



# **STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Invitation for Bid #: 19-IFB-986296627-PTW**

**Medical and Pharmaceutical Biohazard Disposal Services**

**Date of Issue: January 29, 2024**

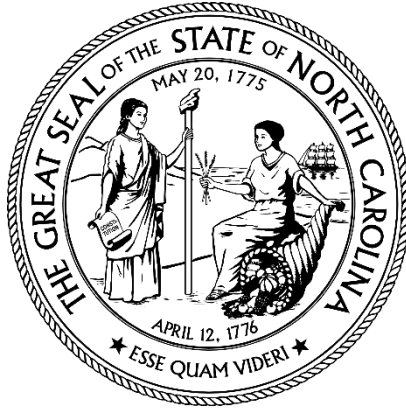
**Bid Opening Date: February 14, 2024**

**At 2:00 PM ET**

**Direct all inquiries concerning this IFB to:**

**Tim Pendergrass**

**Procurement Specialist III**



## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### Invitation for Bid #

**19-IFB-986296627-PTW**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vendor Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vendor eVP#

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

## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Refer <b><u>ALL</u></b> Inquiries regarding this IFB to the procurement lead through the Message Board in the Sourcing Tool. See section 2.6 for details: <b>Tim Pendergrass</b>	Invitation for Bid #: <b>19-IFB-986296627-PTW</b>
	Bids will be publicly opened: <b>February 14, 2024, at 2:00pm, ET.</b> Meeting ID: 216 806 267 805 Passcode: Gx7wMi
Using Agency: <b>NC Emergency Management</b>	Commodity No. and Description: <b>761219 Hazardous Waste Disposal</b>
Requisition No.: <b>RQ79667</b>	

**EXECUTION**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

G.S. 133-32 and Executive Order 24 (2009) prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee associated with the preparing plans, specifications, estimates for public contracts; 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 IFB, the undersigned certifies, for Vendor's entire organization and its employees or agents, that Vendor is not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

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

**Failure to execute/sign bid prior to submittal may render bid invalid and it MAY BE REJECTED. Late bids shall not 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:	

Bid Number: 19-IFB-986296627-PTW

Vendor: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>VENDOR'S AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE*:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>EMAIL:</b>
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**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 IFB.

**ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS**

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

**FOR STATE USE ONLY:** Offer accepted and Contract awarded this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, as indicated on

The attached certification, by \_\_\_\_\_.

**(Authorized Representative of Department of Public Safety)**

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

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The North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) is soliciting proposals to acquire the services of a qualified Vendor(s) to provide Biohazard Boxes, Medical Waste, Sharps Management, and Disposal services in North Carolina during disaster responses. To meet emergency requirements during disasters, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) is seeking bids from qualified Vendors to establish an Agency Specific contract to provide Regulated Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal.

NCEM is a government organization that administers state and federal emergency management programs enabled by the Federal Stafford Act and Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General statutes.

This solicitation is for qualified vendors located anywhere in the United States, to include North Carolina.

No minimums or maximums are guaranteed.

### 1.1 CONTRACT TERM

The Contract shall have an initial term of three (3) years, beginning on the date of final Contract execution (the "Effective Date").

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

## 2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

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### 2.1 INVITATION FOR BID DOCUMENT

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

### 2.2 E-PROCUREMENT FEE

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

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

#### What is the Ariba Network?

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

For training on how to use the Sourcing Tool to view solicitations, submit questions, develop responses, upload documents, and submit offers to the State, Vendors should go to the following site:

<http://eprocurement.nc.gov/training/vendor-training>.

### 2.3 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING IFB TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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

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

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Vendor: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## 2.4 IFB SCHEDULE

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

Event	Responsibility	Date and Time
Issue IFB	State	January 29, 2024
Submit Written Questions	Vendor	February 7, 2024, by 2:00pm, ET.
Provide Response to Questions	State	February 8, 2024
Submit Bids	Vendor	February 14, 2024, by 2:00pm, ET Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer, mobile app or room device</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> Meeting ID: 216 806 267 805 Passcode: Gx7wMi <a href="#">Download Teams</a>   <a href="#">Join on the web</a> <b>Join with a video conferencing device</b> ncgov@m.webex.com Video Conference ID: 118 143 009 7 <a href="#">Alternate VTC instructions</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 984-204-1487,,229138044#</a> United States, Raleigh Phone Conference ID: 229 138 044# <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a>
Contract Award	State	To be determined

## 2.5 BID QUESTIONS

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

Questions related to the content of the solicitation, or the procurement process should be directed to the person on the title page of this document via the Sourcing Tool's message board by the date and time specified in the IFB SCHEDULE Section of this IFB.



Bid Number: 19-IFB-986296627-PTW

Vendor: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendors will enter “**IFB #: 19-IFB-986296627-PTW – Questions**” as the subject of the message. Question submittals should include a reference to the applicable IFB section. This is the only manner in which questions will be received.

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

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

## 2.6 BID SUBMITTAL

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

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

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

### Tips for Using the Sourcing Tool

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

If confidential and proprietary information is included in the bid, also submit one (1) signed, REDACTED copy of the bid. 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 bid with its bid submission, the Department may release an unredacted version if a record request is received.

## **2.7 BID CONTENTS**

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

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

- a) Title Page: Include the company name, address, phone number and authorized representative along with the Bid Number.
- b) Completed and signed version of all EXECUTION PAGES, along with the body of the IFB.
- c) Signed receipt pages of any addenda released in conjunction with this IFB, if required to be returned.
- d) Vendor's Response: 4.11 Support Questionnaire and Emergency Contact, 6.1 Customer Service
- e) Completed version of ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM
- f) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION
- g) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM
- h) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR
- i) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
- j) Completed and signed version of ATTACHMENT H: CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS and OMB STANDARD FORM LLL

## **2.8 ALTERNATE BIDS**

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

## **2.9 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS**

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

## **3.0 METHOD OF AWARD AND BID EVALUATION PROCESS**

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### **3.1 METHOD OF AWARD**

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

All responsive bids will be reviewed, and an award or awards will be based on the responsive bid(s) offering the lowest price that meets the specifications provided herein, to include any required verifications set out here in such as but not limited to past performance, references, and financial documents.

While the intent of this IFB is to award a Contract(s) to a single Vendor, the State reserves the right to make separate awards to different Vendors for one or more line items, to not award one or more line items, or to cancel this IFB in its entirety without awarding a Contract, if it is considered to be most advantageous to the State to do so.

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

### **3.2 CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS DURING EVALUATION**

While this IFB is under evaluation, the responding Vendor, including any subcontractors and suppliers, is prohibited from engaging in conversations intended to influence the outcome of the evaluation. See Paragraph 29. of the Instructions to Vendors entitled COMMUNICATOINS BY VENDORS

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

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

### **3.3 BID EVALUATION PROCESS**

Only responsive submissions will be evaluated.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **3.4 PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

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

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

### **3.5 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES**

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

## **4.0 REQUIREMENTS**

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

### **4.1 PRICING**

Bid price shall constitute the total cost to the State for complete performance in accordance with the requirements and specifications herein, including all applicable charges for handling, transportation, administrative and other similar fees. Complete ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM and upload in the Sourcing Tool. The pricing provided in ATTACHMENT A, or resulting from any negotiations, is incorporated herein and shall become part of any resulting Contract.

### **4.2 INVOICES**

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

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

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

#### **4.3 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 G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION. The State is requiring this certification to minimize potential issues from contracting with a Vendor that is financially unstable. From the date of the Certification to the expiration of the Contract, the Vendor shall notify the State within thirty (30) days of any occurrence or condition that materially alters the truth of any statement made in this Certification. The Contract Manager may require annual recertification of the Vendor's financial stability.

#### **4.4 HUB PARTICIPATION**

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

#### **4.5 REFERENCES**

Vendor shall upload to the Sourcing Tool at least three (3) references, using ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM, for which it has provided Services of similar size and scope to those proposed herein. The State may contact these users to determine whether the Services provided are substantially similar in scope to those proposed herein and whether Vendor's performance has been satisfactory. The information obtained may be considered in the evaluation of the Bid.

#### **4.6 BACKGROUND CHECKS**

Any personnel or agent of Vendor performing Services under any Contract arising from this IFB may be required to undergo a background check at the expense of the Vendor, if so requested by the State.

#### **4.7 PERSONNEL**

Vendor warrants that 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. Vendor 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 State. Names of any third-party Vendors or subcontractors of Vendor may appear for purposes of convenience in Contract documents; and shall not limit Vendor's obligations hereunder. Vendor will retain executive representation for functional and technical expertise as needed in order to incorporate any work by third party subcontractor(s).

Should the Vendor's bid result in an award, the Vendor shall be required to agree that it will not substitute key personnel assigned to the performance of the Contract without prior written approval by the Contract Lead. Vendor shall further agree that it will notify the Contract Lead of any desired substitution, including the name(s) and references of Vendor's recommended substitute personnel. The State will approve or disapprove the requested substitution in a timely manner. The State may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Services of any person providing Services under this Contract. Upon such termination, the State may request acceptable substitute personnel or terminate the contract Services provided by such personnel.

**4.8 VENDOR'S REPRESENTATIONS**

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

**4.9 AGENCY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS MODIFICATION**

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

☐ Small Purchases

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

☐ Contract value in excess of \$1,000,000.00

**4.10 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.

**4.11 SUPPORT QUESTIONNAIRE AND EMERGENCY CONTACT**

North Carolina Emergency Management is charged with responding to any emergency, man-made or natural, 24 hours a day seven days a week. This requires that the awarded Vendor(s) have personnel and the capability respond to order requests after hours, weekends and during holidays. All fields are MANDATORY and must be completed.

ADDITIONAL AGENCY QUESTIONS	VENDOR RESPONSE	
State normal hours of operation		
Provide Support 24/7/365	YES	NO
Projected Response time - Initial		

24 Hour Emergency and Contract Administration Contact Information		
	Name	
	Main Phone Number	

Provide at least two 24/7 emergency contact by which orders can be placed	Office Phone Number	
	Mobile Phone Number	
	Email Address	
	Name	
	Main Phone Number	
	Office Phone Number	
	Mobile Phone Number	
	Email Address	

## 5.0 SPECIFICATIONS AND SCOPE OF WORK

North Carolina Emergency Management is a government organization that administers state and federal emergency management programs enabled by the Federal Stafford Act and Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General statutes to assist State, local governments, and certain Private Non-profit entities with the response to and recovery from disasters.

### 5.1 TASK AND DELIVERABLES

Vendor (s) responding to this IFB shall meet the minimal requirements as described herein:

1. Vendor agrees to provide a complete, efficient, and sanitary regulated medical waste & sharps waste management and disposal service, to include:
  - a. Provision of proper containers for medically regulated and sharps waste collection
  - b. Scheduled waste pickup to occur every other day
  - c. Transportation of waste away from pickup location and paying of landfill fees for disposal of all closed-top containers, and most open-top containers.
  - d. Proper Treatment and disposal of waste
  - e. Additional pickups of containers as need.
2. Vendor shall furnish all necessary equipment, biohazard boxes, materials, and supplies (adequate in kind, quantity, and quality) necessary for professionally performing all work in this IFB. Vendor shall reimburse the NC Emergency Management for all losses incurred as a result of Vendors negligence, inferior work quality, equipment or supplies.
3. Vendor shall be responsible for the removal and disposal of the contents from each container. Garbage and refuse spilled by the vendor shall be cleaned or swept up and removed during that current pick up.
4. NCEM shall not be liable for any unavoidable delay of Vendor during service provision, including but not limited to, normal security requirements and/or operating protocols. Emergency Management shall provide prompt processing of vendors through security stations to the extent possible. No additional fees or surcharges shall be added to the Vendor's monthly invoice for the site delays of any type.
5. Vendor charges for landfill fees shall reflect the exact amount indicated on the county's landfill ticket. No rounding of landfill fees or additional Vendor charges pertaining to disposal, are allowed under this contract. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in termination of the contract.
6. Changes in equipment, service schedule, or anything related to the performance of vendor at service location, shall be approved by the NCEM contract administrator, prior to the change becoming effective. Vendors are cautioned that no service location may make a change in equipment and/or service related to the performance of this contract without the necessary prior approval from NCEM.
7. Vendor employees shall be licensed and insured and in compliance with all federal, state, and local regulations related to the transportation and safe handling of refuse.

## 5.2 DEVIATIONS

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 6.0 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

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

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

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

## 6.2 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

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

## 6.3 ACCEPTANCE OF WORK

Performance of the work and/or delivery of Goods shall be conducted and completed at least in accordance with the Contract requirements and recognized and customarily accepted industry practices. Performance shall be considered complete when the Services or Goods are approved as acceptable by the Contract Administrator.

## 6.4 TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

If a Contract results from this solicitation, and the Contract is not renewed at the end of the last active term, or is canceled prior to its expiration, for any reason, Vendor shall provide transition assistance to the State, at the option of the State, for up to two (2) months to allow for the expired or canceled portion of the Services to continue without interruption or adverse effect, and to facilitate the orderly transfer of such Services to the State or its designees. If the State exercises this option, the Parties agree that such transition assistance shall be governed by the terms and conditions of the Contract (notwithstanding this expiration or cancellation), except for those Contract terms or conditions that do not reasonably apply to such transition assistance. The State shall agree to pay Vendor for any resources utilized in performing such transition assistance at the most current rates provided by the Contract for performance of the Services or other resources utilized.



## **6.5 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

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

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

## **6.6 CONTRACT CHANGES**

Contract changes, if any, over the life of the Contract shall be implemented by contract amendments agreed to in writing by the State and Vendor. Amendments to the contract can only be done through the contract administrator.

## **6.7 ATTACHMENTS**

All attachments to this RFP are incorporated herein and shall be submitted by responding in the Sourcing Tool. These attachments can be found at the following Vendor Forms link for reference purposes only:

<https://ncadmin.nc.gov/documents/vendor-forms>

**The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank**

**ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM****FURNISH AND DELIVER:**

Prospective Vendors must provide the following information in the spaces provided to allow for a complete evaluation of bid package. If a commodity listed is not supported by your organization, place N/A in those spaces. This will not affect the evaluation process or eligibility of the Vendor.

**I. REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE:**

On an occasional basis, a facility may need emergency (extra) pick up services. The per-box price and the price per trip will apply to emergency (extra) pick-ups as well.

If Vendor arrives at any NCEM designated facility for a scheduled pickup (predetermined by both parties), and there are no biohazard boxes to be picked up, the vendor may invoice the unit for a trip charge and the cost for (1) standard approximate 32-gallon biohazard box.

**PRICE PER BOX:** Cost to pick up, transport, incinerate, dispose of medical waste, per box (or contents within box or box liner). Price quoted in the table below shall be for a standard size boxes of approximately 32-gallon, 96-gallon, and 200-gallon capacity, . Price shall be applicable to each and every box.

**PRICE PER TRIP :** The trip charge shall be in addition to the per box charge and shall be charged for every trip to a medical unit. The trip charge shall be the same for all units, regardless of the distance from the Vendor's place of business or the quantity of waste, and regardless of box quantity or size.

Vendor shall offer a firm, fixed price, all inclusive of labor, materials, transportation, general administrative overhead and profit, containers and bags as described in 5.1.

**32-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Regulated Medical Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>
<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____

**96-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Regulated Medical Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>

<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

**200-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Regulated Medical Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>
<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

**II. HAZARDOUS DRUG WASTE:**

On an occasional basis, a facility may need emergency (extra) pick up services. The per-box price and the price per trip will apply to emergency (extra) pick up services as well.

If Vendor arrives at any NCEM designated facility for a scheduled pickup (predetermined by both parties), and there are no black boxes to be picked up, the vendor may invoice the unit for a trip charge and the cost for (1) 2-gallon black box.

**PRICE PER BOX:** Cost to pick up, transport, incinerate/dispose, per box (or contents within box or box liner). Price shall be applicable to each and every box. Price quoted in the table below shall be per approximately 2-gallon, 8-gallon, 12-gallon, 18-gallon size container. Price shall be for each and every box.

**PRICE PER TRIP :** The trip charge shall be in addition to the per-box charge and shall be charged for every trip to a medical unit. The trip charge shall be the same for all units, regardless of the distance from the Vendor's place of business or the quantity of waste, and regardless of box quantity or size.

Vendor shall offer a firm, fixed price, all inclusive of labor, materials, transportation, general administrative overhead and profit, containers as described in 5.1.

**2-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Hazardous Drug Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>
<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____

**8-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Hazardous Drug Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>
<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____

**12-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Hazardous Drug Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>
<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b>	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____

Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services			
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**18-Gallon Capacity Boxes**

<b>Hazardous Drug Waste</b>	<b>PRICE PER BOX</b>	<b>PRICE PER TRIP</b>	<b>TOTAL (price per box + price per trip for tabulation purposes)</b>
<b>DAILY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
<b>BI-WEEKLY</b> Medical Waste and Sharps Management and Disposal services	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____

ATTACHMENT D: HUB SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION

Solicitation #: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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) from one of these 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, the disable, disabled business enterprises, and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled. This includes utilizing individual(s) from these categories as subcontractors to perform the functions required in this Solicitation.

The Vendor shall respond to questions below, as applicable.

PART I: HUB CERTIFICATION

Is Vendor a NC-certified HUB entity? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide Vendor #: \_\_\_\_\_

If no, does Vendor qualify for certification as HUB? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Vendors that check “yes” will be referred to the HUB Office for assistance in acquiring certification.

PART II: PROCUREMENT OF GOODS - SUPPLIERS

For Goods procurements, are you using Tier 2 suppliers? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, then provide the following information:

Company Name	Company Address	Website Address	Contact Name	Contact Email	Contact Phone	NC HUB certified?	Percent of total bid price

**PART III: PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES - SUBCONTRACTORS**

For *Services* procurements, are you using Subcontractors to perform any of the services being procured under this solicitation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, then provide the following information:

Company Name	Company Address	Website Address	Contact Name	Contact Email	Contact Phone	NC HUB certified?	Percent of total bid price

**Need more information?**

Questions concerning the completion of this form should be presented during the Q&A period through the process defined in the Solicitation document.

Questions concerning NC HUB certification, contact the [North Carolina Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses](#) at 984-236-0130 or [huboffice.doa@doa.nc.gov](mailto:huboffice.doa@doa.nc.gov)

## ATTACHMENT E: CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM

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Solicitation #: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Vendor shall use this template to submit three (3) customer references with its offer.

Name of Customer Organization:	
Customer Reference Name:	
Customer Reference Address:	
Customer Reference Email:	
Start Date:	
End Date:	
Explanation of contract, service agreement, or type of products and quantity provided to the organization:	

Name of Customer Organization:	
Customer Reference Name:	
Customer Reference Address:	
Customer Reference Email:	
Start Date:	
End Date:	
Explanation of contract, service agreement, or type of products and quantity provided to the organization:	

Name of Customer Organization:	
Customer Reference Name:	
Customer Reference Address:	
Customer Reference Email:	
Start Date:	
End Date:	
Explanation of contract, service agreement, or type of products and quantity provided to the organization:	



**ATTACHMENT F: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR**

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Solicitation #: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with NC General Statute G.S. 143-59.4, 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 The Contract.

Vendor shall complete items 1 and 2 below.

1. Will any work under this Contract be performed outside of the United States? YES ☐ NO ☐

If "YES":

- a) List the location(s) outside of the United States where work under the Contract will be performed by the Vendor, any subcontractors, employees, or any other persons performing work under the Contract.
- b) Specify the manner in which the resources or workers will be utilized:

2. Where within the United States will work be performed?

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**NOTES:**

1. The State will evaluate the additional risks, costs, and other factors associated with the utilization of workers outside of the United States prior to making an award.
2. Vendor shall provide notice in writing to the State of the relocation of the Vendor, employees of the Vendor, subcontractors of the Vendor, or other persons performing services under the Contract to a location outside of the United States.
3. All Vendor or subcontractor 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.

## ATTACHMENT G: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

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Solicitation #: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_ (If no audit within past 18 months, explain reason below)

☐ 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 on 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 The Contract.

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

**Note:** This shall constitute a continuing certification and Vendor shall notify the Contract Lead within 30 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(s) in the space below. Failure to include an explanation may result in Vendor being deemed non-responsive and its submission rejected in its entirety.

---

Signature

---

Date

---

Printed Name

---

Title

**[This Certification must be signed by an individual authorized to speak for the Vendor]**

**ATTACHMENT H: CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, & COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

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The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal Contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal 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.

If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting 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 undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LL L, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

2. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subContracts, subgrants, and Contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

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 section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

The Vendor, \_\_\_\_\_, certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Vendor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38, Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements, apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Vendor's Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Title of Vendor's Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date