

New Mexico Educational Retirement Board

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Request for Project Management Services



RFP# 23-352-1026-02314

RFP Release Date: October 26, 2022

Proposal Due Date: December 8th, 2022

ELECTRONIC-ONLY PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
A. PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS	1
B. BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....	1
C. SCOPE OF PROCUREMENT.....	1
D. PROCUREMENT MANAGER.....	2
E. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	2
F. DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY.....	2
G. PROCUREMENT LIBRARY	6
II. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT	6
A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS.....	6
B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS	7
1. Issue RFP.....	7
2. Acknowledgement of Receipt Form.....	7
3. Deadline to Submit Written Questions	7
4. Response to Written Questions	7
5. Submission of Proposal.....	7
6. Proposal Evaluation.....	8
7. Selection of Finalists	8
8. Oral Presentations.....	8
9. Best and Final Offers.....	9
10. Finalize Contractual Agreements.....	9
11. Contract Awards	9
12. Protest Deadline	9
C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	10
1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement.....	10
2. Incurring Cost.....	10
3. Prime Contractor Responsibility	10
4. Subcontractors/Consent	10
5. Amended Proposals.....	10
6. Offeror’s Rights to Withdraw Proposal.....	10
7. Proposal Offer Firm.....	10
8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents	11
9. No obligation	11
10. Termination	11
11. Sufficient Appropriation.....	11
12. Legal Review.....	12
13. Governing Law.....	12
14. Basis for Proposal	12
15. Contract Terms and Conditions	12
16. Offeror’s Terms and Conditions.....	13
17. Contract Deviations	13
18. Offeror Qualifications	13
19. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities.....	13
20. Change in Contractor Representatives	13
21. Notice of Penalties.....	13
22. Agency Rights	13
23. Right to Publish.....	13
24. Ownership of Proposals.....	14
25. Confidentiality	14

26. Electronic mail address required	14
27. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP	14
28. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage	14
29. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form	15
30. Letter of Transmittal	15
31. Disclosure Regarding Responsibility	16
32. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences	17
III. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION	18
A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES	18
B. NUMBER OF COPIES	18
1. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY Responses	18
C. PROPOSAL CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION	19
IV. SPECIFICATIONS.....	21
A. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK	21
1. The awarded Offeror shall perform the following work:	21
B. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.....	22
1. Organizational Experience.....	22
2. Organizational References.....	22
3. Mandatory Specification.....	23
4. Desirable Specification.....	23
C. BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS	27
1. Financial Stability.....	27
2. Letter of Transmittal Form.....	27
3. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form	27
4. Oral Presentation.....	27
5. Cost.....	27
6. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences	28
V. EVALUATION.....	29
A. EVALUATION POINT SUMMARY	29
B. EVALUATION FACTORS	29
1. B.1 Organizational Experience (See Table 1)	29
2. B.2 Organizational References (See Table 1)	29
3. B.3 Mandatory Specifications	30
4. B.4 Desirable Specifications	30
5. C.1 Financial Stability (See Table 1)	30
6. C.2 Letter of Transmittal (See Table 1)	30
7. C.3 Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (See Table 1).....	30
8. C.4 Oral Presentation (See Table 1)	30
9. C.5 Cost (See Table 1)	30
10. C.6 New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences	31
C. EVALUATION PROCESS	31
APPENDIX A	32
APPENDIX B	33
CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM	33
APPENDIX C	36
DRAFT CONTRACT.....	36
APPENDIX D.....	61

COST RESPONSE FORM	61
APPENDIX E	62
LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL FORM	62
APPENDIX F	63
ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE	63

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The purpose of the Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit sealed proposals to establish a contract through competitive negotiations for the procurement of Project Management Services specific to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board's Pension Administration System Modernization Project.

B. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Educational Retirement Act ("ERA") established a retirement system (the "Educational Retirement Fund" or the "Retirement Fund") for employees of the public schools, colleges, universities, and selected state agencies in the State of New Mexico. The system was established in 1957 and operates under the authority of New Mexico Statutes, Sections 22-11-1 et seq. NMSA 1978, as amended. The Act is administered by the Educational Retirement Board and its staff (collectively the "NMERB"). As of June 30, 2022, the plan has approximately 59,887 active members, 53,273 inactive members and 53,972 retirees and eligible beneficiaries. Assets of the Educational Retirement Fund under management are valued at approximately of \$15.5 billion as of June 30, 2022.

C. SCOPE OF PROCUREMENT

The New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NMERB or Agency) is issuing this RFP to identify the highest quality organization to provide project management assistance and consulting services in support of our Pension Administration System (PAS) Modernization Project. NMERB is seeking project management services to provide organizational leadership and oversight for implementation of a new PAS system and to provide all support for all tasks related to the successful implementation of a new PAS solution. The term of this contract is for one year, with up to three additional one-year renewals for a maximum of four years.

This Request for Proposal may be cancelled and any or all proposals rejected in whole or in part by NMERB. Amendments to this Request for Proposal shall only be made by NMERB in writing and in accordance with Procurement Code Regulations found at 1.4.1 NMAC. NMERB shall not be responsible for any costs incurred by an Offeror in the preparation or submission of a proposal or an amendment to a proposal.

This RFP will be a single award.

This procurement will result in a contractual agreement between two parties; the procurement may ONLY be used by those two parties exclusively.

D. PROCUREMENT MANAGER

NMERB has assigned a Procurement Manager who is responsible for the conduct of this procurement whose name, telephone number, and e-mail address are listed below:

Name: Megan Mannila, Procurement Manager
Telephone: (505) 476-6105
Email: Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov

1. **Any inquiries or requests** regarding this procurement should be submitted, in writing, to the Procurement Manager. Offerors may contact **ONLY** the Procurement Manager regarding this procurement. Other state employees or Evaluation Committee members do not have the authority to respond on behalf of the NMERB.
2. **Protests of the solicitation or award must be submitted in writing to the Protest Manager identified in Section II.B.12.** As a Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to §13-1-172 NMSA 1978 and 1.4.1.82 NMAC, **ONLY** protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. Protests submitted or delivered to the Procurement Manager will **NOT** be considered properly submitted.

E. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals in response to this RFP must be submitted via email to the Procurement Manager. If your submission is too large to send via email, please contact the procurement manager to inquire about other means to submit your proposal.

F. DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY

This section contains definitions of terms used throughout this procurement document, including appropriate abbreviations:

1. “**Agency**” means the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board.
2. “**Award**” means the final execution of the contract document.
3. “**Business Hours**” means weekdays (Monday – Friday) 8:00 AM thru 5:00 PM MDT, whichever is in effect on the date given.
4. “**Close of Business**” means weekdays (Monday – Friday) 5:00 PM MDT, whichever is in effect on the date given.
5. “**Confidential**” means confidential financial information concerning Offeror’s organization and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act §§57-3-A-1 through 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978, See also NMAC 1.4.1.45. The following items

may **not** be labelled as confidential: Offeror's submitted Cost response, Staff/Personnel Resumes/Bios (excluding personal information such as personal telephone numbers and/or home addresses), and other submitted data that is **not** confidential financial information or that qualifies under the Uniform Trade Secrets Act.

6. "**Contract**" means any agreement for the procurement of items of tangible personal property, services or construction.
7. "**Contractor**" means any business having a contract with a state agency or local public body.
8. "**Determination**" means the written documentation of a decision of a procurement officer including findings of fact required to support a decision. A determination becomes part of the procurement file to which it pertains.
9. "**Desirable**" – the terms "may," "can," "should," "preferably," or "prefers" identify a desirable or discretionary item or factor.
10. "**Electronic Submission**" means a successful submittal of Offeror's proposal to the procurement manager.
11. "**Electronic Version/Copy**" means a digital format consisting of text, images or both, readable on computers or other electronic devices, which includes all content that the Original document contains.
12. "**Evaluation Committee**" means a body appointed to perform the evaluation of Offerors' proposals.
13. "**Evaluation Committee Report**" means a report prepared by the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee to support the Committee's recommendation for contract award. It will contain scores and written evaluations of all responsive Offeror proposals.
14. "**Final Award**" means, in the context of this Request for Proposals and all its attendant documents, that point at which the final required signature on the contract(s) resulting from the procurement has been affixed to the contract(s) thus making it fully executed.
15. "**Finalist**" means an Offeror who meets all the mandatory specifications of this Request for Proposals and whose score on evaluation factors is sufficiently high to merit further consideration by the Evaluation Committee, as explained in Section II.B.7.
16. "**Hourly Rate**" means the proposed fully loaded maximum hourly rates that include travel, per diem, fringe benefits and any overhead costs for contractor personnel, as well as subcontractor personnel if appropriate.
17. "**IT**" means Information Technology.

18. “**Mandatory**” – the terms “must,” “shall” “will,” “is required,” or “are required,” identify a mandatory item or factor. Failure to meet a mandatory item or factor may result in the rejection of the Offeror’s proposal.
19. “**Minor Irregularities**” means anything in the proposal that does not affect the price, quality and/or quantity, or any other mandatory requirement.
20. “**Multiple Source Award**” means an award of a contract for one or more items of tangible personal property, services or construction to more than one Offeror.
21. “**New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NMERB)**” is the state agency that administers retirement benefits for employees of New Mexico public schools, institutions of higher learning and certain employees at state agencies who work in educational programs and has a reciprocal relationship with PERA.
22. “**Offeror**” is any person, corporation, or partnership who chooses to submit a proposal.
23. “**PAS**” means pension administration system.
24. “**Procurement Manager**” means any person or designee authorized by a state agency or local public body with the responsibility, authority, and resources to conduct the RFP procurement, make written determinations regarding the RFP procurement, and/or enter into or administer contracts as a result of the RFP procurement.
25. “**Procuring Agency**” means all State of New Mexico agencies, commissions, institutions, political subdivisions and local public bodies allowed by law to procure items of tangible personal property, services or construction from the agreement(s) awarded as a result of this RFP.
26. “**Project**” means a temporary process undertaken to solve a well-defined goal or objective with clearly defined start and end times, a set of clearly defined tasks, and a budget. The project terminates once the project scope is achieved and project acceptance is given by the project executive sponsor.
27. “**Redacted**” means a version/copy of the Offeror’s proposal with the information considered proprietary or confidential (as defined by §§57-3A-1 to 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978 and NMAC 1.4.1.45 and summarized herein and outlined in Section II.C.8 of this RFP) blacked-out BUT NOT omitted or removed.
28. “**Request for Proposals (RFP)**” means all documents, including those attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting proposals.
29. “**Responsible Offeror**” means an Offeror who submits a responsive proposal and who has furnished, when required, information and data to prove that his financial resources, production or service facilities, personnel, service reputation and experience are adequate to

make satisfactory delivery of the services, or items of tangible personal property described in the proposal.

30. **“Responsive Offer”** or means an offer which conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the request for proposals. Material respects of a request for proposals include, but are not limited to price, quality, quantity or delivery requirements.
31. **“Sealed”** means, in terms of electronic submission, an Offeror’s proposal and all accompanying documents has been completely and successfully emailed to the procurement manager prior to the submission deadline stated in the RFP.
32. **“Single Source Award”** means an award of contract for items of tangible personal property, services or construction to only one Offeror.
33. **“SPD”** means State Purchasing Division of the New Mexico State General Services Department.
34. **“Staff”** means any individual who is a full-time, part-time, or an independently contracted employee with the Offerors’ company.
35. **“State (the State)”** means the State of New Mexico.
36. **“State Agency”** means any department, commission, council, board, committee, institution, legislative body, agency, government corporation, educational institution or official of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the government of this state. “State agency” includes the Purchasing Division of the General Services Department and the State Purchasing Agent but does not include local public bodies.
37. **“State Purchasing Agent”** means the Director of the Purchasing Division of the General Services Department.
38. **“Statement of Concurrence”** means an affirmative statement from the Offeror indicating its response to a required Section IV specification agreeing to comply and concur with the stated requirement(s). This statement shall be included in Offerors proposal, pursuant to Section III.C.1. (E.g. “We concur,” “Understands and Complies,” “Comply,” “Will Comply if Applicable,” etc.)
39. **“Unredacted”** means a version/copy of the proposal containing all complete information; including any that the Offeror would otherwise consider confidential, such copy for use only for the purposes of evaluation.

G. PROCUREMENT LIBRARY

A procurement library has been established at: <https://www.erb.nm.gov/requests-for-proposals/>

Offerors are encouraged to review the material contained in the Procurement Library. The library contains information listed below:

[Procurement Regulations 1.4.1 NMAC](#)

[Educational Retirement Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 22-11-1 to -55](#)

Electronic version of RFP, Questions & Answers, RFP Amendments, etc.

II. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT

This section of the RFP contains the schedule of events, the descriptions of each event, and the conditions governing this procurement.

A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Procurement Manager will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Action	Responsible Party	Due Dates
1. Issue RFP	SPD	October 26, 2022
2. Acknowledgement of Receipt Form	Potential Offerors	November 7, 2022
3. Deadline to submit Written Questions	Potential Offerors	November 17, 2022
4. Response to Written Questions	Procurement Manager	November 22, 2022
5. Submission of Proposal	Potential Offerors	December 8, 2022
6.* Proposal Evaluation	Evaluation Committee	December 9-16, 2022
7.* Selection of Finalists	Evaluation Committee	December 15, 2022
8.* Oral Presentation(s)	Finalist Offerors	January 5-6, 2023
9.* Best and Final Offers	Finalist Offerors	January 9, 2023
10.* Finalize Contractual Agreements	Agency/Finalist Offerors	January 10-13, 2023
11.* Contract Awards	Agency/ Finalist Offerors	January 17, 2023
12.* Protest Deadline	SPD	+15 days

* Dates indicated in Events 6 through 12 are estimates only and may be subject to change without necessitating an amendment to the RFP.

B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

The following paragraphs describe the activities listed in the Sequence of Events shown in Section II.A., above.

1. Issue RFP

This RFP is being issued on behalf of the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board on the date indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events.

2. Acknowledgement of Receipt Form

Potential Offerors may e-mail the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form (APPENDIX A), to the Procurement Manager, Megan Mannila at Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov, to have their organization placed on the procurement Distribution List. The form must be returned to the procurement manager by 3:00 PM MDT on November 7th, 2022, as indicated in Section II.A. Sequence of Events.

The procurement distribution list will be used for the distribution of written responses to questions, and/or any amendments to the RFP. Failure to return the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form does not prohibit potential Offerors from submitting a response to this RFP. However, by not returning the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form, the potential Offeror's representative shall not be included on the distribution list and will be solely responsible for obtaining from the Procurement Library (Section I.G.) responses to written questions and any amendments to the RFP.

3. Deadline to Submit Written Questions

Potential Offerors may submit written questions to the Procurement Manager as to the intent or clarity of this RFP until 5:00 PM MDT as indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events. All written questions must be addressed to the Procurement Manager as declared in Section I.D. Questions shall be clearly labeled and shall cite the Section(s) in the RFP or other document which form the basis of the question.

4. Response to Written Questions

Written responses to the written questions will be provided via e-mail, on or before the date indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events, to all potential Offerors who timely submitted an Acknowledgement of Receipt Form (Section II.B.2 and APPENDIX A).

The Questions and Answers will be posted to: <https://www.erb.nm.gov/requests-for-proposals/>

5. Submission of Proposal

At this time, only **electronic** proposal submission is allowed. **Do not** submit hard copies until further notice.

ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PROCUREMENT MANAGER OR DESIGNEE NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM MDT ON DECEMBER 8, 2022, as indicated in

Section II. A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS. **NO LATE PROPOSAL CAN BE ACCEPTED.** The date and time of receipt will be recorded on each proposal. Such electronic submissions will be considered sealed in accordance with statute.

Proposals must be submitted electronically via email to the Procurement Manager. Multiple emails may be sent if a file is too large to send in one email. The Procurement Manager will acknowledge receipt of the RFP through email. If you do not receive an email acknowledgement of receipt or if your file is too large to send via email, contact the Procurement Manager for further guidance. Proposals submitted by facsimile, or other electronic means will not be accepted.

Proposals will be opened and reviewed to verify the submission met the minimum requirements by the Procurement Manager and a witness within 24 hours of the deadline.

A log will be kept of the names of all Offeror organizations that submitted proposals. Pursuant to §13-1-116 NMSA 1978, the contents of proposals shall not be disclosed to competing potential Offerors during the negotiation process. The negotiation process is deemed to be in effect until the contract is awarded pursuant to this Request for Proposals. Awarded in this context means the final required state agency signature on the contract(s) resulting from the procurement has been obtained.

6. Proposal Evaluation

An Evaluation Committee will perform the evaluation of proposals. This process will take place as indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events, depending upon the number of proposals received. During this time, the Procurement Manager may initiate discussions with Offerors who submit responsive or potentially responsive proposals for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the proposals. However, proposals may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion. Discussions SHALL NOT be initiated by the Offerors.

7. Selection of Finalists

The Evaluation Committee will select, and the Procurement Manager will notify the finalist Offerors as per schedule Section II.A, Sequence of Events or as soon as possible thereafter. A schedule for Oral Presentation, if any, will be determined at this time. Finalists will be comprised of up to three (3) Offerors receiving the highest cumulative scores in the following Sections: Section IV.B.1 Organizational Experience, Section IV.B.2 Organizational References, and Section IV.B.4 Desirable Specifications.

8. Oral Presentations

Finalist Offerors, as selected per Section II.B.7 above, may be required to conduct an oral presentation at a venue to be determined as per schedule Section II.A., Sequence of Events, or as soon as possible thereafter. If Oral Presentations are held, Finalist Offerors may be required to make their presentations through electronic means (Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.). The Agency will provide Finalist Offerors with an agenda and applicable details including an invitation to the event. Whether or not Oral Presentations will be held is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

9. Best and Final Offers

Finalist Offerors may be asked to submit revisions to their proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers by as per schedule Section II. A., Sequence of Events or as soon as possible. Best and final offers may also be clarified and amended at finalist Offeror's oral presentation.

10. Finalize Contractual Agreements

After approval of the Evaluation Committee Report, any contractual agreement(s) resulting from this RFP will be finalized with the most advantageous Offeror(s), taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP, as per Section II.A., Sequence of Events, or as soon as possible thereafter. The most advantageous proposal may or may not have received the most points. In the event mutually agreeable terms cannot be reached with the apparent most advantageous Offeror in the timeframe specified, the State reserves the right to finalize a contractual agreement with the next most advantageous Offeror(s) without undertaking a new procurement process.

11. Contract Awards

Upon receipt of the signed contractual agreement, the Agency Procurement office will award as per Section II.A., Sequence of Events, or as soon as possible thereafter. The award is subject to appropriate Department and State approval.

12. Protest Deadline

Any protest by an Offeror must be timely submitted and in conformance with §13-1-172 NMSA 1978 and applicable procurement regulations. As a Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to §13-1-172 NMSA 1978 and 1.4.1.82 NMAC, ONLY protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. The 15-calendar day protest period shall begin on the day following the notice of award of contract(s) and will end at 5:00 pm MDT on the 15th day. Protests must be written and must include the name and address of the protestor and the request for proposal number. It must also contain a statement of the grounds for protest including appropriate supporting exhibits and it must specify the ruling requested from the party listed below. The protest must be directed to:

Susanne Roubidoux
New Mexico Educational Retirement Board
701 Camino de los Marquez
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Mailing Address: PO Box 26129
Santa Fe, NM 87502

PROTESTS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement

Offerors must indicate their acceptance to be bound by the Conditions Governing the Procurement, Section II.C, and Evaluation, Section V, by completing and signing the Letter of Transmittal form, pursuant to the requirements in Section II.C.30, located in APPENDIX E.

2. Incurring Cost

Any cost incurred by the potential Offeror in preparation, transmittal, and/or presentation of any proposal or material submitted in response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the Offeror. Any cost incurred by the Offeror for set up and demonstration of the proposed equipment and/or system shall be borne solely by the Offeror.

3. Prime Contractor Responsibility

Any contractual agreement that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of all requirements of the contractual agreement with a State Agency which may derive from this RFP. The State Agency entering into a contractual agreement with a vendor will make payments to only the prime contractor.

4. Subcontractors/Consent

The use of subcontractors is not allowed. The prime contractor shall be wholly responsible for the entire performance of the contractual agreement whether or not subcontractors are used. Additionally, the prime contractor must receive approval, in writing, from the agency awarding any resultant contract, before any subcontractor is used during the term of this agreement.

5. Amended Proposals

An Offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposals must be complete replacements for a previously submitted proposal and must be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. **Agency personnel will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.**

6. Offeror's Rights to Withdraw Proposal

Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. The Offeror must submit a written withdrawal request addressed to the Procurement Manager and signed by the Offeror's duly authorized representative.

The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations, 1.4.1.5 & 1.4.1.36 NMAC.

7. Proposal Offer Firm

Responses to this RFP, including proposal prices for services, will be considered firm for one-hundred twenty (120) days after the due date for receipt of proposals or ninety (90) days

after the due date for the receipt of a best and final offer, if the Offeror is invited or required to submit one.

8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents

The contents of all submitted proposals will be kept confidential until the final award has been completed by the Agency. At that time, all proposals and documents pertaining to the proposals will be available for public inspection, *except* for proprietary or confidential material as follows:

- a. ***Proprietary and Confidential information is restricted to:***
 1. confidential financial information concerning the Offeror's organization; and
 2. information that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, §§57-3A-1 through 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978.
- b. An additional but separate redacted version of Offeror's proposal, as outlined and identified in Section III.B.1.a.i., shall be submitted containing the blacked-out proprietary or confidential information, in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential version of Offeror's proposal.

IMPORTANT: The price of products offered or the cost of services proposed **SHALL NOT** be designated as proprietary or confidential information.

If a request is received for disclosure of proprietary or confidential materials, the Agency shall examine the request and make a written determination that specifies which portions of the proposal should be disclosed. Unless the Offeror takes legal action to prevent the disclosure, the proposal will be so disclosed. The proposal shall be open to public inspection subject to any continuing prohibition on the disclosure of proprietary or confidential information.

9. No obligation

This RFP in no manner obligates the State of New Mexico or any of its Agencies to the use of any Offeror's services until a valid written contract is awarded and approved by appropriate authorities.

10. Termination

This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the Agency determines such action to be in the best interest of the State of New Mexico.

11. Sufficient Appropriation

Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such terminations will be affected by sending written notice to the contractor. The Agency's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.

12. Legal Review

The Agency requires that all Offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any Offeror's concerns must be promptly submitted in writing to the attention of the Procurement Manager.

13. Governing Law

This RFP and any agreement with an Offeror which may result from this procurement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

14. Basis for Proposal

Only information supplied in writing by the Procurement Manager or contained in this RFP shall be used as the basis for the preparation of Offeror proposals.

15. Contract Terms and Conditions

The contract between an agency and a contractor will follow the format specified by the Agency and contain the terms and conditions set forth in the Draft Contract Appendix C. However, the contracting agency reserves the right to negotiate provisions in addition to those contained in this RFP (Draft Contract) with any Offeror. The contents of this RFP, as revised and/or supplemented, and the successful Offeror's proposal will be incorporated into and become part of any resultant contract.

The Agency discourages exceptions from the contract terms and conditions as set forth in the RFP Draft Contract. Such exceptions may cause a proposal to be rejected as nonresponsive when, in the sole judgment of the Agency (and the Evaluation Committee), the proposal appears to be conditioned on the exception, or correction of what is deemed to be a deficiency, or an unacceptable exception is proposed which would require a substantial proposal rewrite to correct.

Should an Offeror object to any of the terms and conditions as set forth in the RFP Draft Contract (APPENDIX C) strongly enough to propose alternate terms and conditions in spite of the above, the Offeror must propose **specific** alternative language. The Agency may or may not accept the alternative language. General references to the Offeror's terms and conditions or attempts at complete substitutions of the Draft Contract are not acceptable to the Agency and will result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal.

Offerors must provide a brief discussion of the purpose and impact, if any, of each proposed change followed by the specific proposed alternate wording.

If an Offeror fails to propose any alternate terms and conditions during the procurement process (the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror), no proposed alternate terms and conditions will be considered later during the negotiation process. Failure to propose alternate terms and conditions during the procurement process (the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror) is an **explicit agreement** by the Offeror that the contractual terms and conditions contained herein are **accepted** by the Offeror.

16. Offeror's Terms and Conditions

Offerors must submit with the proposal a complete set of any additional terms and conditions they expect to have included in a contract negotiated with the Agency. See Section II.C.15 for requirements.

17. Contract Deviations

Any additional terms and conditions, which may be the subject of negotiation (such terms and conditions having been proposed during the procurement process, that is, the RFP process prior to selection as successful Offeror), will be discussed only between the Agency and the Offeror selected and shall not be deemed an opportunity to amend the Offeror's proposal.

18. Offeror Qualifications

The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the potential Offeror to adhere to the requirements specified within this RFP. The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any potential Offeror who is not a Responsible Offeror or fails to submit a Responsive Offer as defined in §13-1-83 and §13-1-85 NMSA 1978.

19. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, as defined in Section I.F.19. The Evaluation Committee also reserves the right to waive mandatory requirements, provided that all of the otherwise responsive proposals failed to meet the same mandatory requirements and the failure to do so does not otherwise materially affect the procurement. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

20. Change in Contractor Representatives

The Agency reserves the right to require a change in contractor representatives if the assigned representative(s) is (are) not, in the opinion of the Agency, adequately meeting the needs of the Agency.

21. Notice of Penalties

The Procurement Code, §§13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978, imposes civil, and misdemeanor and felony criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

22. Agency Rights

The Agency in agreement with the Evaluation Committee reserves the right to accept all or a portion of a potential Offeror's proposal.

23. Right to Publish

Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, Offerors and contractors must secure from the agency written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by this procurement and/or agency contracts deriving from this procurement. Failure to adhere to this

requirement may result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal or removal from the contract.

24. Ownership of Proposals

All documents submitted in response to the RFP shall become property of the State of New Mexico. If the RFP is cancelled, all responses received shall be destroyed by the Agency or SPD.

25. Confidentiality

Any confidential information provided to, or developed by, the contractor in the performance of the contract resulting from this RFP shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the contractor without the prior written approval of the Agency.

The Contractor(s) agrees to protect the confidentiality of all confidential information and not to publish or disclose such information to any third party without the procuring Agency's written permission.

26. Electronic mail address required

A large part of the communication regarding this procurement will be conducted by electronic mail (e-mail). Offeror must have a valid e-mail address to receive this correspondence. (See also Section II.B.4, Response to Written Questions).

27. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP

This RFP is being made available by electronic means. In the event of conflict between a version of the RFP in the Offeror's possession and the version maintained by the agency, the Offeror acknowledges that the version maintained by the agency shall govern. Please refer to: <https://www.erb.nm.gov/requests-for-proposals/>

28. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage

- A. If the Offeror has, or grows to, six (6) or more employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, Offeror must agree to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.
- B. Offeror must agree to maintain a record of the number of employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) decline health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) decline health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.
- C. Offeror must agree to advise all employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following web site link to additional information: <https://bewellnm.com>.

- D. For Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Delivery contracts (price agreements without specific limitations on quantity and providing for an indeterminate number of orders to be placed against it); these requirements shall apply the first day of the second month after the Offeror reports combined sales (from state and, if applicable, from local public bodies if from a state price agreement) of \$250,000.

29. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

Offeror must complete, sign, and return the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (APPENDIX B) as a part of their proposal. This requirement applies regardless whether a covered contribution was made or not made for the positions of Governor and Lieutenant Governor or other identified official. **Failure to complete and return the signed, unaltered form will result in Offeror's disqualification.**

30. Letter of Transmittal

Offeror's proposal must be accompanied by a Letter of Transmittal Form (APPENDIX E), which must be **signed** by the individual authorized to contractually obligate the company, identified in #2 below.

Provide the following information:

1. Identify the submitting business entity; Name, Mailing Address, Phone Number, Federal Tax ID Number (TIN), and New Mexico Business Tax ID Number (BTIN, formerly CRS);
2. Identify the Name, Title, Telephone, and E-mail address of the person authorized by the Offeror's organization to (A) contractually obligate the business entity providing the Offer, (B) negotiate a contract on behalf of the organization; and/or (C) provide clarifications or answer questions regarding the Offeror's proposal content (*A response to B and/or C is only necessary if the responses differ from the individual identified in A*);
3. Identify any subcontractor/s that may be utilized in the performance of any resultant contract award;
4. Identify any other entity/-ies (such as State Agency, reseller, etc., that is not a subcontractor identified in #3) that may be used in the performance of this awarded contract; and
5. The individual identified in #2 above, must sign and date the form, attesting to the veracity of the information provided, and acknowledging (a) the organization's acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement stated in Section II.C.1, (b) the organizations acceptance of the Section V Evaluation Factors, and (c) receipt of any and all amendments to the RFP.

Failure to submit a signed Letter of Transmittal Form (Appendix E) will result in Offeror's disqualification.

31. Disclosure Regarding Responsibility

- A. Any prospective Contractor and any of its Principals who enter into a contract greater than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) with any state agency or local public body for professional services, tangible personal property, services or construction agrees to disclose whether the Contractor, or any principal of the Contractor's company:
1. is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for award of contract by any federal entity, state agency or local public body;
 2. has within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted in a criminal matter or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:
 - a. the commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) contract or subcontract;
 - b. violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes related to the submission of offers; or
 - c. the commission in any federal or state jurisdiction of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, violation of Federal criminal tax law, or receiving stolen property;
 3. is presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any (federal state or local) government entity with the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph A of this disclosure;
 4. has, preceding this offer, been notified of any delinquent Federal or state taxes in an amount that exceeds \$3,000.00 of which the liability remains unsatisfied. Taxes are considered delinquent if the following criteria apply.
 - a. The tax liability is finally determined. The liability is finally determined if it has been assessed. A liability is not finally determined if there is a pending administrative or judicial challenge. In the case of a judicial challenge of the liability, the liability is not finally determined until all judicial appeal rights have been exhausted.
 - b. The taxpayer is delinquent in making payment. A taxpayer is delinquent if the taxpayer has failed to pay the tax liability when full payment was due and required. A taxpayer is not delinquent in cases where enforced collection action is precluded.
 - c. Have within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any federal or state agency or local public body.)
- B. Principal, for the purpose of this disclosure, means an officer, director, owner, partner, or a person having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity or related entities.
- C. The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor learns that the Contractor's disclosure was at any time erroneous or became erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- D. A disclosure that any of the items in this requirement exist will not necessarily result in termination of this Agreement. However, the disclosure will be considered in the determination of the Contractor's responsibility and ability to perform under this Agreement. Failure of the Contractor to furnish a disclosure or provide additional

information as requested will render the Offeror nonresponsive.

- E. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the disclosure required by this document. The knowledge and information of a Contractor is not required to exceed that which is the normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- F. The disclosure requirement provided is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making an award and is a continuing material representation of the facts during the term of this Agreement. If during the performance of the contract, the Contractor is indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any government entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any offenses named in this document the Contractor must provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement. If it is later determined that the Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous disclosure, in addition to other remedies available to the Government, the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may terminate the involved contract for cause. Still further the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may suspend or debar the Contractor from eligibility for future solicitations until such time as the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer.

32. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences

To ensure adequate consideration and application of §13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (as amended), **Offeror must submit a copy of its valid New Mexico/Native American Resident Preference Certificate or its valid New Mexico/Native American Resident Veteran Preference with its proposal.** Certificates for preferences must be obtained through the New Mexico Department of Taxation & Revenue <http://www.tax.newmexico.gov/Businesses/in-state-veteran-preference-certification.aspx>.

In accordance with §13-1-21(H) NMSA 1978, an agency shall not award any combination of New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences.

The New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences shall not apply if the expenditures for this RFP includes federal funds.

III. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION

A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES

Offerors shall submit only one proposal in response to this RFP.

B. NUMBER OF COPIES

1. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY Responses

Proposals in response to this RFP must be submitted via email to the Procurement Manager:

The Offeror need only submit one single electronic copy of each portion of its proposal (Technical and Cost) as outlined below.

Proposals must be submitted in the manner outlined below. Technical and Cost portions of Offerors proposal **must** be submitted in separate documents as indicated below in this section and **must** be prominently identified as “Technical Proposal” or “Cost Proposal”.

a) **Technical Proposals** – One (1) ELECTRONIC document must be organized in accordance with **Section III.C. Proposal Content and Organization**. All information for the Technical Proposal **must be combined into a single file/document**. The Technical Proposals **SHALL NOT** contain any cost information.

- i. **Confidential Information:** If Offeror’s proposal contains confidential information, as defined in Section I.F.5 and detailed in Section II.C.8, Offeror **must** submit **two (2) separate ELECTRONIC technical documents:**
 - One (1) ELECTRONIC version of the requisite proposals identified in Section III.B.1.a above as **unredacted** (def. Section I.F.39) versions for evaluation purposes; and
 - One (1) **redacted** (def. Section I.F.27) ELECTRONIC for the public file, in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential version of Offeror’s proposal. Redacted versions **must** be clearly marked as “REDACTED” or “CONFIDENTIAL” on the first page of the electronic file;

b) **Cost Proposals** – One (1) ELECTRONIC document of the proposal containing **ONLY** the Cost Proposal. All information for the cost proposal **must be combined into a single file/document**.

The ELECTRONIC proposal submission **must be emailed** by the submission deadline in Section II.B.5.

*It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure all documents are submitted electronically via email to the Procurement Manager by the deadline set forth in this RFP. A submission that is not both: (1) fully complete; and (2) received, via email to the Procurement Manager by the deadline, will be deemed late. In accordance with statute and rule, **NO LATE OFFER CAN BE ACCEPTED.***

Any proposal that does not adhere to the requirements of this Section and **Section III.C. Proposal Content and Organization** may be deemed non-responsive and rejected on that basis.

C. PROPOSAL CONTENT AND ORGANIZATION

All proposals must be submitted as follows:

Direct reference to pre-prepared or promotional material may be used if referenced and clearly marked. Promotional material must be minimal. Within each section of the proposal, Offerors must organize and address the RFP requirements in the order indicated below. All forms provided in this RFP must be thoroughly completed and included in the appropriate section of Offeror's proposal. **Any and all discussion of proposed costs, rates or expenses must occur ONLY in the Cost Proposal.**

Technical Proposal – DO NOT INCLUDE ANY COST INFORMATION IN THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.

1. Signed Letter of Transmittal
2. Signed Campaign Contribution Form
3. Table of Contents
4. Proposal Summary (Optional)
5. Response to Contract Terms and Conditions (from Section II.C.15)
6. Offeror's Additional Terms and Conditions (from Section II.C.16)
7. Response to Specifications (**except Cost information which shall be included ONLY in Cost Proposal**)
 - a. Organizational Experience
 - b. Organizational References
 - c. Mandatory Specification
 - d. Desirable Specification
 - e. Financial Stability –(Financial information considered confidential, as defined in Section I.F. and detailed in Section II.C.8, should be placed in the **Confidential Information** file, per Section III.B.1.a.i, as applicable)
 - f. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences (if applicable)
8. Other Supporting Material (if applicable)

Cost Proposal:

1. Completed Cost Response Form (APPENDIX D)

Within each section of the proposal, Offerors should address the items in the order indicated above. All forms provided in this RFP must be thoroughly completed and included in the appropriate section

of the proposal. **Any and all discussion of proposed costs, rates or expenses must occur ONLY in the Cost Proposal.**

A Proposal Summary may be included in Offeror's Technical Proposal, to provide the Evaluation Committee with an overview of the proposal; however, this material will not be used in the evaluation process unless specifically referenced from other portions of the Offeror's proposal. **DO NOT INCLUDE COST INFORMATION IN THE PROPOSAL SUMMARY.**

IV. SPECIFICATIONS

A. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK

The New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NMERB or Agency) is looking for a qualified vendor to provide project management services before, during, and after the implementation of a new Pension Administration System.

The awarded Offeror shall provide planning and implementation services and support in accordance with the responsibilities noted below. Primary responsibilities include but are not limited to the items listed below.

1. The awarded Offeror shall perform the following work:
 - a) Review pension administration system (PAS) vendor contracts.
 - b) Develop a PAS implementation project plan and overall implementation approach.
 - c) Perform all services cooperatively in conjunction with the Agency staff, including Procurement, Legal, Information Technology (IT), and Member Services.
 - d) Work cooperatively with vendor selected for PAS Data Cleansing and Migration services, providing oversight on the Agency's behalf.
 - e) Identify project milestones and resource needs throughout the project.
 - f) Work with the Agency and the PAS vendor to plan the overall conversion strategy.
 - g) Work with the Agency and PAS vendor to establish procedures for requirements gathering.
 - h) Work with the Agency, the PAS Data Cleansing and Migration contractor, and PAS vendor to establish procedures for issue resolution.
 - i) Work with the Agency to provide leadership with Organizational Change Management (OCM) and staff training on the PAS throughout the project.
 - j) Assist with change management strategy in regard to staffing.
 - k) Work with the Agency, the PAS Data Cleansing and Migration contractor, and PAS vendor to establish testing procedures.
 - l) Provide oversight and assistance related to testing and issue resolution of system interfaces, serving as a key liaison between the selected PAS vendor and other project teams such as: Agency development team, Data Cleansing and Migration vendor, and other third-party vendors for utilities such as enterprise content management (ECM), imaging and accounting.
 - m) Agree on a glossary of terms that will be used to communicate throughout the project with the other project teams.
 - n) Post-implementation support. Overall scope and period of time to be mutually agreed upon with awarded vendor.
 - o) Provide the Agency's answers to due diligence questions on a semi-annual basis.
 - p) Contractor will assist Agency in developing all documentation required by Department of Information Technology (DoIT) Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO) in a timely manner to Project Certification Committee (PCC) and Technical Architecture Review Committee (TARC), along with project monthly reports.

- q) Contribute and facilitate the problem-solving process as it relates to the PAS modernization project; defining the problem, performing root cause analysis, exploring options and solutions, understanding constraints, and recommending best solution based on data-driven analysis.
- r) Assist in completing all project close-out activities including transition, lessons learned, post-implementation review, and artifact archival.
- s) Participate and contribute to committee meetings and present project status, progress and budget to Agency leadership.
- t) Contribute to continuous quality improvement of systems and solution delivery processes. Coordinate across boundaries to manage change for adoption and sustained business value and success as a result of project.
- u) Cooperatively work with Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V) vendors and their requirements.

B. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

1. Organizational Experience

Offeror **must**:

- a) provide a detailed description of relevant Project Management experience with a pension administration system migrated to a new pension administration system of similar or greater size within the last 5 years. The experience of all proposed subcontractors must be described. The narrative **must** thoroughly describe how the Offeror has supplied expertise for similar contracts and must include the extent of their experience, expertise and knowledge as a provider of project management services. All such services and experience provided to private sector will also be considered;
- b) provide a brief resume/bio of all key personnel Offeror proposes to use in performance of the resulting contract, should Offeror be awarded. Key personnel are identified as the professional staff (consultants, research analysts, client service offerors, etc.) who will be involved with the services of this account. Offerors must include key personnel education, work experience, and relevant/applicable certifications/licenses.
- c) describe the successes and challenges of at least two projects involving project management services directly related to the implementation of a new pension administration system within the last 5 years. Include how each experience improved the Offeror's services.

2. Organizational References

Offeror must provide a list of a minimum of three (3) external references from similar projects/programs performed for private, state or large local government clients within the last five (5) years.

Offeror shall include the following Business Reference information as part of its proposals:

- a) Client name;
- b) Project description;
- c) Project dates (starting and ending);
- d) Technical environment (i.e., Software applications, Internet capabilities, Data communications, Network, Hardware);
- e) Staff assigned to reference engagement that will be designated for work per this RFP; and
- f) Client project manager name, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

Offeror is required to submit APPENDIX F, Organizational Reference Questionnaire (“Questionnaire”), to the business references it lists. **The business references must submit the Questionnaire directly to the designee identified in APPENDIX F. The business references must not return the completed Questionnaire to the Offeror.** It is the Offeror’s responsibility to ensure the completed forms are submitted on or before the date indicated in Section II.A, Sequence of Events, for inclusion in the evaluation process.

Organizational References that are not received or are not complete, may adversely affect the Offeror’s score in the evaluation process. Offerors are encouraged to specifically request that their Organizational References provide detailed comments.

3. Mandatory Specification

A. Offeror must have experience assisting at least two separate pension plans of similar or larger size to NMERB and have implemented or migrated to a new pension administration system in the past 5 years.

A statement of concurrence to this specification regarding experience is required and must be included in the Offeror’s proposal.

B. Offeror must have experience preparing comprehensive project management plans, establishing timelines, planning resources and working with public pensions to achieve their objectives.

A statement of concurrence to this specification regarding experience is required and must be included in the Offeror’s proposal.

4. Desirable Specification

Offeror should provide responses to the following:

A. COMPANY BACKGROUND AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- 1. Provide a brief history of the firm including:
 - a. the year organized
 - b. the year the firm began offering consulting services

2. Describe the ownership of the firm, including but not limited to:
 - a. ownership structure
 - b. affiliated companies or joint ventures
 - c. if an affiliate, specify the percentage of parent firm's total revenue generated by your organization
 - d. if the firm is a joint venture partner, identify the percentage of ownership and revenues recognized by each association partner
3. Provide an organizational chart diagramming the relationships between the professional staff as well as the parent, subsidiary, affiliate, or joint venture entities.
4. List the total number of persons employed by discipline and provide a separate breakdown of the number of persons involved in consulting services.
5. Indicate revenue (including the sources of all revenue), expenses and net income for 2019, 2020, and 2021.
6. Describe any material developments in your organization (changes in ownership, personnel, business, etc.) over the past three years. Do you anticipate any such material developments in the near future? If so, explain in specific detail.
7. Over the past five years, has your organization or any of its affiliates or parent, or any officer or principal been involved in any business litigation, regulatory or legal proceedings? If so, provide an explanation and indicate the current status.
8. Describe any potential conflicts of interest your firm may have in the handling of this account.
9. Have any senior personnel left or joined the firm in the last three years? If so, please indicate when and why. In which division and position were they involved?
10. Describe your firm's backup procedures in the event the key consultant professional assigned to this account should leave the firm or be transferred to other accounts or duties.
11. Please describe your hiring and internal retention procedures for client consultants and research analysts.
12. Please identify the total number of public pension clients your firm services or has provided project/organizational change management services for in the past five years.
13. Please provide a list of clients who have terminated a consulting relationship with your firm within the last three years. Indicate number of years of relationship, date, and reason for termination.

14. Please discuss the processes your firm takes to ensure the security of clients' confidential information in your possession or control.
15. Describe your firm's security of its information systems and IT hardware.

B. PROJECT MANAGEMENT/CONSULTING PHILOSOPHY, POLICY AND PROCESS.

1. Please describe your research and consulting philosophy. Include the approach to the development of project/organizational change management plans. Please address the decision-making process and the titles and responsibilities of the various individuals involved at each stage of the process.
2. How does your firm implement this philosophy?
3. Research:
 - a. If you have an internal research capability, state the locations(s) where such research is carried out and what specific research is conducted at each location.
 - b. Provide any commentary you feel would communicate the uniqueness of your firm's research efforts.
4. How large is your client universe, and how was it created? Please discuss the makeup of this universe, i.e. public fund, private corporation, etc.
5. Identify four (4) major clients organizational name and contact information, at least two (2) of which must be public trust or pension funds, for which you recently (past 5 years) provided research, reports and project/organizational change management services similar to that requested in this RFP.

C. CLIENT SERVICE

1. Services will require both onsite and remote management of the project, depending on the needs of the agency and the project as dictated by the particular phase of the project.
2. Which of your firm's offices would provide services to NMERB? Which office(s) would specifically provide what services?
3. Who will be the lead consultant? How often will this person be available for client meetings?
4. What other communication is provided to clients, including description and/or samples of reports, etc.?

D. DUE DILIGENCE QUESTIONS

1. Describe your firm's disaster recovery plan as it relates to the equipment, software, data, and personnel that would be used in providing the services required by NMERB.
2. Does the organization routinely perform penetration tests utilizing a qualified third-party vendor, and if so, how often are tests performed, when was the last test performed, and who performed the last test? Please provide an executive summary of the last test.
3. What technical prevention measures are in place to secure and monitor your network?
4. Is multi-factor authentication utilized for network remote access? If so, what type of authentication?
5. How is data protected in transit between the vendor and NMERB? Additionally, how is data at rest protected on servers and backup media?
6. Is there a formal security incident response program in place, and if so, how often is the incident response program tested?
7. Over the past five years, has your organization, your parent organization or any of its affiliates or any officer or principal been involved in any business litigation or regulatory proceedings? If so, provide an explanation and indicate the status of the action.
8. Describe employee training programs of your organization including software, security, and technology training that would be used in providing the services required by NMERB.
9. Does your organization have a written code of conduct or set of standards for professional behavior? If so, how are they monitored and enforced?
10. Do you anticipate any significant changes in your organizational ownership, staffing, or products and services offered? If so, describe these anticipated changes and their impact on NMERB.
11. Describe your organization's risk management process including how issues are identified and how responses are executed.
12. Have you had a SOC 2 audit conducted, and are you willing to share that report with NMERB?

C. BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS

1. Financial Stability

Offerors must submit copies of the most recent years independently audited financial statements and the most current 10K, as well as financial statements for the preceding three years, if they exist. The submission must include the audit opinion, the balance sheet, and statements of income, retained earnings, cash flows, and the notes to the financial statements. If independently audited financial statements do not exist, Offeror must state the reason and, instead, submit sufficient information (e.g. D & B report). **Failure to submit audited financial statements as described herein results in Offeror's disqualification.**

2. Letter of Transmittal Form

The Offeror's proposal **must** be accompanied by the Letter of Transmittal Form located in APPENDIX E. The form **must** be completed and must be signed by the person authorized to obligate the company. **Failure to submit a signed form will result in Offeror's disqualification.**

3. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

The Offeror must complete an unaltered Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form and submit a signed copy with the Offeror's proposal. This must be accomplished whether or not an applicable contribution has been made. (See APPENDIX B). **Failure to complete and return the signed, unaltered form will result in Offeror's disqualification.**

4. Oral Presentation

If oral presentations are held, finalist Offeror(s) may be required to explain, demonstrate, detail, and/or clarify any aspect of its submitted proposal, to which the Evaluation Committee may ask questions and/or seek clarifications. Pursuant to Section II.B.8, Oral Presentations may be held at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

5. Cost

Offerors must complete the Cost Response Form in APPENDIX D and respond to the following:

- a. Please provide your fee structure as it pertains to this proposal. Cost should be broken down by type of service based on an hourly rate and include estimated number of hours or by item. (i.e., Consultant, Admin, copying, travel)
- b. Please identify any additional charges you would impose for other specific services and/or research materials.

6. New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences

To ensure application of § 13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (as amended), an Offeror **MUST** submit a copy, in this section, of its valid New Mexico/Native Resident Preference Certificate or its valid New Mexico/Native American Resident Veteran Preference Certificate, as issued by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

V. EVALUATION

A. EVALUATION POINT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of evaluation factors with point values assigned to each. These weighted factors will be used in the evaluation of individual potential Offeror proposals by sub-category.

Evaluation Factors <i>(Correspond to section IV.B and IV.C)</i>	Points Available
B. Technical Specifications	
B.1. Organizational Experience	300
B.2. Organizational References	50
B.3. Mandatory Specification	Pass/Fail
B.4. Desirable Specification	350
C. Business Specifications	
C.1. Financial Stability	Pass/Fail
C.2. Letter Of Transmittal	Pass/Fail
C.3. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form	Pass/Fail
C.4. Oral Presentations	100
C.5. Cost	200
TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE	1,000
C.6. New Mexico/Native American Preference - Resident Vendor Points	80
C.6. New Mexico/Native American Preference - Resident Veterans Points	100

Table 1: Evaluation Point Summary

B. EVALUATION FACTORS

1. B.1 Organizational Experience (See Table 1)

Points will be awarded based on the thoroughness and clarity of Offeror's response in this Section. The Evaluation Committee will also weigh the relevancy and extent of Offeror's experience, expertise and knowledge; and of personnel education, experience and certifications/licenses. In addition, points will be awarded based on Offeror's candid and well-thought-out response to successes and failures, as well as the ability of the Offeror to learn from its failures and grow from its successes.

2. B.2 Organizational References (See Table 1)

Points will be awarded based upon an evaluation of the responses to a series of questions on the Organizational Reference Questionnaire (Appendix F). Offeror will be evaluated on references that show positive service history, successful execution of services and evidence of satisfaction by each reference. References indicating significantly similar services/scopes of work and comments provided by a submitted reference will add weight and value to a recommendation during the evaluation process. Points will be awarded for each individual

response up to 1/3 of the total points for this category. Lack of a response will receive zero (0) points.

The Evaluation Committee may contact any or all business references for validation of information submitted. If this step is taken, the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee must all be together on a conference call with the submitted reference so that the Procurement Manager and all members of the Evaluation Committee receive the same information. Additionally, the Agency reserves the right to consider any and all information available to it (outside of the Organizational Reference information required herein), in its evaluation of Offeror responsibility per Section II.C.18.

3. B.3 Mandatory Specifications

The Mandatory Specification found in Section IV.B. are pass/fail. No points assigned.

4. B.4 Desirable Specifications

Evaluation of Desirable Specification will be based on full consideration of all information provided in response to Section IV.B.

5. C.1 Financial Stability (See Table 1)

Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

If the required response is met by the submission, the evaluation committee will perform a review of the financial statements providing a financial opinion on the stability of the Offeror. If a review of the Offeror's financial statements clearly demonstrates that an Offeror is in bankruptcy proceedings to include any bankruptcy filings, the Offeror is not a Responsible Offeror under Section 13-1-83 NMSA 1978 and will not be considered for an award.

6. C.2 Letter of Transmittal (See Table 1)

Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

7. C.3 Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (See Table 1)

Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

8. C.4 Oral Presentation (See Table 1)

Points will be awarded based on the quality, organization, and effectiveness of communication of the information presented, as well as the professionalism of the presenters and technical knowledge of the proposed staff. Prior to Oral Presentation, Agency will provide the Offeror a presentation agenda. (If no Oral Presentations are held all Offerors will receive the maximum amount of total points for this Evaluation Factor).

9. C.5 Cost (See Table 1)

The evaluation of each Offeror's cost proposal will be conducted using the following formula:

Lowest Responsive Offeror's Cost
----- X Available Award Points
Each Offeror's Cost

10. C.6 New Mexico/Native American Resident Preferences

Percentages will be determined based upon the point-based system outlined in § 13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (as amended).

A. New Mexico Resident Business Preference / Native American Resident Preference

If an Offeror has provided a copy of its New Mexico Resident Preference Certificate or Native American Resident Preference Certificate, the points awarded will be calculated as 8% of the total points available in this RFP.

B. New Mexico/Native American Resident Veteran Preference

If an Offeror has provided a copy of its New Mexico Resident Veteran Preference Certificate or Native American Resident Veteran Preference Certificate the points awarded will be calculated as 10% of the total points available in this RFP.

C. EVALUATION PROCESS

1. All Offeror proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the requirements and specifications stated within the RFP. Proposals deemed non-responsive will be eliminated from further consideration.
2. The Procurement Manager may contact the Offeror for clarification of the response as specified in Section II. B.6.
3. Responsive proposals will be evaluated on the factors in Section IV, which have been assigned a point value in Section V. The responsible Offerors with the highest scores may be selected as finalist Offerors, based upon the proposals submitted. In accordance with §13-1-117 NMSA 1978, the responsible Offerors whose proposals are most advantageous to the State taking into consideration the Evaluation Factors in Section V will be recommended for award (as specified in Section II.B.11). Please note, however, that a serious deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.

APPENDIX A

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NMERB Request for Project Management Services
RFP 23-352-1026-02314

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

This optional Acknowledgement of Receipt Form establishes a distribution list to be used for the distribution of written responses to questions, and/or any amendments to the RFP. Failure to return the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form does not prohibit potential Offerors from submitting a response to this RFP. However, by not returning the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form, the potential Offeror's representative shall not be included on the distribution list and will be solely responsible for obtaining from the Procurement Library (Section I.G.) responses to written questions and any amendments to the RFP.

The information below will be used for all correspondence related to the Request for Proposal. Only one contact per Offeror is permitted.

ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

TITLE: _____ PHONE NO.: _____

E-MAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

Submit Acknowledgement of Receipt Form to:

To: Megan Mannila

E-mail: Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov

Subject Line: NMERB Project Management Services, RFP# 23-352-1026-02314

APPENDIX B

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Pursuant to the Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28, et seq. NMSA 1978 and § 13-1-191.1 NMSA 1978 (2006), as amended by Laws of 2007, Chapter 234, a prospective contractor subject to this section shall disclose all campaign contributions given by the prospective contractor or a family member or representative of the prospective contractor to an applicable public official of the state or a local public body during the two years prior to the date on which a proposal is submitted or, in the case of a sole source or small purchase contract, the two years prior to the date on which the contractor signs the contract, if the aggregate total of contributions given by the prospective contractor or a family member or representative of the prospective contractor to the public official exceeds two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) over the two-year period. A prospective contractor submitting a disclosure statement pursuant to this section who has not contributed to an applicable public official, whose family members have not contributed to an applicable public official or whose representatives have not contributed to an applicable public official shall make a statement that no contribution was made.

A prospective contractor or a family member or representative of the prospective contractor shall not give a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process or during the pendency of negotiations for a sole source or small purchase contract.

Furthermore, a solicitation or proposed award for a proposed contract may be canceled pursuant to Section [13-1-181](#) NMSA 1978 or a contract that is executed may be ratified or terminated pursuant to Section [13-1-182](#) NMSA 1978 if a prospective contractor fails to submit a fully completed disclosure statement pursuant to this section; or a prospective contractor or family member or representative of the prospective contractor gives a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process.

The state agency or local public body that procures the services or items of tangible personal property shall indicate on the form the name or names of every applicable public official, if any, for which disclosure is required by a prospective contractor.

THIS FORM MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND MUST BE FILED BY ANY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR WHETHER OR NOT THEY, THEIR FAMILY MEMBER, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS MADE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.

The following definitions apply:

“Applicable public official” means a person elected to an office or a person appointed to complete a term of an elected office, who has the authority to award or influence the award of the contract for which the prospective contractor is submitting a competitive sealed proposal or who has the authority

to negotiate a sole source or small purchase contract that may be awarded without submission of a sealed competitive proposal.

“Campaign Contribution” means a gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or other thing of value, including the estimated value of an in-kind contribution, that is made to or received by an applicable public official or any person authorized to raise, collect or expend contributions on that official’s behalf for the purpose of electing the official to statewide or local office. “Campaign Contribution” includes the payment of a debt incurred in an election campaign, but does not include the value of services provided without compensation or unreimbursed travel or other personal expenses of individuals who volunteer a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee, nor does it include the administrative or solicitation expenses of a political committee that are paid by an organization that sponsors the committee.

“Family member” means a spouse, father, mother, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law or son-in-law of (a) a prospective contractor, if the prospective contractor is a natural person; or (b) an owner of a prospective contractor;

“Pendency of the procurement process” means the time period commencing with the public notice of the request for proposals and ending with the award of the contract or the cancellation of the request for proposals.

“Prospective contractor” means a person or business that is subject to the competitive sealed proposal process set forth in the Procurement Code [Sections [13-1-28](#) through [13-1-199](#) NMSA 1978] or is not required to submit a competitive sealed proposal because that person or business qualifies for a sole source or small purchase contract.

“Representative of a prospective contractor” means an officer or director of a corporation, a member or manager of a limited liability corporation, a partner of a partnership or a trustee of a trust of the prospective contractor.

Name(s) of Applicable Public Official(s) if any: _____

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR:

Contribution Made By: _____

Relation to Prospective Contractor: _____

Date Contribution(s) Made: _____

Amount(s) of Contribution(s) _____

Nature of Contribution(s) _____

Purpose of Contribution(s) _____

(Attach extra pages if necessary)

Signature Date

Title (position)

--OR--

NO CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250) WERE MADE to an applicable public official by me, a family member or representative.

Signature Date

Title (Position)

APPENDIX C
DRAFT CONTRACT

The Agreement included in this Appendix C represents the contract the Agency intends to use to make an award. The State of New Mexico and the Agency reserve the right to modify the Agreement prior to, or during, the award process, as necessary.

Sample Contract

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

NM Educational Retirement Board

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT

Agreement No. 23-352-0000-02314

THIS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is made by and between the State of New Mexico (the “State”), Educational Retirement Board, hereinafter referred to as “Procuring Agency” and [**Insert Contractor Name**], hereinafter referred to as “Contractor” and collectively the parties are hereinafter referred to as the “Parties.” This Agreement must be approved by the Department of Information Technology (“DoIT”).

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Procurement Code, NMSA 1978 13-1-28 *et seq.*; and Procurement Code, NMAC 1.4.1 *et seq.*; Contractor has held itself out as an expert in implementing the Scope of Work attached hereto and Procuring Agency has selected Contractor as the offeror most advantageous to the State; and

WHEREAS, all terms and conditions of the RFP # 23-352-1026-02314 Project Management Services and Contractor’s response to such document(s) are incorporated herein by reference; and

THEREFORE, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

ARTICLE 1 – DEFINITIONS

- A. “Acceptance,” “Accept” or “Accepted” means the approval, following Quality Assurance, of all the Deliverables by Procuring Agency’s ELR (“ELR”).
- B. “Agency CIO” means Procuring Agency’s Chief Information Officer.
- C. “Application Deployment Package” or “ADP” means Contractor’s centralized and systematic delivery of business critical applications, including the source code (for custom software), documentation, executable code and the deployment tools necessary to successfully install application software fixes, including Contractor’s Software related additions, modifications, or deletions.
- D. “Business Days” means Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. (MST or MDT) to 5:30 p.m. except for Federal and State holidays.
- E. “Change Request” means a written document utilized by either Party to request changes or revisions in the Scope of Work – Exhibit A, attached hereto.
- F. “Confidential Information” means any communication or record (whether oral, written, electronically stored or transmitted, or in any other form) that consists of: (1) confidential Procuring Agency or client information as the term is defined in State and/or Federal statutes or regulations; (2) all non-public State budget, expense, payment and other financial information; (3) all attorney-client privileged work product; (4) all information designated by Procuring Agency or any other State office or agency as confidential,

- including all information designated as confidential under Federal and State statutes or regulations; (5) unless publicly disclosed by Procuring Agency or the State, the pricing, payments, and terms and conditions of this Agreement, and (6) State information that has not been publicly disclosed and that is utilized, received, or maintained by Procuring Agency, Contractor, or other participating State agencies for the purpose of fulfilling a duty or obligation hereunder.
- G. “Contract Manager” means a Qualified Person designated by Procuring Agency who is responsible for all aspects of the administration of this Agreement. Under the terms of this Agreement, the Contract Manager will be **[Insert Name]** or his/her Representative.
- H. “Data” means a compilation, body, set or sets, of discrete information gathered by Procuring Agency and/or Contractor which Procuring Agency owns and/or controls and which concerns, and may be utilized or manipulated by Procuring Agency and/or Contractor, to further Procuring Agency’s governmental interests, role and mission (“Mission”). Data includes, but is not limited to, Procuring Agency’s information, whether or not stored in one or more databases, Confidential Information and other internal information which affects or may affect Procuring Agency’s ability to further its Mission.
- I. “Default” means a violation or breach of this Agreement by a Party’s either: (1) failing to perform one’s own contractual obligations hereunder, or (2) by interfering with the other Party’s performance of its obligations hereunder.
- J. “Deliverable” means the verifiable outcomes, results, the Services or products that Contractor will develop, perform, and/or produce and deliver to Procuring Agency according to the Scope of Work.
- K. “DoIT” means the New Mexico State Department of Information Technology.
- L. “DoIT CIO” means DoIT’s Cabinet Secretary or Chief Information Officer, who also serves as the State’s Chief Information Officer.
- M. “Employees” means stockholders, directors, officers, employees and agents.
- N. “Escrow” means a legal document (such as Source Code) delivered by Contractor to a third party escrow agent (“Escrow Agent”), and held by Escrow Agent until Procuring Agency Accepts one or more the Deliverables; in the event Contractor Defaults this Agreement, Procuring Agency will receive the legal document, *e.g.*, Source Code, from Escrow Agent.
- O. “Enhancement” means any modification including addition(s), modification(s), or deletion(s) that, when Contractor makes or adds to a Deliverable, materially improves the Deliverable’s utility, efficiency, functional capability, or application (“Utility”). An error correction is not an Enhancement unless the Deliverable’s Utility is improved in Contractor’s process of making the error correction.
- P. “Executive Level Representative” or “ELR” means the individual designated and empowered with the authority to represent and make decisions on behalf of Procuring Agency or the Representative of the Executive Level Representative.
- Q. “GRT” means New Mexico gross receipts tax.
- R. “GSD” means the General Services Department; “GSD/CRB” means the General Services Department, Contracts Review Bureau.
- S. “Intellectual Property (IP)” means any and all proprietary information or material, whether tangible or intangible, whether derived, embodied, composed or comprised of any hard copy, soft copy, electronic format, hardware, firmware, software or manifested in any other form, whether solid, liquid or vapor, that consists of, or is directly or indirectly related to, Know How, trade secrets, copyrightable material, patent protected or protectable inventions

and/or information, U.S. and foreign patent applications and patents, service marks, trademarks, and trade names, any of which is conceptualized, created or developed by either one or both of the Parties. For the purposes of this Agreement each Party will have exclusive ownership rights and control over Intellectual Property that the Party owns or controls prior to the commencement of this Agreement (“Pre-Owned IP”). Intellectual Property that Contractor creates during the course of Contractor’s performance of work hereunder will be deemed work made for hire (“Work Made for Hire”). Procuring Agency will be considered to be the creator and sole and exclusive owner of all Work Made for Hire. Contractor agrees that Contractor will not make any application for nor any other claim of ownership regarding any Work Made For Hire or any of the Procuring Agency’s Pre-Owned IP. Together, any and all combinations of Procuring Agency’s Pre-Owned IP and Work Made for Hire will comprise “Agency IP.”

- T. “Independent Verification and Validation (“IV&V)” means the process whereby Procuring Agency retains an independent expert to evaluate, verify and issue a written validation opinion concerning Contractor’s performance of the Project and to determine Contractor’s compliance with the requirements stated in the Scope of Work, whether with respect to evaluating certain stages of the Deliverables, or to evaluating the body of the Deliverables as a whole, or both.
- U. “Know How” means the idea(s), technical information and knowledge including, but not limited to, documents, computer storage devices, drawings, flow charts, plans, proposals, records, notes, memoranda, manuals and other tangible items containing, relating to, or causing the enablement of the Work Made for Hire and the Intellectual Property developed hereunder.
- V. “Payment Invoice” means each of Contractor’s detailed, certified and written requests for payment concerning the Deliverables that Contractor renders to Procuring Agency. Each Payment Invoice must identify each Deliverable for which the Payment Invoice is submitted and must include the price stated in the Scope of Work (Deliverables section), and in Article 3, below, as well as Contractor’s actual charge, for each Deliverable.
- W. “Performance Bond” means a surety bond which guarantees against Contractor’s Default as well as Contractor’s full performance of its obligations hereunder.
- X. “Project” means the sum of Contractor’s efforts necessary to produce and deliver the Deliverables to Procuring Agency according to the Scope of Work. **[If applicable, insert only for DoIT certified projects: The title for this Project is [Insert Name of Project].**
- Y. “Project Manager” means a Qualified Person appointed by Procuring Agency who oversees and manages Contractor’s efforts to produce and deliver the Deliverables to Procuring Agency. The Project Manager for this Project is **[Insert Name]** or his/her Representative.
- Z. “Qualified Person” means a person who has demonstrated experience performing and completing activities and tasks similar to the Project.
- AA. “Quality Assurance” or “Quality Assurance Review” means the planned and systematic pattern of rules, measures, procedures and process established by Procuring Agency to ensure that each Deliverable conforms to the requirements stated in the Scope of Work.
- BB. “Representative” means one or more substitute person(s) for a title or role, e.g. Project Manager or Contract Manager, when the Party’s primary contact person is unavailable.
- CC. “Scope of Work” or “SOW” means the statements of Purpose and the Deliverables attached to this Agreement as Exhibit “A.”

- DD. “Service” or “the Services” means the task(s), function(s), and responsibility(ies) assigned to, and performed by Contractor according to the SOW.
- EE. “State” means the State of New Mexico.
- FF. “State Purchasing Agent (NMSPA)” means the New Mexico State Purchasing Agent or his/her Representative.
- GG. “State Purchasing Division (SPD)” means the State Purchasing Division of the New Mexico General Services Department.
- HH. “Software” means the operating system and/or application software used by Contractor to provide the Deliverables hereunder. Software may include, but is not limited to, Third Party Software. “Third Party Software” means software owned by third parties which is utilized by Contractor and/or Procuring Agency hereunder.
- II. “Software Maintenance” means the set of activities that result in changes to the Accepted (baseline) product set of Software. These activities consist of corrections, insertions, deletions, extensions, and Enhancements to the baseline Software and operating system.
- JJ. “Source Code” means the human-readable programming instructions organized into sets of files that represent the business logic for the Project application. Source Code may be read as text and subsequently edited, requiring compilation or interpretation by a Qualified Person into binary or machine-readable form before being directly useable by a computer.
- KK. “Turnover Plan” means the written plan developed by Contractor and approved by Procuring Agency to continue the Project in the event the Deliverables stated in the SOW are transferred, either directly to Procuring Agency or to a third party.

ARTICLE 2 – SCOPE OF WORK

- A. The Scope of Work. The Scope of Work, or “SOW” attached hereto as “Exhibit A,” is incorporated into this Agreement as if fully set forth herein. The SOW governs Contractor’s production and delivery of the Deliverables to Procuring Agency. The Parties may amend the SOW by executing one or more mutually agreed upon written amendments. In the event a conflict of terms exists between this Agreement and the SOW, the terms of this Agreement will govern.
- B. Contractor Default. Contractor will deliver the Deliverables as stated in the SOW. In the event Contractor fails to deliver the Deliverables according to the SOW, Procuring Agency may declare Contractor to be in Default hereunder. In the event Procuring Agency declares Contractor to be in Default, Procuring Agency will give written notice to Contractor describing the Default and will specify a reasonable period of time during which Contractor will remediate the Default. Contractor will then give Procuring Agency a written response that advises Procuring Agency concerning the measures Contractor will take to cure the Default as well as Contractor’s proposed timetable for implementing those measures. Nothing in this Section will be construed to prevent Procuring Agency from exercising Procuring Agency’s rights pursuant to Article 6 or Article 16, below.
- C. Schedule. Contractor will deliver the final Deliverables to Procuring Agency on or before the due dates stated in the SOW. The due dates will not be altered or waived by Contractor absent Procuring Agency’s prior written consent, according to the Amendment process stated in Article 25, below.
- D. License. Not Applicable. The Parties agree there is no License.

- E. Source Code. Not Applicable. The Parties agree there is no Source Code.
- F. Procuring Agency's Rights.
1. Rights to Software. Not Applicable. The Parties agree that this is an agreement pertaining only to professional services and does not involve the provision or use of Software.
 2. Protection of Proprietary Rights. Contractor will reproduce and attach the State's copyright, product identifications and other proprietary notices on the copies Contractor makes and delivers of the Software, the Source Code and other Deliverables for Procuring Agency, in whole or in part, or on any electronic, hard copy or other tangible form of the Deliverables.
 3. Protection of Data. Contractor will protect and safekeep all of Procuring Agency's Data to the same or a higher degree of care that Contractor takes with respect to its own information and data. Contractor will implement all measures necessary to protect Procuring Agency's Data from any and all harm, including but not limited to, breach, intrusion, contamination, corruption, loss, leak, theft, disintegration, viral attack, denial-of-service, malware, worms, trojans, ransomware, hacking, phishing, skimming and other damage of any kind (collectively "Data Damage"), whether caused by Contractor, Contractor's Employees or one or more third parties. In the event a Data Damage incident occurs while Procuring Agency's Data is within Contractor's purview and/or control, within one (1) hour of Contractor's discovery of a Data Damage incident, Contractor will notify the Project Manager concerning the Data Damage incident, including sufficient information for the Project Manager to determine, in conjunction with Contractor, which measures, if any, Contractor must implement to mitigate the Data Damage.
 4. Rights to Data. Not Applicable. The Parties agree Procuring Agency has no rights to the Data.

ARTICLE 3 - COMPENSATION

- A. Compensation Schedule. Procuring Agency will pay Contractor according to the fixed price set for each Deliverable, per the schedule stated in the SOW, less retainage, if any, as identified in Paragraph D.
- B. Payment. The total compensation hereunder will not exceed [**Insert Dollar Amount**] including New Mexico gross receipts tax. This amount is the maximum total amount; it is not a guarantee that the work to be performed by Contractor, and the total of the corresponding payments that Procuring Agency pays to Contractor, will equal the maximum total amount. However, the Parties do not intend for Contractor to continue to deliver the Deliverables without compensation once the total compensation amount has been reached. Therefore, Contractor must notify Procuring Agency before the price of a Deliverable reaches the compensation amount for that Deliverable stated in the SOW. In no event will Procuring Agency pay Contractor for any Deliverables in an amount that exceeds the maximum total amount without this Agreement being amended in writing prior to Contractor's continued delivery of the Deliverables.

Procuring Agency will pay Contractor upon Procuring Agency's Acceptance of each Deliverable according to Article 4, below, and upon the receipt and Acceptance of Contractor's detailed and certified Payment Invoice(s). Procuring Agency will forward its payments to Contractor's designated mailing address, stated in Article 28, below. In accordance with Section 13-1-158 NMSA 1978, Procuring Agency will tender payment to Contractor within thirty (30) days of the date of Procuring Agency's written certification of Acceptance. All Payment Invoices MUST BE received by Procuring Agency no later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of this Agreement. Contractor's Payment Invoices received by Procuring Agency later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of this Agreement WILL NOT BE PAID.

- C. Taxes. Contractor will be reimbursed by Procuring Agency for applicable New Mexico gross receipts taxes ("GRT"), excluding interest or penalties assessed on Contractor by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department. Contractor is solely responsible for the payment of GRT for any money Contractor receives hereunder. Contractor must report its GRT, income tax and other tax obligations under Contractor's Federal and State tax identification number(s).

Contractor and its subcontractors, if any, will pay all Federal, State and local income and other taxes and government fees applicable to its operation(s) as well as the taxes and fees associated with Contractor's employment of its Employees. Contractor will require its subcontractors, if any, to hold Procuring Agency harmless from any responsibility for taxes, damages, fees and interest, if applicable, as well as any and all contributions required under Federal and/or state and local laws and regulations, including any other costs, transaction privilege taxes, unemployment compensation insurance, Social Security and Worker's Compensation.

- D. Retainage. Procuring Agency will retain **twenty percentage** of the fixed-price cost of each stated Deliverable as security for Contractor's full performance of this Agreement. Procuring Agency will release all retained amounts to Contractor upon Procuring Agency's Acceptance of the final Deliverable.
- E. Performance Bond. Not Applicable. The Parties agree there is no Performance Bond.

ARTICLE 4 – ACCEPTANCE

- A. Submission. Upon Contractor's completion and delivery of each Deliverable stated in the SOW, Contractor will submit a Payment Invoice, together with an accurate description of the Deliverable, to Procuring Agency. Contractor will submit its Payment Invoices to Procuring Agency according to, or lower than, the Deliverable price stated in the SOW, less the retainage, if any, stated in Article 3(D), above. Contractor will not submit Payment Invoices to Procuring Agency for any amount(s) that exceed the amount(s) stated in the SOW absent Procuring Agency's prior written permission.
- B. Acceptance. According to Section 13-1-158 NMSA 1978, the ELR will determine whether the Deliverable(s) meet(s) the specifications stated in the SOW. Procuring Agency will not

pay for any Deliverable until the ELR Accepts the Deliverable in writing. In order to Accept a Deliverable, the ELR, in conjunction with the Project Manager, will perform a Quality Assurance Review of the Deliverable to determine, at a minimum, whether the Deliverable:

1. Meets or exceeds the Deliverable requirements stated in the SOW; and
2. Complies with the terms and conditions of RFP or Sole Source Agreement; and
3. Meets or exceeds the generally accepted industry standards and procedures applicable to the Deliverable(s); and
4. Complies with all other of Contractor's requirements, duties and obligations hereunder.

In the event the ELR Accepts a Deliverable according to the ELR's Quality Assurance Review, the ELR will send Contractor the ELR's written Acceptance within **fifteen (15) Business Days** (the "Acceptance/Rejection Period") from the date the ELR receives each of Contractor's Payment Invoice(s).

- C. Rejection. If the ELR fails to give Contractor notice of Procuring Agency's rejection of a Payment Invoice within the Acceptance/Rejection Period, the Deliverable, together with its corresponding Payment Invoice will be deemed to be Accepted by Procuring Agency. In the event the ELR rejects the Deliverable following the ELR's Quality Assurance Review within the Acceptance/Rejection Period, the ELR will send Contractor a rejection notice together with a consolidated set of comments ("Comments") indicating the issues, unacceptable items, and/or requested revisions that Contractor should make or perform with respect to the rejected Deliverable. Upon Contractor's receipt of the ELR's rejection and Comments, Contractor will have ten (10) Business Days to resubmit the rejected Deliverable to Procuring Agency together with Contractor's revisions, corrections and/or modifications made according to the ELR's Comments. Upon receipt of Contractor's revised, corrected or modified ("Revised") Deliverable, the ELR will determine whether the Revised Deliverable is Acceptable by conducting a second Quality Assurance Review. The ELR will then issue a written determination of Procuring Agency's acceptance or rejection of the Revised Deliverable within fifteen (15) Business Days of Procuring Agency's receipt of the Revised Deliverable. In the event the ELR rejects the Revised Deliverable according to the second Quality Assurance Review, Contractor will be then required to provide a remediation plan that will include a list of Contractor's planned corrective measures and an associated timeline for Contractor to complete its remediation of the Deliverable. Contractor's remediation plan must be accepted by the ELR prior to Contractor's implementation of its Deliverable remediation plan. At the same time, Contractor will also be subject to pay Procuring Agency all of Procuring Agency's monetary damages associated with Contractor's failure to timely deliver an Acceptable Deliverable and must complete all remedies attributable to Contractor's late delivery of the Deliverable. In the event ELR rejects a Deliverable three times, Procuring Agency may declare Contractor to be in Default and may immediately terminate this Agreement. Procuring Agency may then seek to recover from Contractor any and all damages and remedies available hereunder and otherwise available in law or equity.

ARTICLE 5 – TERM

THIS AGREEMENT WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE AND BINDING ONLY UPON THE SIGNATURE OF THE STATE PURCHASING DIVISION.

This Agreement will terminate on [**Insert Termination Date**], unless terminated pursuant to Article 6, below. The term of this Agreement, including extensions and renewals, will not exceed four years, except as may otherwise be allowed by Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978.

ARTICLE 6 – TERMINATION

- A. Grounds. Procuring Agency may terminate this Agreement at any time for convenience or cause. Contractor may only terminate this Agreement in the event Procuring Agency materially Defaults hereunder and subsequently fails to cure its Default within ninety (90) days from the date Contractor first declares Procuring Agency to be in Default.
- B. Appropriations. Procuring Agency may terminate this Agreement if required by changes in State or federal law, or so ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, or due to insufficient appropriations made available by the United States Congress and/or the State Legislature concerning the Parties' performance hereunder. Procuring Agency's determination concerning whether sufficient appropriations are available will be deemed fully accepted by Contractor and will be final. In the event Procuring Agency terminates this Agreement pursuant to this subparagraph B, Procuring Agency will provide Contractor written notice of such termination at least fifteen (15) Business Days prior to the effective date of the termination.
- C. Notice; Opportunity to Cure.
 - 1. Except as otherwise provided in Paragraph (B), immediately above, Procuring Agency will give Contractor written notice of Procuring Agency's intended termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective termination date.
 - 2. Contractor will give Procuring Agency written notice of Contractor's termination at least thirty (30) days prior to Contractor's effective termination date, which notice will (i) identify Procuring Agency's material Default(s) upon which Contractor bases its termination, and (ii) state the measures Procuring Agency should implement to cure such material Default(s). Contractor's termination notice to Procuring Agency will only take effect: (i) if Procuring Agency fails to commence curing Procuring Agency's material Default(s) within Contractor's thirty (30) day notice period, or (ii) in the event Procuring Agency cannot commence to cure its material Default(s) within Contractor's thirty (30) day notice period, Procuring Agency will issue a written notice to Contractor concerning: (a) Procuring Agency's intent to cure, and (b) Procuring Agency's commencement of the due diligence necessary to cure its material Default.
 - 3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Procuring Agency may terminate this Agreement immediately upon its written notice sent to Contractor: (i) in the event Contractor becomes patently unable to deliver the Deliverables, as Procuring Agency may, in its sole and exclusive discretion, determine; (ii) if, during the term of this Agreement,

Contractor is suspended or debarred by the State Purchasing Agent; or (iii) this Agreement is terminated pursuant to Article 5, above.

- D. Liability. Except as otherwise expressly allowed or provided hereunder, Procuring Agency's sole liability upon termination by either Party will be to compensate Contractor for Contractor's Acceptable work performed prior to Contractor's receipt or issuance of a written termination notice; provided, however, that a notice of termination issued by either Party will not nullify or otherwise affect either Party's liability for pre-termination defaults hereunder. Contractor will submit a Payment Invoice to Procuring Agency for Contractor's Acceptable work within thirty (30) days of receiving or issuing a notice of termination.

THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED WITHIN THIS ARTICLE 6 ARE NOT EXCLUSIVE AND DO NOT ACT TO WAIVE PROCURING AGENCY'S OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS AND EQUITABLE REMEDIES ENGENDERED BY CONTRACTOR'S DEFAULT HEREUNDER.

ARTICLE 7 – TERMINATION MANAGEMENT

- A. Contractor's Duties. In the event this Agreement is terminated for any reason, or upon expiration, and in addition to all of Procuring Agency's other rights to receive Deliverables and other property hereunder, Contractor will:

1. Transfer, deliver, and/or make readily available to Procuring Agency every Deliverable, partially completed Deliverable, and any and all other property in which Procuring Agency has a financial interest, including but not limited to, any and all Procuring Agency Data and/or Procuring Agency Intellectual Property;
2. Not incur any further financial obligations for materials, services, or facilities hereunder absent Procuring Agency's prior written approval;
3. Terminate all of Contractor's purchase orders, procurements and subcontractors and will cease all work, except as Procuring Agency may direct, for the orderly completion of the Deliverables and the transition, if any, to a third party;
4. Take and effect all actions as Procuring Agency may direct, for the protection and preservation of the Deliverables, the Data, Procuring Agency's Intellectual Property and all other all Procuring Agency property as well as any and all records pertaining to, related to and/or required hereunder;
5. Agree in writing that Procuring Agency is not liable for any costs arising out of the termination other than the costs related to the Deliverables Accepted by Procuring Agency prior to the termination;
6. Cooperate fully in the closeout or transition of Contractor's activities to facilitate Procuring Agency's administration continuity with respect to Procuring Agency's ongoing projects and programs;
7. In the event this Agreement is terminated due to Contractor's Default, lack of performance and/or negligence or willful misconduct, which result(s) in funding reduction(s) to Procuring Agency from any governmental or other source, Contractor will remit the full amount of the funding reduction(s) to Procuring Agency within thirty (30) days of the date of Procuring Agency's request to Contractor for remittance of the funding reduction(s);

8. Should this Agreement terminate due to Contractor's Default, Contractor will reimburse Procuring Agency for all costs arising from retaining one or more third party(ies) at potentially higher rates as well as for all other direct and indirect costs incurred by Procuring Agency following Contractor's Default up to the full amount of the total compensation stated in Article 3. B. above;
9. In the event this Agreement is terminated for any reason, or upon its expiration, Contractor will develop and submit for Procuring Agency's Acceptance a turnover plan ("Turnover Plan") at least ten (10) Business Days prior to the effective date of termination or expiration of this Agreement. Contractor's Turnover Plan will state Contractor's policies, procedures, and measures necessary to ensure: (1) the least disruption in the delivery of the Deliverables during Procuring Agency's transition of the Project to a third party; and (2) Contractor's cooperation with Procuring Agency and the third party with respect to Contractor's orderly transfer of all partial or completed Deliverables to Procuring Agency and the third party.

Contractor's Turnover Plan will consist of Contractor's orderly and timely transfer or return to Procuring Agency of any and all documents, files, Procuring Agency Data, the Software, the Source code, all other related software, documentation, the system turnover plan, IP Procuring Agency IP and other materials. Upon receipt of Procuring Agency's written request for such transfer or return, Contractor will, within five (5) Business Days, provide to Procuring Agency a copy of Contractor's most recent versions of all pertinent documents, files, Procuring Agency's Data, the Software, the Source Code, all other related software, documentation, the system turnover plan, IP Procuring Agency IP and other materials, whether provided by Procuring Agency or created by Contractor hereunder.

- B. Procuring Agency. In the event this Agreement is terminated for any reason, or upon expiration, and in addition to all other rights to property set forth in this Agreement, Procuring Agency will:
1. Retain ownership of all Deliverables, Procuring Agency's Intellectual Property, Contractor's other work products hereunder, and all related documentation created by Contractor hereunder; and
 2. Pay Contractor all amounts due for the Deliverables Accepted by Procuring Agency prior to the effective date of such termination or expiration.

ARTICLE 8 – INDEMNIFICATION

- A. General. Contractor will defend, indemnify and hold harmless Procuring Agency, the State and their Employees free from all actions, proceedings, claims, demands, costs, damages, attorneys' fees and all other liabilities and expenses of any kind from any source which may arise out of Contractor's performance of this Agreement, which is caused by Contractor's or Contractor's Employees' negligent act(s) or failure(s) to act, during the time when Contractor, and/or any of Contractor's Employees, has delivered or is delivering the Deliverables hereunder. In the event that any action, suit or proceeding related to the Deliverables is brought against Contractor and/or any of Contractor's Employees, Contractor will, as soon as practicable, but no later than two (2) Business Days after

Contractor receives notice thereof, will notify, by certified mail, the legal counsel of Procuring Agency, the Risk Management Division of GSD, and DoIT.

B. The indemnification obligation hereunder will not be limited by the existence of any insurance policy or by any limitation concerning the amount or type of damages, compensation or benefits payable by or for Contractor or any subcontractor, and will survive the termination of this Agreement. Money due or to become due to Contractor hereunder may be retained by Procuring Agency, as necessary, to satisfy any outstanding claim that Procuring Agency may have against Contractor.

ARTICLE 9 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

In the event Procuring Agency grants Contractor the right to own and/or use any Procuring Agency IP, Contractor hereby acknowledges and grants to Procuring Agency and the State, a perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty free license to reproduce, publish, sell, trade, transfer, transmit, use, copy and modify any and all Procuring Agency IP.

ARTICLE 10 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LICENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION

- A. Intellectual Property License. For the purpose of this Agreement, Contractor hereby grants Procuring Agency a full, complete and non-transferable right and license to utilize any and all of Contractor's Related Pre-Owned IP for so long as Procuring Agency utilizes the Software, Source Code and other Deliverables. Contractor does not grant Procuring Agency any right or license to utilize Contractor's Unrelated Pre-Owned IP. If Contractor expects that any of Contractor's Pre-Owned IP will be used by Contractor to fulfill the scope of work under this Agreement, it is Contractor's responsibility to make the Procuring Agency aware of such Pre-Owned IP in order to eliminate questions of ownership of such IP. If Contractor does use Pre-Owned IP to fulfill the scope of work under this Agreement and identifies such, Contractor, at Procuring Agency's request, hereby grants Procuring Agency a permanent, full, complete, non-sublicensable, and non-transferable right and license to utilize any and all such IP.
- B. Intellectual Property Indemnification. At Contractor's sole expense, Contractor will defend Procuring Agency, the State and/or any other State entity against any claim brought or made by a third party alleging that any product, Service or Deliverable that Contractor provides hereunder infringes the third party's Intellectual Property (an "Infringement Claim"). Contractor will pay all costs, damages and attorney's fees and monetary damages that may be awarded as a result of such Infringement Claim(s) in addition to the amount of the judgment award(s). To qualify to receive Contractor's defense cost(s) and/or other payment(s) related to any Infringement Claim(s), Procuring Agency will:
1. Give Contractor written notice, within forty-eight (48) hours, of Procuring Agency's receipt of an Infringement Claim;
 2. Work with Contractor to control the defense and settlement of the Infringement Claim(s); and
 3. Cooperate with Contractor, in a reasonable manner, to facilitate Contractor's defense or settlement of the Infringement Claim(s).

- C. Procuring Agency's Rights. In the event any product, Service or Deliverable that Contractor provides to Procuring Agency hereunder becomes, or in Contractor's opinion is likely to become, the subject of an Infringement Claim, Contractor will, at its sole cost and expense:
1. Provide Procuring Agency the right to continue using the product, Service or Deliverable and fully indemnify Procuring Agency against any and all third Infringement Claim(s) that may arise from Procuring Agency's use of the product, Service or Deliverable;
 2. Replace or modify the product, Service or Deliverable so that such product, Service or Deliverable becomes non-infringing; or
 3. Accept the return of the product, Service or Deliverable and refund an amount equal to the value of the returned product, Service or Deliverable, less the unpaid portion of the purchase price and any other amounts, which Procuring Agency owes to Contractor. Contractor's obligation will be void with respect to any product, Service or Deliverable modified by Procuring Agency to the extent the modification is the direct cause of the Infringement Claim.

ARTICLE 11 - WARRANTIES

- A. General. Contractor hereby expressly warrants the Deliverable(s) will be correct in all aspects according to the specifications stated in the SOW and all generally accepted industry standards (the combination of which comprise the "Applicable Specifications"). Contractor's warranty includes, but is not limited to, Contractor's making correction(s) of defective Deliverable(s) and revision(s) of those defective Deliverables, as necessary, including Contractor's repair of deficiencies in the Deliverables that are discovered during testing, implementation, or post-implementation phases.
- C. Software. Not Applicable. The Parties agree there is no Software.

ARTICLE 12 – CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL

- A. Key Personnel. Contractor's key personnel ("Key Personnel") will not be diverted from this Agreement absent Procuring Agency's prior written approval. Key Personnel are those individuals Procuring Agency considers to be mandatory to the work to be performed hereunder. Contractor's Key Personnel hereunder will be:

[Insert Contractor Key Personnel name(s) and title(s)]

- B. Personnel Changes. In the event Contractor replaces any of its personnel, Contractor will make such replacement(s), with Contractor's other personnel of equal or superior ability, experience, and qualifications. Contractor's personnel replacements must be pre-approved in writing by Procuring Agency's Project Manager. For all of Contractor's personnel, Procuring Agency reserves the right to require submission of their resumes prior to receiving Procuring Agency's approval. In the event Contractor reduces the number of its personnel assigned to the Project for any reason, Contractor will, within ten (10) Business Days of its personnel reduction, replace those persons with the same or a greater number of

persons with equal or superior ability, experience, and qualifications, subject to Procuring Agency's prior written approval. Procuring Agency, in its sole and exclusive determination, may extend the time Contractor is allowed beyond the required ten (10) Business Day period concerning Contractor's replacement of its personnel. Contractor will include status reports to Procuring Agency concerning Contractor's personnel replacement efforts as well as the impact upon the progress of the Project due to the absence of Contractor's personnel. In addition, Contractor will make interim arrangements to assure that the progress of the Project remains unimpeded by the loss of any of Contractor's personnel. Procuring Agency reserves the right to require a change in Contractor's personnel in the event Contractor's personnel are not, in Procuring Agency's sole and exclusive determination, meeting Procuring Agency's standards and/or expectations.

ARTICLE 13 – INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

- A. Independent Contractor. For the purposes of this Agreement, Contractor and Contractor's Employees are independent Contractors who produce and deliver the Deliverables to Procuring Agency. Contractor's Employees are neither employees nor agents of the State ("State Employees"). None of Contractor and Contractor's Employees will accrue State benefits, including but not limited to, leave, retirement, insurance, bonding, use of state vehicles, or any other benefits that may be afforded to State Employees as a result of Contractor's entering this Agreement. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that all sums received hereunder are either reportable as a separate business entity or are, in the event Contractor operates as a sole proprietorship, personally reportable by Contractor for income and GRT tax purposes as self-employment or business income and are reportable for self-employment tax.
- B. Subject of Proceedings. Contractor warrants that neither Contractor nor any of Contractor's Employees are presently subject to any litigation or administrative proceeding before any court or administrative body which could adversely affect Contractor's ability to perform hereunder; nor, to the best of Contractor's knowledge, information or belief, is any such litigation or proceeding presently threatened against Contractor or any of Contractor's Employees. In the event any such proceeding is initiated or threatened during the term of this Agreement, Contractor will immediately disclose such initiation or threat to Procuring Agency.

ARTICLE 14 - CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Change Request Process. In the event circumstances warrant Contractor making a Change to accomplish the SOW, Contractor will submit a Change Request to Procuring Agency. Each Change Request must meet the following criteria:

1. The Project Manager will draft a written Change Request for the ELR's review and approval, including:
 - (a) the name of the person requesting the Change;
 - (b) a summary of the requested Change;
 - (c) the start date for the requested Change;

- (d) the reason and necessity for the requested Change;
 - (e) the elements in the Deliverable(s) and/or the SOW that must be altered in order for Contractor to produce and deliver the Change; and
 - (f) the impact of the Change upon the Project.
2. The ELR will provide a written decision concerning each Change Request to Contractor within ten (10) Business Days of the ELR's receipt of each Change Request. All decisions made by the ELR concerning a Change Request will be deemed final. Each Change Request, once approved by the ELR, will be integrated into the SOW through an Amendment executed by the Parties if required by Article 25, Section 2.

ARTICLE 15 – INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION

- A. In the event IV&V Professional Services are used for the Project associated with this Agreement, Contractor will fully comply and cooperate with the IV&V vendor. Contractor's cooperation includes, but is not limited to:
- 1. Providing the Project documentation;
 - 2. Allowing the IV&V vendor to attend Project related meetings; and
 - 3. Supplying the IV&V vendor with any/all other information and/or material(s) as may be directed by the Project Manager.
- B. In the event the purpose of this Agreement is for Contractor to provide IV&V Professional Services, then Contractor will:
- 1. Submit its IV&V reports directly to DoIT's Project Oversight and Compliance Division (EPMO@doit.nm.gov) according to DoIT's IV&V Reporting Template and Guidelines located on DoIT's webpage: <https://www.doit.nm.gov/programs/epmo/project-management-templates-and-guidance/>, with a copy to Procuring Agency.
 - 2. Use a report format consistent with DoIT's IV&V Reporting Template and Guidelines located on the same DoIT website.

ARTICLE 16 – DEFAULT

In case of Contractor's Default, for any reason whatsoever, Procuring Agency and/or the State may procure the Deliverables from another source and hold Contractor responsible for any resulting excess costs and/or damages, including but not limited to, direct damages, indirect damages, consequential damages and special damages. Procuring Agency and/or the State may also seek all other available remedies against Contractor hereunder or which may be otherwise available under law or equity.

ARTICLE 17 – EQUITABLE REMEDIES

Contractor acknowledges that its failure to comply with any provision hereunder may cause Procuring Agency irrevocable harm and that a remedy at law for such a failure would constitute an inadequate remedy for Procuring Agency. Contractor consents to Procuring Agency's obtaining

from a court of competent jurisdiction, specific performance, or injunction, or any other equitable relief in order to enforce such compliance. Procuring Agency's right to obtain equitable relief pursuant to this Agreement will be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedy that Procuring Agency may have under applicable law, including, but not limited to, monetary damages.

ARTICLE 18 - LIABILITY

Contractor will be liable for damages arising out of injury to persons and/or damage to real, tangible or intangible property at any time, in any way, if and to the extent that the injury or damage was caused by or due to Contractor's fault or negligence or to a defect in Contractor's production or delivery of any Deliverable hereunder, whether Contractor produces or delivers the Deliverable in whole or part. Contractor will not be liable for damages arising out of, or caused by, alterations made by Procuring Agency to any equipment or its installation or for losses caused by Procuring Agency's fault or negligence. In the event Contractor's negligent or omitted production or delivery of any Deliverable results in a defect which is the direct or indirect cause of injury to any third party and/or employee of Procuring Agency or the State, nothing hereunder will act to limit Contractor's, or Contractor's Employees' liability to such third party and/or employee, or will act to limit any remedy that may exist under law or equity with respect to Contractor's and/or Contractor's Employees' negligent act or omission.

ARTICLE 19 – ASSIGNMENT

Contractor will not assign or transfer any of Contractor's interests, rights, responsibilities, duties, obligations and/or liabilities hereunder or assign any of Contractor's claims for money due or that might become due hereunder absent Procuring Agency's prior written approval.

ARTICLE 20 – SUBCONTRACTING

- A. General Provision. Contractor will not subcontract or assign any portion of this Agreement or the SOW to any subcontractor absent Procuring Agency's prior written approval. No such subcontracting or assignment will relieve Contractor of its direct and indirect responsibilities, duties, obligations and/or liabilities hereunder, nor will any such subcontracting trigger or obligate Procuring Agency to make a payment, either directly or indirectly, to any subcontractor.

- B. Responsibility for Subcontractors to Maintain Confidentiality. Contractor will not disclose any of Procuring Agency's or State's Confidential Information to a subcontractor absent Procuring Agency's prior written consent. Each subcontractor will agree in a written form pre-approved by Procuring Agency to protect and keep confidential any and all Confidential Information in the same manner required of Contractor stated in Article 22, below.

ARTICLE 21 – RELEASE

Contractor's Acceptance of Procuring Agency's final payment made hereunder will operate as Contractor's full release of Procuring Agency, the State, and their officers, employees and agents from any and all liabilities, claims and obligations whatsoever arising hereunder.

ARTICLE 22 – CONFIDENTIALITY

Contractor will protect and keep confidential any and all Confidential Information that Procuring Agency provides to Contractor as well as any and all Confidential Information that Contractor develops based upon information provided by Procuring Agency during Contractor's performance hereunder. Contractor will not make available or provide Confidential Information to any third party absent Procuring Agency's prior written approval. Upon termination of this Agreement, Contractor will: (a) deliver all Confidential Information in its possession to Procuring Agency within thirty (30) Business Days of the termination, and (b) Contractor will protect and will not make available or provide Confidential Information to any third party absent Procuring Agency's prior written approval for a period of five (5) years commencing on the termination or expiration date. Contractor acknowledges that Contractor's failure: (a) to deliver such Confidential Information to Procuring Agency, or (b) to protect and keep Confidential Information secret may result in Procuring Agency's seeking to obtain direct, special and/or incidental damages from Contractor.

ARTICLE 23 –CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Contractor warrants that it presently has no interest and will not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with Contractor's delivery of the Deliverables required hereunder. Contractor certifies that it has followed the requirements of the Governmental Conduct Act, Sections 10-16-1 through 10-16-18, NMSA 1978, regarding contracting with a public officer, state employee or former state employee.

ARTICLE 24 - RECORDS AND AUDIT

Contractor will maintain detailed time and expenditure records, which indicate the date, time, nature and cost of the Deliverables rendered during this Agreement's term and will retain those records for a period of three (3) **years** from the date of Procuring Agency's final payment to Contractor hereunder. Contractor's records will be subject to inspection by Procuring Agency, DoIT's CIO, NMSPA, GSD, Department of Finance Authority and the New Mexico State Auditor's Office. Procuring Agency will have the right to audit Contractor's billings prior and subsequent to each of Procuring Agency's payments made to Contractor. Procuring Agency's payment for the Deliverables hereunder will not foreclose Procuring Agency's right to recover Procuring Agency's payments made to Contractor or its affiliates against Contractor's excessive or illegal Payment Invoices, if any.

ARTICLE 25 - AMENDMENT

This Agreement will not be altered, changed, or amended except by an instrument in writing executed by the Parties. No amendment will be effective or binding unless approved by all of the State's and Contractor's approval authorities. Amendments are required for the following:

1. Deliverable requirements stated in the SOW;
2. Due Date of any Deliverable stated in the SOW only if due date change requires extension of Article 5 termination date;
3. Compensation for any Deliverable stated in the SOW;
4. Agreement Compensation, pursuant to Article 3; or
5. Agreement termination, pursuant to Article 5.

ARTICLE 26 – NEW MEXICO EMPLOYEES HEALTH COVERAGE

- A. In the event Contractor has, or grows to, six (6) or more employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period on the Project during the term of this Agreement, Contractor certifies, by signing this Agreement, to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of this Agreement, health insurance for those employees and offer that health insurance to those employees in the event the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.
- B. Contractor will maintain a record of the number of employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) declined health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) declined health insurance for other reasons. Contractor's records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the State.
- C. Contractor will advise Contractor's Employees concerning the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following web site link to additional information: <https://www.bewellnm.com>.
- D. For Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Delivery contracts (statewide or agency price agreements without specific limitations on quantity and providing for an indeterminate number of orders to be placed against them); Contractor agrees those requirements will become applicable on the first day of the second month after Contractor reports its combined sales (to the State and, if applicable, to local public bodies in the event those sales are made pursuant to a statewide or agency price agreement) in the aggregated amount of \$250,000 or more.

ARTICLE 27 – SEVERABILITY, MERGER, SCOPE, ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

- A. Severability. The provisions of this Agreement are severable, and in the event for any reason, a clause, sentence or paragraph of this Agreement is determined to be invalid by a court, agency or commission having jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof, such invalidity will not affect the other provisions of this Agreement, which will be given effect absent the invalid provision.

- B. Merger/Scope/Order. This Agreement incorporates any and all agreements, covenants and understandings between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such agreements, covenants and understanding have been merged into this Agreement. No prior agreement or understanding, verbal or otherwise, of the Parties or their agents or assignees will be valid or enforceable unless stated in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 28 – NOTICES

All deliveries, notices, requests, demands or other communications provided for or required by this Agreement will be in writing and will be deemed to have been given when sent by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested), when sent by overnight carrier, or by email addressed to the other Party's Representative.

Notices will be addressed as follows:

For PROCURING AGENCY
Megan Mannila, Procurement Manager
New Mexico Educational Retirement Board
Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov
505-476-6105
701 Camino de los Marquez
Santa Fe, NM 87505

For CONTRACTOR
[Insert Name of Individual, Position
Company Name
E-mail Address
Telephone Number
Mailing Address]

Any change made concerning either a change of address or a replacement of a Party's Representative must be made in an email or a hard copy letter addressed to the other Party's Representative.

ARTICLE 29 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. Contractor will abide by all federal and state laws and rules and regulations, and executive orders of the Governor of the State, including but not limited to:
1. Civil and Criminal Penalties. The Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.
 2. Equal Opportunity Compliance. Contractor will abide by all federal and state laws and rules and regulations, and executive orders of the Governor of the State, pertaining to equal employment opportunity. In accordance with all such laws of the

State, Contractor will assure that no person in the United States will, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed hereunder. In the event Contractor is found to be out of compliance with these requirements during the life of this Agreement, Contractor will take appropriate measures to correct its deficiencies.

3. Workers Compensation. Contractor will comply with state laws and rules applicable to workers compensation benefits for its employees. In the event Contractor fails to comply with the Workers Compensation Act and applicable rules when required to do so, this Agreement may be terminated by Procuring Agency.
- B. Applicable Law. The laws of the State will govern this Agreement. Venue will be proper only in a New Mexico court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with Section 38-3-1 (G) NMSA 1978. By executing this Agreement, Contractor acknowledges and will submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State over any and all such lawsuits arising hereunder.
- C. Waiver. A Party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of this Agreement will not waive or diminish that Party's right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision. No waiver by a Party of any of its rights hereunder will be effective unless made in writing, and no effective waiver by a Party of any of its rights will be effective to waive any of its other rights, duties or obligations hereunder.
- D. Headings. Any and all headings within this Agreement are inserted for convenience and ease of reference and will not be considered in the construction or interpretation of any article, section or provision of this Agreement or the SOW. Numbered or lettered provisions, sections and subsections contained herein refer only to provisions, sections and subsections of this Agreement unless otherwise expressly stated.
- E. Dispute Resolution. In the event dispute arises between the Parties, either Party may send a letter to the other Party requesting the other Party to enter into a dispute resolution process, such as mediation or arbitration, in accordance with NMSA 1978 12-8A-1 through 12-8A-3.

ARTICLE 30 - SURVIVAL

The Articles titled Intellectual Property, Intellectual Property Ownership, Confidentiality, and Warranties will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement. Software License and Software Escrow agreements entered into by the Parties in conjunction with this Agreement will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 31 - TIME

Calculation of Time. Any time period herein calculated by reference to a “day” or “days” means a calendar day or calendar days, unless Business Days are used; provided, however, that in the event the last day for a given act falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday as observed by the State, the day for such given act will be the first day following that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or a State observed holiday.

ARTICLE 32 – FORCE MAJEURE

Neither Party will be liable for damages or have any right to terminate this Agreement for any delay or Default in performing hereunder in the event such delay or Default is caused by conditions beyond the Party's control including, but not limited to Acts of God, Government restrictions (including the denial or cancellation of any export or other necessary license), war, insurrection and/or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party whose performance is affected thereby.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby execute this Agreement, which will take effect on the last signature date of the required approval authorities below. Each of the signatories, below, may execute this Agreement by hard copy original, facsimile, digital or electronic signature, any of which will be deemed to be a true and original signature hereunder.

By: _____ Date: _____
[Insert Procuring Agency Cabinet Secretary Name], Cabinet Secretary
[Insert Agency Name]

By: _____ Date: _____
[Insert Contractor Name, Title]
[Company Name]

By: _____ Date: _____
[Insert Procuring Agency CIO Name], Chief Information Officer
[Insert Procuring Agency Name]

Approved for legal sufficiency:

By: _____ Date: _____
[Insert Procuring Agency General Counsel Name], General Counsel
[Insert Procuring Agency Name]

Approved for financial sufficiency:

By: _____ Date: _____
[Insert Procuring Agency Chief Financial Officer Name], Chief Financial Officer
[Insert Procuring Agency Name]

The records of the Taxation and Revenue Department reflect that the Contractor is registered with the Taxation and Revenue Department of the State of New Mexico to pay gross receipts and compensating taxes:

BTIN ID Number: Enter this number before uploading to DocuSign

By: _____ Date: _____
Taxation & Revenue Department

Taxation and Revenue is only verifying the registration and will not confirm or deny taxability statements contained in this contract.

Approved for compliance with the Department of Information Technology Act, Chapter 9, Article 27 NMSA 1978 and Executive Orders relating to Information Technology issued by the Governor of the State of New Mexico.

By: _____ Date: _____
Peter Mantos, Cabinet Secretary Designee and State Chief Information Officer
Department of Information Technology

This Agreement has been approved by the General Services Department, State Purchasing Division:

By: _____ Date: _____
State of New Mexico, State Purchasing Division

EXHIBIT A – SCOPE OF WORK

I. Purpose:

The Purpose of this Agreement, including its goals and objectives are for the Contractor to provide project management services to the Procuring Agency as they develop a system to replace their current PAS, which will improve business processes and enhance efficiency in serving pension plan members.

Certified Project Name: Pension Administration System Modernization

II. The Deliverables:

The following sections describe the required tasks and subtasks to be performed by Contractor concerning each service or product delivered by Contractor to Procuring Agency (a “Deliverable”) pursuant to this Agreement. Contractor will deliver each Deliverable, but Contractor is not limited to delivering only the identified Deliverables in a given area of the Project. The Parties agree that the Deliverables are the controlling items and that Contractor’s primary obligation is to deliver the Deliverables to Procuring Agency according to the following sections.

A. **Sample Deliverable Number 1 – [Insert name of deliverable. Name of deliverable here should be the same as the deliverable name in the table.]**

<u>Deliverable Name</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
[Insert name of deliverable. Deliverable name here should be the same as the name used in the title line above the table.]	[Due dates must be stated to facilitate Procuring Agency and Contractor’s efforts to monitor project progress. Insert actual date this deliverable is due. If an actual date is not available, enter a no later than date.]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Total Compensation not to exceed \$ amount, including __% GRT of \$ amount or excluding GRT; To be Paid (include frequency of payment, Monthly, Quarterly, Upon Review and Acceptance or if one payment, indicate Fixed Cost to Be Paid in Full Upon Invoice) at \$ amount rate per hour, hours not to exceed XX. If retainage, include: Less __% retainage of \$ amount.] Amount Payable on Acceptance Not to Exceed \$ amount including or excluding GRT.

Task Item	Sub Tasks	Description
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<p>[Insert Name of Task 1 or tasks to be performed for each Deliverable.]</p>	<p>Sub 1 through however many subtasks are needed to accomplish Task 1, which leads to the number of Tasks needed to accomplish Deliverable 1.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Insert Description. Use active verbs to describe the tasks and subtasks to be completed. Begin the statement by assigning responsibility for the party completing the task, for example, The Contractor will. Contractor name should not be used, only the term Contractor, as stated in the first sentence of this template. Also, references to the agency name should not be used, instead use Procuring Agency. Note that Contractor and Procuring Agency are capitalized.] • [Include the expected deliverable and the agreed upon format. For example, weekly reports to be delivered in Word format, schedule to be delivered in Microsoft Project format. If there is a designated repository the Contractor should use for storing files, include here.] • [Conclude with review and acceptance of the deliverable by the Procuring Agency.]
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APPENDIX D

COST RESPONSE FORM

Use the format designated below to provide cost response.

- a. Please provide your fee structure as it pertains to this proposal. Cost should be broken down by type of service based on an hourly rate and include estimated number of hours or by item. (i.e., Consultant, Admin, copying, travel)
- b. Please identify any additional charges you would impose for other specific services and/or research materials.

Description of Services/Item	Type	Hours	Hourly Rate/ Cost of Item

Year 1: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Not to Exceed Cost: \$ _____

Includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes, and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

Option Year 2: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Not to Exceed Cost: \$ _____

Includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes, and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

Option Year 3: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Not to Exceed Cost: \$ _____

Includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes, and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

Option Year 4: (xx/xx/xxxx thru xx/xx/xxxx) Not to Exceed Cost: \$ _____

Includes all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, configuration, installation, training, taxes, and profit to provide the Services described in Section IV, (as amended by any current RFP amendments for the period specified above)

APPENDIX E

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL FORM

Please complete this form in its entirety. Failure to **sign and/or submit** this form will result in the disqualification of Offeror's proposal.

RFP#: 23-352-1026-02314

1. Identify the following information for the submitting organization:

Offeror Name	
Mailing Address	
Telephone	
FED TIN#	
NM BTIN#	

2. Identify the individual(s) authorized by the organization to (A) contractually obligate, (B) negotiate, and/or (C) clarify/respond to queries on behalf of this Offeror:

	A Contractually Obligate	B Negotiate*	C Clarify/Respond to Queries*
Name			
Title			
E-mail			
Telephone			

* If the individual identified in Column A also performs the functions identified in Columns B & C, then no response is required for those Columns. If separate individuals perform the functions in Columns B and/or C, they must be identified.

3. Will any subcontractor/s be used in the performance of any resultant contract? (Select one):

No.
 Yes. Identify subcontractor/s: _____

4. Will any other entity/-ies (such as a State Agency, reseller, etc., that is not a subcontractor identified in #3 above) be used in the performance of any resultant contract? (Select one)

No.
 Yes. Identify entity/-ies: _____

By signing the form below, the Authorized Signatory attests to the accuracy and veracity of the information provided on this form, and explicitly acknowledges the following:

- On behalf of the submitting-organization identified in item #1, above, I accept the Conditions Governing the Procurement, as required in Section II.C.1. of this RFP;
- I concur that submission of our proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP; and
- I acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP, if any.

Sign: _____ Date: _____
(Must be signed by the individual identified in item #2.A, above.)

APPENDIX F

ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE

The State of New Mexico, as a part of the RFP process, requires Offerors to list a minimum of three (3) organizational references in their proposals. The purpose of these references is to document Offeror's experience relevant to the Section IV.A, Detailed Scope of Work in an effort to evaluate Offeror's ability to provide goods and/or services, performance under similar contracts, and ability to provide knowledgeable and experienced staffing.

Offeror is required to send the following Organizational Reference Questionnaire to each business reference listed in its proposal, as per Section IV.B.2. The business reference, if it chooses to respond, is required to submit its response to the Organizational Reference Questionnaire directly to: Megan Mannila at Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov by December 8, 2022, 3:00 PM MDT for inclusion in the evaluation process. The Questionnaire and information provided will become a part of the submitted proposal. Businesses/Organizations providing references may be contacted for validation of content provided therein.

RFP # 23-352-1026-02314
ORGANIZATIONAL REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR:

(Name of Offeror)

This form is being submitted to your company for completion as a reference for the organization listed above. Submit this Questionnaire to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board via e-mail at:

Name: Megan Mannila, Procurement Manager
Email: Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov

Forms must be submitted no later than 3:00 PM MDT, December 8th, 2022, and **must not** be returned to the organization requesting the reference. References are **strongly encouraged** to provide comments in response to organizational ratings. The comments you provide will help the State evaluate the above-referenced Offeror’s service history, successful execution of services and evidence of customer/client satisfaction.

For questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact the State of New Mexico **Procurement Manager** at 505-476-6105 or Megan.Mannila@erb.nm.gov. When contacting the Procurement Manager, include the Request for Proposal number provided at the top of this page.

Organization providing reference	
Contact name and title/position	
Contact telephone number(s)	
Contact e-mail address	
Project description	
Project dates (start and end dates)	
Technical environment for the project your providing a reference (i.e., Software applications, Internet capabilities, Data communications, Network, Hardware);	

QUESTIONS:

1. In what capacity have you worked with this vendor in the past?

COMMENTS:

2. How would you rate this firm's knowledge and expertise?

____ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)

COMMENTS:

3. How would you rate the vendor's flexibility relative to changes in the project scope and timelines?

____ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)

COMMENTS:

4. What is your level of satisfaction with hard-copy materials produced by the vendor?

____ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable, N/A = Not applicable)

COMMENTS:

5. How would you rate the dynamics/interaction between vendor personnel and your staff?

_____ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)

COMMENTS:

6. Who are/were the vendor's principal representatives involved in your project and how would you rate them individually? Would you, please, comment on the skills, knowledge, behaviors or other factors on which you based the rating?

_____ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable)

Name: _____ Rating: _____

Name: _____ Rating: _____

Name: _____ Rating: _____

Name: _____ Rating: _____

COMMENTS:

7. How satisfied are/were you with the products developed by the vendor?

_____ (3 = Excellent; 2 = Satisfactory; 1 = Unsatisfactory; 0 = Unacceptable, N/A = Not applicable)

COMMENTS:

8. With which aspect(s) of this vendor's services are/were you most satisfied?

COMMENTS:

9. With which aspect(s) of this vendor's services are/were you least satisfied?

COMMENTS:

10. Would you recommend this vendor's services to your organization again?

COMMENTS: