Sales Representative.

Name:	
Telephone/Email	

Executive Vendor Contact.

Name:	
Telephone/Email	

3. SUPPLIER'S E-COMMERCE CAPABILITY

Vendor: _____

Please provide a complete description of your current e-commerce capability below.

4. WARRANTY/GUARANTEE

Please provide a description of your warranty/guarantee on goods and/or services below.

Vendor: _____

5. SUPPLIER PAYMENT METHOD CAPABILITY

Please provide a description of your payment method capability.

Signature Date

Printed Name Title

***** Failure to Return the Required Attachments May Eliminate
Your Response from Further Consideration *****