****

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**Montgomery Community College**

**Request for Quote #: MCC-20231010KILN**

**Replacement Gas Kiln for Pottery**

**Date of Issue: October 12, 2023**

**Bid Due Date: October 31, 2023**

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

Dustin Caviness

Accountant

Email: cavinessd5332@montgomery.edu

Phone: 910-898-9639

****

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**Request for Quote #**

**MCC-20231010KILN**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For internal State agency processing, please provide your company’s Federal Employer Identification Number or alternate identification number (e.g. Social Security Number). Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 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 is to be filled out and returned with your quote.**

**ID Number:**  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal ID Number or Social Security Number

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **K:\NC Brand\State Logo\New logo\State Seal.png  STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**  **Montgomery Community College** | |
| **Refer *ALL* Inquiries regarding this RFQ to: *Dustin Caviness***  [***cavinessd5332@montgomey.edu***](mailto:harrisc5926@montgomey.edu)  ***910-898-9639*** | **Request for Quote # MCC-20231010KILN** |
| **Quotes will be publicly opened: N/A** |
| **Contract Type: Open Market Solicitations-New Equipment** |
| **Commodity No. and Description: 231516; Cement and ceramics and glass industry machinery and equipment and supplies** |
| **Using Agency: Montgomery Community College** |
| **Requisition No.:** 51 |

**EXECUTION**In compliance with this Request for Quote, 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 quoted, at the prices set opposite each item within the time specified herein. By executing this quote, the undersigned Vendor certifies that this quote 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 that it is not an ineligible Vendor as set forth in G.S. 143-59.1. False certification is a Class I felony. Furthermore, by executing this quote, 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 RFQ, 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. 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 any response in this quote, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

**Failure to execute/sign quote prior to submittal shall render quote invalid and it WILL BE REJECTED. Late quotes cannot be accepted.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 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 #11): | | | |
| PRINT NAME & TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING ON BEHALF OF VENDOR: | | FAX NUMBER: | |
| **VENDOR’S AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE**: | **DATE:** | EMAIL: | |

Offer valid for at least 60 days from date of quote opening, unless otherwise stated here: \_\_\_\_\_\_ days.

**ACCEPTANCE OF QUOTE**If any or all parts of this quote are accepted by the State of North Carolina, an authorized representative of Montgomery Community College shall affix his/her signature hereto and this document and all provisions of this Request for Quote along with the Vendor response and the written results of any negotiations shall then constitute the written agreement between the parties. A copy of this acceptance will be forwarded to the successful Vendor(s).

|  |
| --- |
| **FOR STATE USE ONLY:** Offer accept and Contract awarded this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_ as indicated on the attached certification, by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **(Authorized Representative of Montgomery Community College)** |

Table of Contents

[1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND 3](#_Toc513204393)

[2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION 3](#_Toc513204394)

[2.1 REQUEST FOR QUOTE DOCUMENT 3](#_Toc513204397)

[2.2 E-PROCUREMENT SOLICITATION 3](#_Toc513204398)

[2.3 QUOTE CONTENTS 3](#_Toc513204401)

[2.4 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS 4](#_Toc513204402)

[2.5 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING TERMS AND CONDITIONS 4](#_Toc513204403)

[3.0 METHOD OF AWARD AND QUOTE EVALUATION PROCESS 4](#_Toc513204404)

[3.1 METHOD OF AWARD 4](#_Toc513204406)

[3.2 PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES 5](#_Toc513204407)

[3.3 QUOTE EVALUATION PROCESS 5](#_Toc513204408)

[3.4 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES 5](#_Toc513204409)

[4.0 REQUIREMENTS 6](#_Toc513204410)

[4.2 PRICING 6](#_Toc513204412)

[4.3 TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION 6](#_Toc513204413)

[4.4 DELIVERY [AND INSTALLATION (IF APPLICABLE)] 6](#_Toc513204414)

[4.6 PRODUCT RECALL 6](#_Toc513204416)

[4.7 WARRANTY 6](#_Toc513204417)

[4.9 INVOICES 7](#_Toc513204419)

[5.0 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS 7](#_Toc513204420)

[5.1 GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS 7](#_Toc513204421)

[5.2 VENDOR’S REPRESENTATION 7](#_Toc513204423)

[ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM 8](#_Toc513204424)

[ATTACHMENT B: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR 9](#_Toc513204425)

[ATTACHMENT C: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS 10](#_Toc513204426)

[ATTACHMENT D: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS & CONDITIONS 12](#_Toc513204427)

[ATTACHMENT E: SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION 25](#_Toc513204428)

# PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Montgomery Community College (MCC) is in need of a replacement gas kiln for our pottery program. We are looking for an ETL certified 8 burner propane gas fired one shuttle car natural draft kiln that is lined with Insulating Fire Brick. The kiln needs to have an inside volume of 43 cubic feet and a stacking height of 38 inches. It should have a temperature range from 0-2500 degrees Fahrenheit and have a 340,000 Maximum BTU/HR input. The kiln controller should have a microprocessor-based programmer-Controller with Ramp/Soak Segments and an Automatic Damper System. We will need a shelving kit with 28 18X18 inch hollow core shelves and 8 kiln posts each from one inch to 14 inches. The kiln furniture and accessories will need to be crated, shipped, and installed on site. A site visit may be necessary to provide accurate details on the space and installation needs.

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

# GENERAL INFORMATION



## REQUEST FOR QUOTE DOCUMENT

The RFQ is comprised of the base RFQ document, any attachments, and any addenda released before Contract award. All attachments and addenda released for this RFQ in advance of any Contract award are incorporated herein by reference. Vendor may attach its quote to this RFQ for submission; however, any and all additional, modified or conflicting terms and conditions submitted on or with Vendor’s quote shall be disregarded and shall not be considered a part of any contract arising from this RFQ. Any attempt to delete or avoid the force of the previous sentence shall render Vendor’s quote invalid, and it shall not be considered.

## E-PROCUREMENT SOLICITATION

**ATTENTION: This is an E-Procurement solicitation. See paragraph #17 of Attachment D: North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions.**

The Terms and Conditions made part of this solicitation contain language necessary for North Carolina’s Statewide E-Procurement Services. It is the Vendor’s responsibility to read these terms and conditions carefully and to consider them in preparing the offer. By execution of its quote, Vendor agrees to and acknowledges acceptance of all terms and conditions, including those related to E-Procurement usage. General information on the E-Procurement Services can be found at: <http://eprocurement.nc.gov/>.

Quotes may be submitted via facsimile (FAX) machine or by electronic means, including but not limited to email, in response to this Request for Quote:

*E-mail – cavinessd5332@montgomery.edu*

Submission by any means shall include this RFQ, as provided in section 2.4.

**2.3 QUOTE CONTENTS**

Vendor shall populate all attachments of this RFQ that require the Vendor to provide information and include an authorized signature where requested, as outlined below. Vendor Responses shall include the following items and they should be arranged in the following order:

* + - 1. Completed and signed version of EXECUTION PAGE, along with the body of the RFQ, and signed receipt pages of any addenda released in conjunction with this RFQ.
      2. Completed version of ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM
      3. Completed version of ATTACHMENT B: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR
      4. Completed version of ATTACHMENT C: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS
      5. ATTACHMENT D: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS
      6. ATTACHMENT E: SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION

## 2.4 DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

1. **BUYER:** The employee of the State or Other Eligible Entity that places an order with the Vendor.
2. **CONTRACT LEAD:** Representative of the Montgomery Community College who corresponds with potential Vendors in order to identify and contract with that Vendor providing the greatest benefit to the State and who will administer the contract for the State.
3. **E-PROCUREMENT SERVICES:** The program, system, and associated services through which the State conducts electronic procurement.
4. **FOB-DESTINATION:**  Title changes hand from Vendor to purchaser at the destination point of the shipment; Vendor owns commodity in transit and files any claims, and Vendor pays all freight and any related transportation charges.  A solicitation may request Vendors to separately identify freight charges in their quote, but no amount or charge not included as part of the total quote price will be paid.
5. **LOT**: A grouping of similar products within this RFQ.
6. **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.
7. **RFQ:** Request for Quote.
8. **STATE AGENCY:** Any of the more than 400 sub-units within the executive branch of the State, including its departments, boards, commissions, institutions of higher education and other institutions.
9. **VENDOR:**  Supplier, bidder, proposer, company, firm, corporation, partnership, individual or other entity submitting a response to a Request for Quote.

## 2.5 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It shall be the Vendor’s responsibility to read the Instructions, the State’s terms and conditions, all relevant exhibits and attachments, and any other components made a part of this RFQ, 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 RFQ.

If Vendors have questions, issues, or exceptions regarding any term, condition, instruction or other component within this RFQ, those shall be submitted as questions to the Agency prior to submission of a Quote. If the State determines that any changes will be made as a result of the points raised, then such decisions will be communicated in the form of an addendum. Other than through this process, and subject to the provisions of section 2.1, the State rejects and shall not be required to evaluate or consider any additional or modified terms and conditions or Instructions to Vendor submitted with Vendor’s response. This applies to any language appearing in or attached to the document as part of the Vendor’s response that purports to vary any terms and conditions or Vendors’ instructions herein or to render the quote non-binding or subject to further negotiation. Vendor’s response to this RFQ shall constitute a firm offer. **By execution and delivery of a response to this RFQ, Vendor agrees that any additional or modified terms and conditions, including Instructions to Vendors, whether submitted purposely or inadvertently, or any purported condition to the offer shall have no force or effect, and will be disregarded. Noncompliance with, or any attempt to alter or delete, this paragraph shall constitute sufficient grounds to reject Vendor’s Quote.**

# METHOD OF AWARD AND QUOTE EVALUATION PROCESS



## METHOD OF AWARD

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

The State may obtain quotes from one or more potential Vendors. All quotes will be evaluated and award will be based on lowest responsive quote meeting specifications.

## PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

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

* 1. Total cost to the State
  2. Level of quality provided by the Vendor
  3. Process and performance capability across multiple jurisdictions
  4. Protection of the State’s information and intellectual property
  5. Availability of pertinent skills
  6. Ability to understand the State’s business requirements and internal operational culture
  7. Particular risk factors such as the security of the State’s information technology
  8. Relations with citizens and employees
  9. Contract enforcement jurisdictional issues

## QUOTE EVALUATION PROCESS

1. Quotes are requested for the items as specified, or item(s) equivalent in design, function and performance. The State reserves the right to reject any quote on the basis of fit, form and function as well as cost.
2. The State shall review the responses to this RFQ to confirm that they meet the specifications and requirements. The State reserves the right to waive any minor informality or technicality.
3. For all responses that pass the initial review process, the State will review and assess the Vendors’ pricing. The State may request additional formal responses or submissions from any or all Vendors for the purpose of clarification or to amplify the materials presented in any part of the quote. Vendors are cautioned, however, that the State is not required to request clarification, and often does not. Therefore, all quotes should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the Vendor. Prices quoted cannot be altered or modified as part of a clarification.
4. Quotes will be evaluated, based on the award criteria identified in Section 3.1 METHOD OF AWARD.

Award of a Contract to one Vendor does not mean that the other quotes lacked merit, but that, all factors considered, the selected quote was deemed most advantageous and represented the best value to the State.

Vendors are cautioned that this is a request for quote, not a request or an offer 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.

**CONFIDENTIALITY DURING PROCESS:** During the evaluation period and prior to award, all information concerning the quote and evaluation is confidential, and possession of the quotes and accompanying information is limited to personnel of the issuing agency and any third parties involved in this procurement process, and to the committee responsible for participating in the evaluation. Any attempt on behalf of a Vendor to gain such confidential information, or to influence the evaluation process (e.g., contact anyone involved in the evaluation, criticize another Vendor, offer any benefit or information not contained in the quote) in any way is a violation of North Carolina purchasing law and regulations and shall constitute sufficient grounds for disqualification of Vendor’s offer from further evaluation or consideration in the discretion of the State.

## INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES

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

# **REQUIREMENTS**

This Section lists the requirements related to this RFQ. By submitting a quote, 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 RFQ. If Vendor is unclear or has any question about the specifications, requirements and terms and conditions herein, it is urged and cautioned to contact the issuing agency Contract Lead as specified in this RFQ.

## 4.1 PRICING

Quote price shall constitute the total cost to Buyer for delivery fully assembled and ready for use, including all applicable charges for shipping, delivery, handling, administrative and other similar fees. Vendor shall not invoice for any amounts not specifically allowed for in this Quote. Complete ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM and include with Quote.

## TRANSPORTATION AND IDENTIFICATION

The Vendor shall deliver Free-On-Board (FOB) Destination to the specified destination(s) with all transportation costs included in the quoted 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 shown on all packages. A complete packing list shall accompany each shipment. Vendors shall not ship any products until they have received an order.

## DELIVERY

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

*Montgomery Community College*

*1011 Page Street*

*Troy, NC 27371*

*Attn: Dustin Caviness 910-898-9639*

Successful Vendor shall complete delivery within *30* consecutive calendar days after receipt of purchase order.

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

## PRODUCT RECALL

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

## WARRANTY

Manufacturer’s standard warranty shall apply. Vendors shall include a copy of the manufacturer’s standard warranty with the quote response.

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 through the use of acceptable servicing methods to include, but not limited to, verbal problem analysis and remote diagnosis. The warranty requirement does not impose any additional duty on the State to make other than normal and good faith problem resolution efforts or expenditures of time. Vendor is responsible for compliance with warranty terms by any third-party service provider.

## INVOICES

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

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

# **PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS**

## GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

1. *8 burner propane gas fired one shuttle car natural draft kiln*
2. *Inside volume of 43 cubic feet, and a stacking height of 38 inches*
3. *340,000 maximum BTU/HR input and temperature range of 0-2500*
4. *Shelving kit with 28-18x18 inch hollow core shelves*
5. *8 kiln posts from 1-14 inches*
6. *Needs to be crated, shipped, and installed on site*

## VENDOR’S REPRESENTATION

1. Vendor warrants that qualified personnel shall provide all services that may be required under The Contract in a professional manner. “Professional manner” means that the personnel performing the services shall possess the skill and competence consistent with at least the prevailing business standards in the industry. Vendor agrees that it shall not enter any agreement with a third party that may abridge any rights of the State under The Contract. Vendor shall serve as the prime contractor under The 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.
2. If any goods, services, functions, or responsibilities not specifically described in The Contract are required for Vendor’s proper performance, provision and delivery of the goods and services under The Contract, or are an inherent part of or necessary sub-requirement included within such goods and services, 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 goods and services.
3. Vendor warrants that it has the financial capacity to perform and to continue 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 The Contract; and that entering into The Contract is not prohibited by any contract, or an order by any court of competent jurisdiction.

**Attachments to this RFQ begin on the next page.**

# ATTACHMENT A: PRICING FORM

**PRODUCT, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION:**

# ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­ATTACHMENT B: 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.

| 1. **Will any work under this Contract be performed outside the United States**? | YES  NO |
| --- | --- |

If the Vendor answered “YES” above, Vendor shall 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:

1. 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.:

| 1. **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. |  |

1. **Identify all U.S. locations at which performance will occur:**

*This Space is Intentionally Left Blank*

# ATTACHMENT C: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

1. **READ, REVIEW AND COMPLY:** It shall be the Vendor’s responsibility to read this entire document, review all enclosures and attachments, and any addenda thereto, and comply with all requirements specified herein, regardless of whether appearing in these Instructions to Vendors or elsewhere in this RFQ document.
2. **EXECUTION:** Failure to sign the Execution page (page 3 of the RFQ) in the indicated space will render quote non-responsive and it shall be rejected.
3. **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 State 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 as transacting business in North Carolina and shall not require a Certificate of Authority to Transact Business.
4. **ORDER OF PRECEDENCE:** In cases of conflict between specific provisions in this solicitation or in any resulting contract, the order of precedence shall be (high to low) (1) any special terms and conditions specific to this RFQ, including any negotiated terms; (2) specifications in Sections 2, 4, and 5 of this RFQ; (3) North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions in ATTACHMENT D: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS; (4) Instructions in ATTACHMENT C: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS; and (5) Vendor’s quote.
5. **INELIGIBLE VENDORS:** As provided in G.S. 147-86.60 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*.
6. **INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE:** Vendor shall furnish all information requested and in the spaces provided in this document. Further, if required elsewhere in this quote, each Vendor shall submit with their quote sketches, descriptive literature and/or complete specifications covering the products offered.
7. **RECYCLING AND SOURCE REDUCTION:** It is the policy of the State 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.
8. **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:

* All copies of the quote are printed double sided.
* All submittals and copies are printed on recycled paper with a minimum post-consumer content of 30%.
* Unless absolutely necessary, all quotes 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.
* 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.

1. **HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES:** Pursuant to General Statute 143-48 and Executive Order 150 (1999), 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.
2. **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:** To the extent permitted by applicable statutes and rules, the State will maintain confidential trade secrets 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 or 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 as 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 and cautioned to limit the marking of information as a trade secret or as confidential so far as is possible.
3. **PROTEST PROCEDURES:** When a Vendor wishes to protest a Contract resulting from this RFQ that is awarded by the Division of Purchase and Contract, or awarded by an agency in an awarded amount of at least $25,000, a Vendor shall submit a written request addressed to the State Purchasing Officer at Purchase and Contract, 1305 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1305. A protest request related to an award amount of less than $25,000 shall be sent to the purchasing officer of the agency that issued the award. The protest request shall 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. **Note:** Contract award notices are sent only to the Vendor actually awarded the Contract, and not to every person or firm responding to a solicitation. Bid status and Award notices are posted on the Internet at <https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/>. All protests will be handled pursuant to the North Carolina Administrative Code, 01 NCAC 05B .1519.
4. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Masculine pronouns shall be read to include feminine pronouns, and the singular of any word or phrase shall be read to include the plural and vice versa.
5. **INFORMAL COMMENTS:** The State shall not be bound by informal explanations, instructions or information given at any time by anyone on behalf of the State during the competitive process or after award. The State is bound only by information provided in this RFQ and in formal Addenda issued.
6. **COST FOR QUOTE PREPARATION:** Any costs incurred by Vendor in preparing or submitting quotes are the Vendor’s sole responsibility; the State of North Carolina will not reimburse any Vendor for any costs incurred prior to award.
7. **VENDOR’S REPRESENTATIVE:** Each Vendor shall submit with its quote the name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) with authority to bind the firm and answer questions or provide clarification concerning the firm's quote.
8. **INSPECTION AT VENDOR’S SITE:** The State 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 State 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.

*This Space is Intentionally Left Blank*

**ATTACHMENT D: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS & CONDITIONS**

1. **PERFORMANCE:**
   1. It is anticipated that the tasks and duties undertaken by the Vendor under the contract which results from the State 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.
   2. Except as provided herein, and unless otherwise mutually agreed in writing prior to award, any deliverables not subject to an agreed Vendor license and provided by Vendor in performance of this Contract shall be and remain property of the State. During performance, Vendor may provide proprietary components as part of the deliverables that are identified in this Contract. Vendor grants the State 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 Vendor or its suppliers or licensors made accessible or furnished to the State shall be and remain the property of the Vendor or such other party, respectively. Vendor agrees to perform under the Contract in at least the same or similar manner provided to comparable users and customers. The State shall notify the Vendor of any defects or deficiencies in performance or failure of deliverables to conform to the standards and specifications provided in this Contract. Vendor agrees to timely remedy defective performance or any nonconforming deliverables on its own or upon such notice provided by the State.
   3. Vendor has a limited, non-exclusive license to access and use State Data provided to Vendor, but solely for performing its obligations under and during this Agreement and in confidence as further provided for herein or by law.
   4. Vendor or its suppliers, as specified and agreed in the Contract, shall provide support assistance to the State related to all Services performed or other deliverables procured hereunder during the State’s normal business hours. Vendor warrants that its support, customer service, and assistance will be performed at a minimum in accordance with generally accepted and applicable industry standards.
   5. The State may document and take into account in awarding or renewing future procurement contracts the general reputation, performance and performance capabilities of the Vendor under this Contract as provided by G.S. 143-52 and 143-135.9 (a) and (b) (Best Value).
2. **DEFAULT AND TERMINATION.**
3. In the event of default by the Vendor, the State may, as provided by NC law, procure goods and services necessary to complete performance hereunder from other sources and hold the Vendor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby. *See,* G.S. 25-2-712. In addition, and in the event of default by the Vendor under the Contract, or upon the Vendor filing a petition for bankruptcy or the entering of a judgment of bankruptcy by or against the Vendor, the State may immediately cease doing business with the Vendor, terminate the Contract for cause, and take action to recover relevant damages, and if permitted by applicable law, debar the Vendor from doing future business with the State. 01 NCAC 05B.1520.
4. If, through any cause, Vendor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner the obligations under the Contract, including, without limitation, in these North Carolina General Terms and Conditions, the State shall have the right to terminate the Contract by giving thirty days written notice to the Vendor and specifying the effective date thereof. In that event, any or all finished or unfinished deliverables that are prepared by the Vendor under the Contract shall, at the option of the State, become the property of the State (and under any applicable Vendor license to the extent necessary for the State to use such property), and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any acceptable deliverable completed (or partially completed at the State’s option) as to which such option is exercised. Notwithstanding, Vendor shall not be relieved of liability to the State for damages sustained by the State by virtue of any breach of the Contract, and the State may withhold any payment due the Vendor for the purpose of setoff until such time as the exact amount of damages due the State from such breach can be determined. The State, if insecure as to receiving proper performance or provision of goods deliverables, or if documented Vendor Services performance issues exist, under this Contract, may require at any time a performance bond or other alternative performance guarantees from a Vendor without expense to the State as provided by applicable law. G.S. 143-52(a); 01 NCAC 05B.1521; G.S. 25-2-609.
5. If this Contract contemplates deliveries or performance over a period of time, the State may terminate this Contract for convenience at any time by providing 60 days’ notice in writing from the State to the Vendor. In that event, any or all finished or unfinished deliverables prepared by the Vendor under this Contract shall, at the option of the State, become its property, and under any applicable Vendor license to the extent necessary for the State to use such property. If the Contract is terminated by the State for convenience, the State shall pay for those items or Services for which such option is exercised, less any payment or compensation previously made.
6. **INTERPRETATION, CONFLICT OF TERMS.**
7. The definitions in the Instructions to Vendors in the relevant solicitation for this Contract, and in 01 NCAC 05A.0112 are specifically incorporated herein.
8. If federal funds are involved in the transactions under this Contract, the Vendor 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.
9. “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.
10. 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.
11. 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;](https://ncconnect.sharepoint.com/sites/doa/pandc/Shared%20Documents/Website/Form_North%20Carolina%20General%20Terms%20and%20Conditions_01.2020.docx?web=1) (4) Definitions and other provisions in INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS in this solicitation, which is specifically incorporated in this Contract; (5) PRICING, and (6) Vendor’s Bid, to the extent specifically and mutually incorporated into this Contract.
12. In the event of conflict of terms between applicable provisions of the Federal Funds Provisions and the other provisions of these North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions, the more restrictive provision will govern.
13. **GOVERNMENTAL RESTRICTIONS:** In the event any Governmental restrictions are imposed which necessitate alteration of the goods, material, quality, workmanship, or performance of the Services offered, prior to acceptance, it shall be the responsibility of the Vendor to notify the State Contract Lead or Administrator indicated in the Contract at once, in writing, indicating the specific regulation which requires such alterations. The State reserves the right to accept any such alterations, including any price adjustments occasioned thereby, or to cancel the Contract.
14. **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS:** Any and all payments to the Vendor shall be dependent upon and subject to the availability of funds appropriated or allocated to the agency for the purpose set forth in the Contract.
15. **TAXES:** Any applicable taxes shall be invoiced as a separate item.
16. G.S. 143-59.1 bars the Secretary of Administration from entering into Contracts with Vendors if the Vendor or its affiliates meet one of the conditions of G.S. 105-164.8(b) and refuses to collect use tax on sales of tangible personal property to purchasers in North Carolina. Conditions under G.S. 105-164.8(b) include: (1) Maintenance of a retail establishment or office, (2) Presence of representatives in the State that solicit sales or transact business on behalf of the Vendor and (3) Systematic exploitation of the market by media-assisted, media-facilitated, or media-solicited means. By execution of the proposal document the Vendor certifies that it and all of its affiliates, (if it has affiliates), collect(s) the appropriate taxes.
17. The agency(ies) participating in the Contract are exempt from Federal Taxes, such as excise and transportation. Exemption forms submitted by the Vendor will be executed and returned by the using agency.
18. Prices offered are not to include any personal property taxes, nor any sales or use tax (or fees) unless required by the North Carolina Department of Revenue.
19. **SITUS AND GOVERNING LAWS;**
20. This Contract is made under and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, including, without limitation, the relevant provisions of G.S. Chapter 143, Article 3, and the Rules in 01 NCAC Chapter 05, and any applicable successor provisions, without regard to its conflict of laws rules, and within which State all matters, whether sounding in Contract, tort or otherwise, relating to its validity, construction, interpretation and enforcement shall be determined. G.S. 22B-3.
21. Vendor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, and licensing requirements that are applicable to the conduct of its business and its performance in accordance with the Contract, including those of federal, state, and local agencies having jurisdiction and/or authority, and including, without limitation, the applicable requirements in the Federal Funds Provisions, below.
22. Non-resident Vendor corporations not formed under NC law must be domesticated in the Office of the NC Secretary of State in order to contract with the State of North Carolina. G.S. 55A-15-01.
23. **NON-DISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE:**

*Wholly State Funded Contracts*.

1. The Vendor will take affirmative action in complying with all State requirements and laws concerning fair employment and employment of people with disabilities, and concerning the treatment of all employees without regard to discrimination by reason of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability or rights, such as preserved by Governor Roy Cooper Order E.O. 24 or 25, and will take necessary action to ensure that its internal employee policies and procedures are consistent with Executive Order #82 (Roy Cooper, December 6, 2018), which extends workplace protections and accommodations to pregnant employees.
2. Federal Law, such as the following, applies as provided for therein: Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (PL 88-352), and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (prohibiting discrimination on the basis race, color, national origin and ensuring that individuals are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (codified as amended at 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.) (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex); Titles I, II, III, IV, and V of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (codified as amended at 29 U.S.C. § 794) (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of handicap); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.) (prohibiting age discrimination); Executive Order 11063 as amended by Executive Order 2259; and Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

*Contracts Partially or Wholly Federally Funded*.

To the extent federal funding is involved in this procurement, in whole or in part, compliance with the following is required:

1. The Vendor shall comply with all Federal Funds Provisions requirements (below) and not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The Vendor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following:

Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Vendor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

1. The Vendor shall, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Vendor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin:

1. The Vendor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the Vendor's legal duty to furnish information.

1. The Vendor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the Vendor's commitments under this section, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

1. The Vendor shall comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

1. The Vendor shall furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and shall permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

1. In the event of the Vendor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this Contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this Contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the Vendor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts or federally assisted construction Contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
2. The Vendor shall include the portion of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph (a) and the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (g) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Vendor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the administering agency may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance: Provided, however, that in the event a Vendor (or herein “applicant,” as applicable in context within these Federal Funds Provisions) becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction by the administering agency, the Vendor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

1. The Vendor further agrees that it shall be bound by the above equal opportunity clause with respect to its own employment practices when it participates in federally assisted construction work: Provided, that if the Vendor so participating is a State or local government, the above equal opportunity clause is not applicable to any agency, instrumentality or subdivision of such government which does not participate in work on or under the Contract.

1. The Vendor agrees that it shall assist and cooperate actively with the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor in obtaining the compliance of Vendors and subcontractors with the equal opportunity clause and the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor, that it shall furnish the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor such information as they may require for the supervision of such compliance, and that it shall otherwise assist the administering agency in the discharge of the agency's primary responsibility for securing compliance.
2. The Vendor further agrees that it shall refrain from entering into any contract or contract modification subject to Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, with a Vendor debarred from, or who has not demonstrated eligibility for, Government Contracts and federally assisted construction contracts pursuant to the Executive Order and will carry out such sanctions and penalties for violation of the equal opportunity clause as may be imposed upon Vendors and subcontractors by the administering agency or the Secretary of Labor pursuant to Part II, Subpart D of the Executive Order. In addition, the Vendor agrees that if it fails or refuses to comply with these undertakings, the administering agency may take any or all of the following actions: Cancel, terminate, or suspend in whole or in part any relevant grant (contract, loan, insurance, guarantee); refrain from extending any further assistance to the Vendor under the program with respect to which the failure or refund occurred until satisfactory assurance of future compliance has been received from such Vendor; and refer the case to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal proceedings.
3. **PAYMENT TERMS:** Payment terms are net not later than 30 days after receipt of a correct invoice or acceptance of goods, whichever is later. The Procuring Agency is responsible for all payments to the Vendor under the Contract. Payment by some agencies may be made by procurement card. If the Vendor accepts Visa, MasterCard, etc., from other customers, it shall accept procurement card payment by the State under the terms provided for the procurement card. 01 NCAC 05B.1523. If payment is made by procurement card, then payment for amounts then due may be processed immediately by the Vendor.

The State 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 Contract will not be construed as an agreement by the State to pay such costs, and will be paid only as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

1. **CONDITION AND PACKAGING:** Unless otherwise expressly provided by special terms and conditions or specifications in the Contract or by express, specific federal law or rule, it is understood and agreed that any item offered or shipped has not been sold or used for any purpose, is newly manufactured, and shall be in first class condition. All containers/packaging shall be suitable for handling, storage or shipment.
2. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WARRANTY AND INDEMNITY**: Vendor shall hold and save the State, 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 the Contract.
3. Vendor warrants to the best of its knowledge that:
4. Performance under the Contract does not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of any third party; and
5. There are no actual or threatened actions arising from, or alleged under, any intellectual property rights of any third party;
6. Should any deliverables supplied by Vendor become the subject of a claim of infringement of a patent, copyright, trademark or a trade secret in the United States, the Vendor, shall at its option and expense, either procure for the State 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 Vendor’s judgment, or if further use shall be prevented by injunction, the Vendor agrees to cease provision of any affected deliverables and refund any sums the State has paid Vendor for such deliverables and make every reasonable effort to assist the State in procuring substitute deliverables. If, in the sole opinion of the State, the cessation of use by the State of any such deliverables due to infringement issues makes the retention of other items acquired from the Vendor under this Agreement impractical, the State shall then have the option of terminating the Agreement, or applicable portions thereof, without penalty or termination charge; and Vendor agrees to refund any sums the State paid for unused Services or other deliverables.
7. The Vendor, at its own expense, shall defend any action brought against the State to the extent that such action is based upon a claim that the deliverables supplied by the Vendor, their use or operation, infringe on a patent, copyright, trademark or violate a trade secret in the United States. The Vendor shall pay those costs and damages finally awarded or agreed in a settlement against the State in any such action. Such defense and payment shall be conditioned on the following:
8. That the Vendor shall be notified within a reasonable time in writing by the State of any such claim; and
9. That the Vendor shall have the sole control of the defense of any action on such claim and all negotiations for its settlement or compromise provided, however, that the State shall have the option to participate in such action at its own expense.
10. Vendor will not be required to defend or indemnify the State to the extent any claim by a third party against the State for infringement or misappropriation results solely from the State’s material alteration of any Vendor-branded deliverables or Services, or from the continued use of the Services or other deliverables after receiving written notice from the Vendor of the claimed infringement.
11. **ADVERTISING:** Vendor agrees not to use the existence of the Contract or the name of the State of North Carolina as part of any commercial advertising or marketing of products or Services except as provided in 01 NCAC 05B.1516. A Vendor may inquire whether the State is willing to be included on a listing of its existing customers.
12. **ACCESS TO PERSONS AND RECORDS:** During, and after the term hereof during the relevant period required for retention of records by State law (G.S. 121-5, 132-1 *et seq.,* typically five years), the State Auditor and any Purchasing Agency’s internal auditors shall have access to persons and records related to the Contract to verify accounts and data affecting fees or performance under the Contract, as provided in G.S. 143-49(9). However, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this project 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.
13. **ASSIGNMENT OR DELEGATION OF DUTIES**.
14. As a convenience to the Vendor, the State may include any person or entity designated by the Vendor in writing as a joint payee on the Vendor’s payment check. In no event shall such approval and action obligate the State to anyone other than the Vendor.
15. If Vendor requests any assignment, or delegation of duties, the Vendor shall remain responsible for fulfillment of all Contract obligations. Upon written request, the State may, in its unfettered discretion, approve an assignment or delegation to another responsible entity acceptable to the State, 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 Vendor’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 the Contract. G.S. 143-58.
16. **INSURANCE:** This section provides minimum insurance coverage rates that are applicable to most moderate risk solicitations. Agency Risk Analysis will determine if higher insurance coverage amounts are needed based on the likelihood and severity of exposure to the State. The analysis is documented in writing in the official file and considers the following non-exclusive factors:
17. Potential for damage to State property or property of a third party,
18. Potential for bodily injury to State employees or third parties,
19. Whether Vendor will transport State property, clients, or employees,
20. Use of a vehicle to accomplish the work or to travel to or from State locations,
21. Anticipated physical contacts of the Vendor with the State,
22. Anticipated number and activity of Vendor personnel within the State, and
23. Any other unique considerations that could result in harm, bodily injury, or property damage.

The Purchasing Agency has specified elsewhere in this Contract any increase in the minimum insurance coverage requirements below if the risk from the above factors is high.

**a) REQUIREMENTS -** Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of the Vendor and is of the essence of the Contract. All such insurance shall meet all laws of the State of North Carolina. Such insurance coverage shall be obtained from companies that are authorized to provide such coverage and that are authorized by the NC Commissioner of Insurance to do business in North Carolina. The Vendor 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 the Contract. The limits of coverage under each insurance policy maintained by the Vendor shall not be interpreted as limiting the Vendor’s liability and obligations or the indemnification requirements under the Contract. As provided above, a State agency is authorized, upon written evaluation and substantiation in the official file of the significant risk of bodily injury and/or property or other damage in the contract, to require and enforce higher coverage limits to mitigate the potential risk of liability to the State.

**b)     COVERAGE -** During the term of the Contract, the Vendor at its sole cost and expense shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with such terms and limits as may be reasonably associated with the Contract. At a minimum, the Vendor shall provide and maintain the following coverage and limits, subject to higher requirements by an agency after the risk analysis indicated above:

1.    **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 Purchasing Agency may require Commercial General Liability coverage consistent with the assessed risks involved in the procurement.

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

i.     **Worker’s Compensation** - The Vendor 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 Vendor’s employees who are engaged in any work under the Contract in North Carolina.  If any work is sub-Contracted, the Vendor shall require the sub-contractor to provide the same coverage for any of its employees engaged in any work under the Contract within the State.

ii.    **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.

iii.   **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.

**3.   For Contracts valued in excess of $1,000,000.00 the following limits shall apply:**

i.    **Worker’s Compensation** - The Vendor 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 $500,000.00, covering all of Vendor’s employees who are engaged in any work under the Contract in North Carolina.  If any work is sub-Contracted, the Vendor shall require the sub-contractor to provide the same coverage for any of its employees engaged in any work under the Contract within the State.

ii.    **Commercial General Liability** - General Liability Coverage on a Comprehensive Broad Form on an occurrence basis in the minimum amount of $1,000,000.00 Combined Single Limit. Defense costs shall be in excess of the limit of liability.

iii.   **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 $500,000.00 bodily injury and property damage; $500,000.00 uninsured/under insured motorist; and $5,000.00 medical payment.

1. **GENERAL INDEMNITY:** The Vendor shall hold and save the State, its officers, agents, and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any other person, firm, or corporation furnishing or supplying work, Services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of the Contract, and also from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm, or corporation that may be injured or damaged by the Vendor in the performance of the Contract that are attributable to the negligence or intentionally tortious acts of the Vendor, provided that the Vendor is notified in writing within 30 days from the date that the State has knowledge of such claims. The Vendor represents and warrants that it shall make no claim of any kind or nature against the State’s agents who are involved in the delivery or processing of Vendor deliverables or Services to the State. As part of this provision for indemnity, if federal funds are involved in this procurement, the Vendor warrants that it will comply with all relevant and applicable federal requirements and laws, and will indemnify and hold and save the State harmless from any claims or losses resulting to the State from the Vendor’s noncompliance with such federal requirements or law in this Contract. The representations and warranties in the preceding two sentences shall survive the termination or expiration of the Contract. The State does not participate in indemnification due to Constitutional restrictions, or arbitration, which effectively and unacceptably waives jury trial. *See,* G.S. 22B-3, -10.
2. **ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT:** (G.S. 143-48.3)

**GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO GOODS AND SERVICES CONTRACTS:**

1. Purchasing shall be conducted through the Statewide E-Procurement Service. The State’s third-party agent shall serve as the Supplier Manager for this E-Procurement Service. The Vendor shall register for the Statewide E-Procurement Service within two (2) business days of notification of award in order to receive an electronic purchase order resulting from award of this Contract.
2. The Supplier Manager will capture an order from a State approved user, including the shipping and payment information, and submit the order in accordance with E-Procurement Service procedures. Subsequently, the Supplier Manager will send those orders to the appropriate Vendor on State Contract. The State or State-approved user, not the Supplier Manager, shall be responsible for the solicitation, bids received, evaluation of bids received, award of Contract, and the payment for goods delivered.
3. Vendor shall at all times maintain the confidentiality of its user name and password for the Statewide E-Procurement Services. Vendor shall be responsible for all activity and all charges by its agents or employees. Vendor agrees not to permit a third party to use its E-Procurement Services account. If there is a breach of security through the Vendor’s account, Vendor shall immediately change its password and notify the Supplier Manager of the security breach by email. Vendor shall cooperate with the State and the Supplier Manager to mitigate and correct any security breach.

**E-PROCUREMENT FEES:**

**d) THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER(S) SHALL PAY A TRANSACTION FEE, CURRENTLY 1.75% (.0175), ON THE TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT (EXCLUDING SALES TAXES) INCLUDED ON EACH PURCHASE ORDER ISSUED THROUGH THE STATEWIDE E-PROCUREMENT SERVICE (OR ANY OFFICIAL REPLACEMENT SERVICE).** **G.S. 66-58.12; See, *NC E-Procurement Terms of Use.*** This applies to all purchase orders, regardless of the quantity or dollar amount of the purchase order. The transaction fee shall not be stated or included as a separate item on the invoice. Vendor will receive a credit for transaction fees they paid for the purchase of any item(s) if an item(s) is returned through no fault of the Vendor. Transaction fees are non-refundable when an item is rejected and returned, or declined, due to the Vendor’s failure to perform or comply with specifications or requirements of the Contract.

e) Vendor or its Authorized Reseller, as applicable, will be invoiced monthly for the State’s transaction fee by the E-Procurement Supplier Manager (Supplier Manager), based on a) purchase activity for the prior month, or b) purchases for which the supplier invoice has been paid. Unless the Supplier Manager receives written notice from the Vendor identifying with specificity any errors in an invoice for the transaction fee within thirty (30) days of the receipt of invoice, such invoice shall be deemed to be correct and Vendor shall have waived its right to later dispute the accuracy and completeness of the invoice. Payment of the transaction fee by the Vendor is due to the account designated by the State within thirty (30) days after receipt of the invoice for the transaction fee, or it shall be considered a material breach of Contract. Pursuant to G.S. 147-86.23, the service will charge 1) interest on past due balances at the rate set by the Secretary of Revenue pursuant to G.S. 105-241.21 as of the date the balances are past due, and, 2) late payment penalties, currently ten percent (10%) of the account receivable. No interest shall be charged on disputed and overdue amounts to the extent the State agrees to reduce or adjust the amount in dispute. The Supplier Manager shall provide, whenever reasonably requested by the Vendor in writing (including electronic documents), supporting documentation from the E-Procurement Service that accounts for the amount of the invoice.

1. **SUBCONTRACTING:** Performance under the Contract by the Vendor shall not be subcontracted without prior written approval of the State’s assigned Contract Lead. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, acceptance of a Vendor’s proposal shall include approval to use the subcontractor(s) that have been specified therein.
2. **CONFIDENTIALITY:** Vendor information that cannot be shown to be, e.g., a trade secret, may be subject to public disclosure under the terms of the State Public Records Act (SPRA), beginning at G.S. 132.1. Blanket assertions of confidentiality are not favored, but confidentiality of specific material meeting one or more exceptions in the SPRA will be honored. Vendors are notified that if the confidentiality of material is challenged by other parties, the Vendor has the responsibility of defending the assertion of confidentiality. G.S. 143-52(a).
3. **CARE OF STATE DATA AND PROPERTY:** Any State property, information, data, instruments, documents, studies or reports given to or prepared or assembled by or provided to the Vendor under the Contract shall be kept as confidential, used only for the purpose(s) required to perform the Contract and not divulged or made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the State.

The State’s data and property in the hands of the Vendor shall be protected from unauthorized disclosure, loss, damage, destruction by a natural event or another eventuality. The Vendor agrees to reimburse the State for loss or damage of State property while in Vendor’s custody. Such State Data shall be returned to the State in a form acceptable to the State upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

The Vendor shall notify the State of any security breaches within 24 hours as required by G.S. 143B-1379. For further information, *see*, G.S. 75-60 *et seq.* **Notice** is given to the Vendor that the NC Department of Information Technology (DIT) has requirements relating to the security of the State network, and rules relating to the use of the State network, IT software and equipment, that the Vendor must comply with, as applicable. *See,* e.g.,G.S. 143B-1376.

1. **OUTSOURCING:** Any Vendor or subcontractor providing call or contact center services to the State of North Carolina or any of its agencies shall disclose to inbound callers the location from which the call or contact center services are being provided.

If, after award of a Contract, and consistent with any applicable NC DIT security provisions, the Contractor 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 State in writing, prior written approval must be obtained from the State Purchasing Agency. Vendor shall give notice to the Purchasing Agency of any relocation of the Vendor, employees of the Vendor, subcontractors of the Vendor, or other persons providing performance under a State Contract to a location outside of the United States. *See,* G.S. 143-59.4.

1. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT:** The Contract (including any documents mutually incorporated specifically therein) resulting from a relevant solicitation represents the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior oral or written statements or agreements. All promises, requirements, terms, conditions, provisions, representations, guarantees, and warranties contained herein shall survive the Contract expiration or termination date unless specifically provided otherwise herein, or unless superseded by applicable Federal or State statutes of limitation.
2. **ELECTRONIC RECORDS:** The State will digitize all Vendor responses to the relevant solicitation, if not received electronically, as well as any awarded Contract together with associated procurement-related documents. These electronic copies shall constitute a preservation record and shall serve as the official record of this procurement with the same force and effect as the original written documents comprising such record. Any official electronic copy, printout or other output readable by sight shown to reflect such record accurately shall constitute an "original."
3. **AMENDMENTS:** This Contract may be amended only by a written amendment duly executed by the State and the Vendor.
4. **NO WAIVER:** Notwithstanding any other language or provision in the Contract or in any Vendor-supplied material, nothing herein is intended nor shall be interpreted as a waiver of any right or remedy otherwise available to the State under applicable law. The waiver by the State of any right or remedy 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.
5. **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, power failures, any act of war, hostile foreign action, nuclear explosion, riot, strikes or failures or refusals to perform under subcontracts, civil insurrection, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, other catastrophic epidemic or pandemic, natural event or Act of God.
6. **SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY:** Notwithstanding any other term or provision in the Contract, 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 State under applicable law.
7. **FEDERAL FUNDS PROVISIONS**

***Where federal funds are utilized in connection with this procurement, and to the extent applicable* and absent stricter or controlling State provisions, the following federal provisions (in addition to the North Carolina General Terms and Conditions above) may apply consistent with Uniform Guidance in 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 and 2 C.F.R. Part 200, and its Appendix II. Relevant federal authorities may require additional provisions depending on the scope and context of the Contract.** Failure or unwillingness of the Vendor to continually meet any of these requirements, as applicable, may result in Contract termination.

1. **No governmental non-competes.** Vendor shall not impose or enforce any non-competition agreement upon the employees included in Vendor’s bid that would prevent those employees from accepting any offer of employment from the State of North Carolina outside of the first Term of the Contract. By executing this Contract, the Vendor affirms this condition. This affirmation is a material condition for the State’s award of any work under this Contract.
2. **Program Monitoring**. Vendor agrees to assist and cooperate with the Federal grantor or funding agency and the relevant Purchasing Agency or their duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the project or projects to which this Contract relates, and to provide in form and manner approved by the Purchasing Agency such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.
3. **Remedies and Termination**, For purposes of this section the State Remedies and Termination provisions above apply as written.
4. **Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708).**

Compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

*1. Overtime requirements*. No Vendor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the Contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.

2. *Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages.* In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in 29 C.F.R. §5.5(b)(1) the Vendor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such Vendor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in 29 C.F.R. §5.5(b)(1), in the sum of $26 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in 29 C.F.R. §5.5(b)(1).

3. *Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages*. The Purchasing Agency shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the Vendor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime Vendor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime Vendor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such Vendor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in 29 C.F.R. §5.5(b)(2).

4. *SubContracts*. The Vendor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (b)(1) through (4) of 29 C.F.R. §5.5 and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime Vendor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in 29 C.F.R. §5.5(b)(2) through (4).

1. **CLEAN AIR ACT AND THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT**.

Clean Air Act

* + - 1. The Vendor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.
      2. The Vendor agrees to report each violation to the Purchasing Agency and understands and agrees that the Purchasing Agency will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.
      3. The Vendor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding $150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance.

Federal Water Pollution Control Act

The Vendor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.

The Vendor agrees to report each violation to the Purchasing Agency and understands and agrees that the Purchasing Agency will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the federal agency providing funds hereunder, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

The Vendor agrees that these requirements will be included in each subcontract exceeding $150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance.

1. **Debarment and Suspension.**

This Contract, if federal funding is used, is a covered transaction for purposes of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180 and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000. As such, the Vendor is required to verify that none of the Vendor’s principals (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.995) or its affiliates (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.905) are excluded (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.940) or disqualified (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.935).

The Vendor must comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, and must include a requirement to comply with these regulations in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.

This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by a federal agency providing federal funds herein and the Purchasing Agency. If it is later determined that the Vendor did not comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, in addition to remedies available to federal agency providing federal funds herein and the Purchasing Agency, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.

The Vendor agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C while this offer is valid and throughout the period of the Contract resulting from a relevant solicitation herein. The Vendor further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

1. **Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)** (as Amended).

To the extent applicable, Vendors that apply or bid for an award of $100,000 or more shall file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal Contract, grant, or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. § 1352. Each tier shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient who in turn will forward the certification(s) to the awarding agency.

Required Certification. If applicable, Vendors must sign and submit to the Purchasing Agency the certification. See “Certification Regarding Lobbying” found on the Division’s website.

1. **Procurement of Recovered Materials.**
   * 1. Unless specified otherwise in the Contract, in the performance of this Contract, the Vendor shall make maximum use of products containing recovered materials that are EPA-designated items unless the product cannot be acquired:

* Competitively within a timeframe providing for compliance with the Contract performance schedule;
* Meeting Contract performance requirements; or
* At a reasonable price.
  + 1. Information about this requirement, along with the list of EPA designated items, is available at EPA’s Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site: https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive- procurement-guideline-cpg-program.
    2. The Vendor also agrees to comply with all other applicable requirements of Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.”

1. **Access to Records**. In addition to the North Carolina General Contract Terms & Conditions section entitled “**ACCESS TO PERSONS AND RECORDS”** included in this Contract, the following access to records requirements apply to this Contract:
   * + 1. The Vendor agrees to provide the Purchasing Agency, the Administrator of the federal agency providing funds hereunder, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Vendor which are directly pertinent to this Contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.
       2. The Vendor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.
       3. The Vendor agrees to provide the Administrator of the federal agency providing funds hereunder or his authorized representative access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the Contract.
       4. In compliance with the Disaster Recovery Act of 2018, the Purchasing Agency and the Vendor acknowledge and agree that no language in this Contract is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the Administrator of the federal agency providing funds hereunder or the Comptroller General of the United States.
2. **Modifications to Contract.** Modifications to the Contract are governed by the North Carolina General Contract Terms & Conditions section above entitled “**AMENDMENTS**,” except as approval and signature by any federal official may also be required.
3. **Records Retention.** All records required to be kept on the project shall be maintained for at least five (5) years after final payments and until all other pending matters under the grant for this project have been closed. However, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this project is commenced before the end of the five (5) year 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 five (5) year period, whichever is later.
4. **Energy Efficiency**. All participants in the projects funded hereby shall recognize mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency, which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (PL 94-163).
5. **Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements or Related Acts.** Vendor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chapter 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to its actions pertaining to the Contract.
6. **No Obligation by Federal Government.** The Federal Government is not a party to this Contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, Vendor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the Contract.
7. **Compliance with Federal Law, Regulations, and Executive Orders.** This is an acknowledgement that federal financial assistance will be used to fund all or a portion of the Contract. The Vendor will comply with all applicable Federal law, regulations, executive orders, the policies of the federal agency(ies) providing funding, procedures, and directives.
8. **Federal Seals, Logos, and Flags**. In addition to the prohibitions of the North Carolina General Contract Terms & Conditions section above entitled “**ADVERTISING,”** the Vendor shall not use the seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags of a federal agency providing funding herein, or likenesses of federal agency officials without specific pre-approval of the relevant federal agency.
9. **System for Awards Management**. Vendor shall be responsible to ensure that it has checked the federal System for Awards Management (SAM) <https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM> and the State Debarred Vendors Listing, <http://www.pandc.nc.gov/actions.asp> to verify that Contractors or sub-Recipients have not been suspended or debarred from doing business with federal or State government".

# ATTACHMENT E: SUPPLEMENTAL VENDOR INFORMATION

**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 RFQ. Any questions concerning NC HUB certification, contact the [**North Carolina Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses**](http://ncadmin.nc.gov/businesses/hub)at (919) 807-2330. The Vendor shall respond to question #1 and #2 below.

1. Is Vendor a Historically Underutilized Business?  **Yes  No**
2. Is Vendor Certified with North Carolina as a Historically Underutilized Business?  **Yes  No**

If so, state HUB classification: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SUSTAINABILITY**

According to G.S. 143-58.2, it is the policy of this State to encourage and promote the purchase of products with recycled content and to purchase items that are reusable, refillable, repairable, more durable and less toxic to the extent that the purchase or use is practicable and cost effective.

Do the items offered have any recycled content?  **Yes  No**

If yes, what is the post-consumer recycled content? \_\_\_\_\_\_% What is the total recycled content? \_\_\_\_\_\_%

**Other sustainable properties:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_