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**STATE OF INDIANA**

**Request for Proposal/Partnership 26-86015**

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION**

**On Behalf Of**

**Indiana Horse Racing Commission**

**Illinois Racing Board**

**Solicitation For:**

**Horse Racing Management System**

**Maintenance and Operations Support**

**Submission Due Date and Time:**

**April 8, 2026 by 3:00 PM Eastern Time**

Kevin March, Procurement Consultant

KMarch@idoa.IN.gov

Indiana Department of Administration

Procurement Division

402 W. Washington St., Room W468

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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# **Section One** **General Information and Requested Products/Services**

## **1.1** **Introduction**

In accordance with applicable Indiana Code provisions, Rules and Policies, the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA), acting on behalf of the Indiana Horse Racing Commission (HRC), requires a Horse Racing Management System (HRMS) for the HRC and Illinois Racing Board (IRB). It is the intent of IDOA to solicit responses to this solicitation in accordance with the statement of work, proposal preparation section, and specifications contained in this document. This solicitation is being posted to the IDOA Bidding Opportunities website, at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/current-business-opportunities/> for downloading. Neither this solicitation nor any response (proposal) submitted hereto are to be construed as a legal offer.

## **1.2** **Definitions and Abbreviations**

The following are explanations of terms and abbreviations appearing throughout this solicitation. Other special terms may be used in the solicitation, but they are more localized and defined where they appear, rather than in the following list.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Award Recommendation  BAFO |  | IDOA’s summary, typically in letter format, of the solicitation and suggestion on respondent selected for the purposes of beginning contract negotiations.  Best and Final Offer is an opportunity for short-listed respondents to propose an improved cost for final score consideration. |
| Contract Award |  | The acceptance of IDOA’s Award Recommendation by the agency being supported in conjunction with the public posting of the Award Recommendation. |
|  | | |
| Full Time Equivalent (FTE) |  | The State defines FTE as a measurement of an employee's productivity when executing the scope of work in this solicitation for a specific project or contract. An FTE of 1 would mean that there is one worker fully engaged on a project. If there are two employees each spending 1/2 of their working time on a project that would also equal 1 FTE |
|  |  |  |
| IAC |  | Indiana Administrative Code |
|  |  |  |
| IC |  | Indiana Code |
| Installation |  | The delivery and physical setup of products or services requested in this solicitation |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Other Governmental Body |  | An agency, a board, a branch, a bureau, a commission, a council, a department, an institution, an office, or another establishment of any of the following:   1. The judicial branch 2. The legislative branch 3. A political subdivision as defined in IC 5-22-2-22 and IC 36-1-2-13 (includes school corporations, municipal corporations, Legislative body, Taxing district, Town, Township, and Unit) 4. A State educational institution |
|  |  |  |
| Prime Contractor |  | As used in **Attachments A** and **A1**, refers to the entity responding to the solicitation. |
|  |  |  |
| Products |  | Tangible goods or manufactured items as specified in this solicitation |
|  |  |  |
| Proposal |  | An offer as defined in IC 5-22-2-17 |
| Respondent |  | An offeror as defined in IC 5-22-2-18; and any entity or person who does business with the State and is registered as same. The State will not consider a proposal responsive if two or more offerors submit a joint or combined proposal. One entity or individual must be clearly identified as the company who will be ultimately responsible for performance of the contract. |
|  |  |  |
| Services |  | Work to be performed as specified in this solicitation |
| State |  | The State of Indiana |
| State Agency |  | As defined in IC 4-13-1, “State Agency” means an authority, board, branch, commission, committee, department, division, or other instrumentality of the executive, including the administrative, department of State government |
|  |  |  |
| Subcontractor |  | As used in **Attachments A and A1** refers to the entity entering into a contract with the Prime Contractor for a portion of the scope of the solicitation. |
|  |  |  |
| Total Bid Amount |  | The amount that the Respondent proposes on **Attachment D** that represents their total, all-inclusive price. |
|  |  |  |
| VSC (Valuable Scope Contribution) |  | The benefit the proposed certified subcontractors(s) must provide to the project set forth in the solicitation. |

## **1.3** **Purpose of Solicitation**

The purpose of this solicitation is to select a respondent that can satisfy the State’s need for Maintenance and Operations support and related development activities for the Horse Racing Management System (HRMS). Currently the HRMS application resides with 2 tenants: the Indiana Horse Racing Commission (HRC) and the Illinois Racing Board (IRB).

## **Summary Scope of Work**

### 1.4.1 IT Project Identification

Project Purpose and Objective   
  
This project will provide Maintenance and Operations support to ensure the Horse Racing Management System (HRMS) continues to successfully manage all aspects of sanctioned horse racing within the respective tenant for each state.   
  
Maintenance and Operations support is defined as:

* Development of minor user-requested improvements that have been approved by the IOT Application Development Manager and/or Product Owner.
* Resolution of user-reported problems and issues including, but not limited to, software bugs, report and data change requests.

### 1.4.2. Scope of Work

The HRMS application is built using a Microsoft .NET backend, an Angular frontend, and MSSQL databases. It is comprised of four main modules:

**Licensing**: This is the core of the application. It handles user profiles, license entries (both manual and online), notes for communication, regulatory issues (Rulings), and links between employers and employees. It also manages financial records for licensed individuals. Most reports generated refer to the licensee profile for additional details. In Indiana, this section includes a public portal for licensees to submit applications and manage their accounts.  
  
**Investigations**: This section is crucial for tracking individuals under scrutiny for rule violations in racing. Investigators create cases linked to licensing profiles. All case reports and investigation metrics, such as searches (vehicles, rooms, tack rooms), drug tests for humans, and other confidential matters, are managed here. This module requires strict user permissions.  
  
**Equine Medical**: This section stores all horse medical information, including dead horse reports, equine drug test positives, and out-of-competition testing. Medical reports for registered horses (vet lists, steward lists, bleeder certificates) are entered and stored here, generating reports for staff to monitor horse health. It is integrated with the Investigations module.  
  
**Breed Development**: This section manages breeding information, including registrations, nominations, and entries for mares, stallions, and foals. It also records race data and distributes award monies. Although focused on horses, it links to the license profile for stables, caretakers, and trainers. The State of Indiana requires IT services for the project described in Section 1.4.1, “IT Project Identification” above.

Technology Stack: To support the development and support of the HRC application, the current technology stack integrates a diverse set of tools and frameworks across the frontend, backend, database, and infrastructure layers. This stack is designed to ensure scalability, maintainability, and performance while aligning with modern development practices.

**Frontend**

* **Framework:** Angular 15.2.6
* **Language:** TypeScript 4.9.5
* **UI Components:** Bootstrap 4.3.1, ng-bootstrap 11.0.1

**Backend**

* **Framework:** ASP.NET Web API 2 (.NET Framework 4.7.2)
* **Language:** C# 8.0
* **Authentication:** OWIN, OAuth 2.0, Azure Active Directory
* **ORM:** Entity Framework 6.4.4
* **Reporting:** ActiveReports 13.2
* **Document Generation:** Aspose.Words, Aspose.Cells
* **Error Logging:** ELMAH, NLog
* **API Documentation:** Swagger/Swashbuckle

**Database**

* **Database:** Microsoft SQL Server
* **ORM:** Entity Framework 6.4.4 (Code-First approach)
* **Migration Strategy:** EF Migrations with seed data for code tables

**Dependencies**

* **Azure Services:** Azure AD (authentication), Azure Blob Storage (file storage), Azure Key Vault (secrets management - planned)
* **Email:** SendGrid for transactional emails and notifications
* **Monitoring:** AppDynamics Agent for application performance monitoring
* **File Processing:** EPPlus 4.1.0 for Excel generation
* **Utilities:** Newtonsoft.Json, Crypto-js, UUID, Moment.js

**Build Tools**

* **Frontend:** Angular CLI 15.2.6, Webpack (bundled with CLI)
* **Backend:** MSBuild, NuGet Package Manager
* **CI/CD:** Azure DevOps Pipelines (current), migrating to GitHub Actions
* **Package Management:** npm (frontend), NuGet (backend)

**Development Tools**

* **IDE:** Visual Studio 2022 (backend), VS Code (frontend)
* **Testing:** Jasmine/Karma (frontend), NUnit (backend - unit tests exist)
* **Linters:** TSLint (frontend - deprecated, needs ESLint migration), EditorConfig
* **Version Control:** Git (Azure DevOps Repos, migrating to GitHub)

**ARCHITECTURE Pattern**

**Multi-Tier Architecture with Multi-Tenancy**

* **Presentation Layer:** Angular 15 SPA (staff and public portals)
* **API Layer:** ASP.NET Web API 2 with RESTful endpoints
* **Business Logic Layer:** Service classes with domain logic
* **Data Access Layer:** Entity Framework 6 repositories
* **Database Layer:** SQL Server with multi-tenant schema (TenantId column in all tables)

Information Technology services provided by the selected vendor must include:

• The selected vendor shall provide experienced programming resources to develop, test and deploy new application functionality through the QA, UAT and production environments of each HRMS tenant.

• The selected vendor shall collaborate with IOT’s Application Development Manager to include an IOT Application Development team member to assist with select work items, on a schedule to be determined, to allow for knowledge sharing and a gradual transition for the IOT Application Development team to support IL HRMS in the future.

• Both Horse Racing Management System (HRMS) applications are developed as multi-tenant applications; however, only some of the modules are currently used by multiple tenants. Indiana Office of Technology has a desire to grow the client base of the HRC application to additional states as a SaaS offering. The selected vendor will advise IOT Application Development Team on best practices in finding the balance between implementing the Indiana specific requests while preserving the appeal of an application suite that can satisfy the requirements of multiple states.

• The selected vendor shall assist with generating technical documentation that fully explains all the application features and workflows in their respective environments and infrastructure.

* The selected vendor shall, at the request of the State of Indiana, prepare and conduct training sessions when new functionality is deployed.

### 1.4.3 Project/Program Procedures and Expectations

1. **Procedure for reporting application issues**
2. The IN HRC team, the IL IRB team and the selected vendor will use the IOT ticketing system for reporting and managing application issues and enhancements entered by the HRC and/or IRB or the IOT and Vendor designee (this process may change as the State of Indiana migrates from ASM to ServiceNow).
3. All approved work items for this Maintenance and Operations agreement will be tracked and managed by IOT and the selected vendor in a dedicated Microsoft Azure DevOps instance in IOT’s tenant. The use of other collaborative SDLC tools not owned by the State of Indiana are prohibited.
4. **IV&V Engagement and Payment Approval**
5. **IV&V Engagement Language**

If the State decides to add Independent Verification & Validation services as part of this engagement, the contractor will copy the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) – Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V) team member(s) on all project related communications (emails, meeting invites, collaboration tools, etc.) and will grant access to all documents and deliverables throughout the term of the contract.

1. **IV&V Payment Approval Language**

If IDOA elects to deploy Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) services in connection with this engagement, the IV&V Team shall review and assess all Deliverables to determine compliance with the State’s requirements as set forth in the Contract and/or applicable Statement(s) of Work. For contracts entered into, renewed, or amended after June 30, 2026, IV&V shall serve as an approving authority, and no payment shall be issued to the Vendor unless and until IV&V has provided such approval.

The selected vendor will include ticket details in the DevOps work item including but not limited to the following:

* General discussion notes
* Discovery/requirements gathering notes
* Requirements approvals
* Development tasks and statuses
* User Acceptance Testing (UAT) tasks and statuses
* Estimated effort (hours and story points)
* Linked work items. (Link code to work item)
* Deployment statuses
* These work items will be Approved for Work by the IOT Product Owner prior to any development effort.

1. The selected vendor will respond to reported application issues and requested enhancements based on the Service Level Agreements in **Item 3 – Service Level Agreements**.
2. Modifications will be moved to production on a date/time as determined by IOT, the Product Owner and the selected vendor and will be communicated by the selected vendor to either IN HRC or IL IRB team. Releases will be deployed to all environments with automated CI/CD pipelines.
3. IN HRC staff and IL IRB staff will evaluate all work items related to their instance of the horse racing application in the DevOps project as well as any new requests for fixes or additional functionality and prioritize the requests appropriately.
4. IN HRC staff and IL IRB staff will submit the highest prioritized requests to the selected vendor via both a DevOps Ticket and email. It is important that the customer includes as much detail as possible to reduce time spent interpreting the requests. When the customer creates a ticket in DevOps, the customer will provide a description and screenshots of the issue with as much information as possible.
5. The selected vendor will analyze each request and provide the cost/hours estimates to the requestor using the “Effort” work item group.
6. The requester will approve the hours estimate via Azure DevOps.
7. It is expected that the selected vendor will collaborate with IOT’s Application Development Manager or his designee on all fixes and enhancements to expand the knowledge base of the application.
8. **Service Level Agreements**

The selected vendor is required to meet or exceed the Service Level Agreements for Severity 1, 2, 3, and 4 issues or there will be a hold back of $100 per issue per business day until the issue is resolved as approved by the State of Indiana.

Business hours are defined as Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm EST.

SEVERITY 1 CRITICAL BUSINESS IMPACT

The impact of the reported deficiency is such that the customer is unable either to use the application or reasonably continue work using the application. The selected vendor will commence work on resolving the deficiency within one (1) hour of notification and will engage staff during business hours until an acceptable resolution is achieved. All Severity 1 items should be logged in DevOps and include an additional email to the requestor IOT, and designated project team for greater visibility. The selected vendor will provide regular updates at agreed upon intervals until the issue is corrected, successfully tested, and deployed to the Production environment.

SEVERITY 2 SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS IMPACT

Important features of the application are not working properly and there are no acceptable, alternative solutions. While other areas of the application are not impacted, the reported deficiency has created a significant, negative impact on the Customer's productivity or service level. The selected vendor will commence work on resolving the deficiency within two (2) hours of notification and will engage staff during business hours until an acceptable resolution is achieved. All Severity 2 items should be logged in DevOps and include an additional email to the requestor IOT, and designated project team for greater visibility.

SEVERITY 3 SOME BUSINESS IMPACT

Important features of the application are unavailable, but an alternative solution is available, or non-essential features of the application are unavailable with no alternative solution. The customer impact, regardless of product usage, is minimal loss of operational functionality or implementation resources. The selected vendor will commence work on resolving the deficiency within one (1) business day of notification and will engage staff during business hours until an acceptable resolution is achieved.

SEVERITY 4 MINIMAL BUSINESS IMPACT

Customer submits a request for information, minor application enhancement, or documentation clarification which has no operational impact. The implementation or use of the application by the Customer is continual and there is no negative impact on productivity. The selected vendor will provide an initial response regarding the request within one (1) business week.

**4. Ownership of Documents and Materials**

Compliance with this state policy requires the use of the State of Indiana IOT Azure DevOps project instance as the primary ecosystem for all project documentation including, but not limited to:

* Discovery notes
* Diagrams and process flows
* Data spreadsheets
* User stories
* System error tickets (bugs)
* Bug solutions
* Solution acceptance
* Source Control
* Pipelines

All administrative, development, vendor-specific testing, and deployment activities must be conducted exclusively within the State of Indiana’s Azure DevOps tenant and performed solely by vendor personnel located within the continental United States. The use of any third-party or vendor-owned SDLC tools not under the ownership of the State of Indiana is strictly prohibited.

Additionally, the selected vendor shall not store any materials (as defined below) on any platform other than those owned and managed by the State of Indiana.

Consequences for Non-Compliance:

* Financial Penalties: The State reserves the right to impose service credits or monetary penalties up to 10% of the monthly invoice for each confirmed breach.
* Contractual Remedies: Repeated violations may lead to termination of the contract for cause, recovery of damages, and disqualification from future State projects.
* Security Review: Non-compliance will trigger a mandatory security audit at the vendor’s expense.

1. All documents, records, programs, applications, data, algorithms, film, tape, articles, memoranda, and other materials (the “Materials”) not developed or licensed by the Contractor selected vendor prior to approval of this agreement but specifically developed under this agreement shall be considered “work for hire” and the Contractor hereby transfers and assigns any ownership claims to the State so that all Materials will be the property of the State. If ownership interest in the Materials cannot be assigned to the State, the Contractor grants the State a non-exclusive, non-cancelable, perpetual, worldwide royalty free license to use the Materials and to use, modify, copy, and create derivative works of the Materials.
2. Use of the Materials, other than related to contract performance by the Contractor, without the prior written consent of the State, is prohibited. During the performance of this agreement, the Contractor shall be responsible for any loss of or damage to the Materials developed for or supplied by the State and used to develop or assist in the services provided while the Materials are in the possession of the Contractor. Any loss or damage thereto shall be restored at the Contractor’s expense. The Contractor shall provide the State full, immediate, and unrestricted access to the Materials and to Contractor’s work product during the term of this agreement.

**5. Compliance with Digital Accessibility Standards**

Applications developed by the selected vendor must comply with IC 4-13.1-3 for digital accessibility, Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Indiana Accessibility Standards, and WCAG 2.1 Level AA, as required under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Accessibility compliance must be included in this Statement of Work for both applications. All WCAG Level A and Level AA issues must be mitigated.

**WCAG Level A issues**

Level A is the most basic conformance level. These issues represent fundamental barriers that prevent people with disabilities from accessing content. Examples include:

* + - Missing alternative text for images
    - Non-keyboard-accessible interactive elements
    - Missing form labels
    - Media without captions or transcripts

**WCAG Level AA issues**

Level AA builds on Level A and addresses more advanced accessibility barriers to ensure usability for a wider range of disabilities. Examples include:

* Color contrast: Text and images must have a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1 for normal text and 3:1 for large text
* Resizable text: Content must remain readable and functional when text is resized up to 200%
* Consistent navigation: Menus and navigation elements must appear in a consistent order across pages
* Error identification and suggestions: Forms must clearly identify errors and provide suggestions for correction
* Accessible focus indicators: Visible focus indicators for keyboard navigation

**Penalties for Non-Compliance:**

Failure to meet these accessibility standards will result in:

* Rejection of deliverables until compliance verified
* Mandatory remediation at vendor’s expense
* Financial penalties up to 10% of monthly invoice per breach
* Contract termination for repeated violations
* Mandatory accessibility audit at vendor’s expense

**Quick Reference: Accessibility & Penalties**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Requirement** | **Description** | **Penalty** |
| WCAG Level A | Basic accessibility compliance (alt text, keyboard access) | Deliverable rejection + remediation at vendor expense |
| WCAG Level AA | Enhanced accessibility compliance (contrast, navigation) | Up to 10% monthly invoice per breach |
| Repeated Violations | Failure to meet accessibility or SLA standards | Contract termination + mandatory audit |

1. **Code Quality and Security Standards**

All code must adhere to OWASP guidelines and secure coding standards. Regular code reviews during Pull Requests are required, focusing on security, quality, and redundancy. Automated security testing using Veracode integrated in CI/CD is mandatory (may transition to GitHub Advanced Security).

Additional Requirements:

* Annual full codebase security scan using approved SAST tool
* Critical/High vulnerabilities remediated within 5 business days
* Medium vulnerabilities within 15 business days
* Low vulnerabilities in next scheduled release
* Written confirmation of remediation and verification testing required

Penalties for Non-Compliance:

* Immediate suspension of deployments until compliance restored
* Financial penalties: Up to 10% of monthly invoice per confirmed breach
* Additional 5% penalty per day beyond remediation deadline for Critical vulnerabilities
* Contract termination for repeated violations
* Mandatory security audit at vendor’s expense

1. **RACI Chart**

R = Responsible A = Accountable C = Consulted I = Informed

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Task/Activity | IOT’s Selected Vendor | Application Product Owner | IOT Application Development Manager | All Staff, Including IN and IL Teams |
| Routine System Maintenance | R | A | C | I |
| Emergency System Repairs | R | A | C | I |
| Application Fixes and Enhancements | R | A | C | I |
| User Access Management | R | I | C | A |
| Incident Management | A | R | C | I |
| Vendor Management | I | A | R | I |
| Collaboration with IOT Application Development Manager | R | A | C | I |
| Status Reporting | R | A | C | I |
| Maintaining Azure DevOps Project Data | R | A | C | I |
| Work with Stakeholders to understand business Needs and Implement Solutions | R | A | C | I |
| Software Development (Front-end, Back-end, Infrastructure as Code (IAC). | R | C | A | I |

1. **Resources/Roles and Responsibilities provided by the selected vendor.**

***All resources must reside in the continental U.S.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Role** | **Role Responsibility** |
| Scrum Master | Coordinate Agile development principles and run basic Scrum ceremonies such as daily stand-up, managing backlogs, sprint planning, and running effective retrospective sessions. Monitors and creates scrum metric KPIs within Azure DevOps to track progress and identify areas of improvement. |
| Sr. Full Stack Developer | Develop, design, test, and support for both front-end and back-end code base. |
| DevOps Engineer | Develop, design, test and support automated CI/CD and Infrastructure as Code (IAC). |

1. **Resources/Roles and Responsibilities provided by the State of Indiana**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Role** | **Role Responsibility** |
| IOT Application Development staff | Provide code base knowledge transfer, collaborate on backlog items, provide guidance on SOI policies and procedures. |
| Subject Matter Experts –  HRC and IRB | Determine backlog priorities, approve system modifications, responsible for UAT, business process knowledge transfer. |
| IOT Business Analyst | Assist with knowledge transfer of business processes, assistance with Azure DevOps backlog, participate in UAT. |

1. **Terms and Conditions**Application modifications, when necessary, will follow the full Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) with project development to include a Quality Assurance (QA) and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) phase. The Agile methodology will be the platform for project management; it is IOT’s highest priority to satisfy IN HRC and IL IRB through early and continuous delivery of valuable working software.  
     
   Scrum and status meeting cadences will be mutually determined by the State of Indiana Product Owner and the selected vendor.
2. **Invoicing**  
   All activities related to the support of both the IRB and HRC applications shall be based on the number of hours spent by the vendor in all phases of the SDLC and shall be invoiced separately.

Invoices for support of the HRMS application on both tenants shall be submitted monthly to IOT. All invoices shall contain:

* The Name of the resource
* The Role of the resource
* Number of hours in quarter-hour increments
* Identification of work item and description of the work performed

Should identical development activities be conducted on both tenants, please see the IOT Application Development Manager for direction on invoicing.

The State of Indiana will not pay any amount on any invoice unless all appropriate information is provided on the invoice by the selected vendor. In that case, the invoice will be denied, and the selected vendor will be required to correct and re-submit the invoice. This could delay invoice payment.

1. **Change Management**  
   Any work item with an estimate that exceeds 20 hours of vendor-specific work including business analysis, development, and testing, may require an amendment to this agreement. A Change Request must be created and submitted to the IOT Application Development Manager and the Product Owner for review approval prior to the beginning of any development activities. Any development activities that begin prior to the review and approval as part of the change management process are subject to penalties up to and including the State of Indiana declining to pay for the specific work completed prior to approval.

### 1.4.4. Project Deliverables

Within the respective tenants’ Azure DevOps boards, there are several requests that have already been entered as backlog items. These items encompass all modules of the application. The application Product Owner will work with stakeholders at the Indiana Office of Technology (IOT), and Indiana HRC or Illinois IRB to refine the backlog. The scrum team will then work the backlogs through the Discovery, Design, and Delivery processes. The selected vendor will remain flexible with IOT and Indiana HRC/Illinois IRB as priorities change during the term of the agreement.

*The selected vendor shall notify the Product Owner and the IOT Application Development Manager of an anticipated delay of any deliverable, as far in advance of the due date as possible.*

Below is a list of Indiana HRMS-related Azure DevOps Backlog items identified and prioritized as Priority A work items as of December 10, 2025.

*This is not an all-inclusive list of work items in the backlogs; priorities may change.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ADO Ticket # | Title | Tags | Priority |
| 27342 | Duplication of record for Team Members - Employment Tab |  |  |
| 26186 | Refused License not showing Issue and Expiration dates |  |  |
| 25586 | Online - Trainer is not indicated when it is themselves | A-Priority; online application; Staff side | A |
| 25683 | Admin - Able to see all ACTIONS | Admin; A-Priority; DB Permissions | A |
| 25733 | Track Search not searching with 3 letters | A-Priority; HR Track Portal; prod bug | A |
| 25765 | DOB is not showing up on random people | A-Priority; online application | A |
| 24267 | Equine Medical Rights - Cannot process any financials | A-Priority; DB Rights; Equine Medical | A |
| 24271 | Investigation Rights -- Cannot process a payment | A-Priority; DB Rights; Investigations | A |
| 24356 | Admin REMOVE is missing from the Current Investigation | A-Priority; Investigations | A |
| 24357 | The Admin REMOVE is missing from the Investigation History | A-Priority; Investigations | A |
| 24406 | Fingerprint TAB -- Adding a Fingerprint - Missing Pay and Save later button | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24407 | Fingerprint Tab - 20-day status | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24422 | Financial Report - Transaction Detail - separated - Should be one big report | A-Priority; Financial | A |
| 24437 | Entering a Medical Review - When you hit SAVE - it needs to take you to the Medical Review | A-Priority; Equine Medical | A |
| 24454 | Missing ACTION button inside application - under License Types | A-Priority; Investigations; Licensing; Regulatory | A |
| 24459 | NON-Track HR - Title "Profile" Needs to state "Licensing" | A-Priority; Non-HR Track Portal | A |
| 24464 | Equine Medical - Cannot Process or create Payments on the Financial Tab | A-Priority; Equine Medical; Financial | A |
| 24484 | Report - Ruling - Missing Ruling Log | A-Priority; MARCH; Regulatory; Reports | A |
| 24486 | View Fingerprint Card - Entered An Unclassifiable - showing Arrest Record | A-Priority; Fingerprints; Licensing | A |
| 24489 | Entering Fingerprint -- No E-Code but E-Code note entered - doesn't show up | A-Priority; Fingerprints; Licensing | A |
| 24491 | Company Stable - Action - - Remove Members Tab - | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24521 | Action button on Profile Advance Search does not link to creating a new profile | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24523 | Profile Advanced Search - Fields Doesn't work | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24537 | Wrong Label on Financial Summary - Payment Methods | A-Priority; Financial | A |
| 24548 | Licensing - Application Notes - duplicating entry with "Executive" | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24550 | Equine Medical Rights - Ruling section - Cannot appeal or amend | A-Priority; Equine Medical | A |
| 24635 | Missing Columns in Ruling Tab -- Active and Total MMV Points | A-Priority; Regulatory | A |
| 24636 | History Rulings - missing Admin Edit | A-Priority; Regulatory | A |
| 24640 | Entering an Equine Medical Case -- need cancel button | A-Priority; Equine Medical | A |
| 24643 | Closed Case Queue -- Missing Ruling number column | A-Priority; Investigations | A |
| 24658 | Ruling Sheet - - Label Wrong -- Appeal | A-Priority; Regulatory | A |
| 24687 | Missing Violation Type - Medical Review | A-Priority; Equine Medical | A |
| 24751 | Job Title - Online application - Trainer Application | A-Priority; online application | A |
| 24753 | Action button on Expired Licenses - - NO Edit license | A-Priority; Licensing; online application; Staff side | A |
| 24785 | ADMIN Edit for a Ruling - Added a fine amount to a ruling - NO Financial was added | A-Priority; Regulatory | A |
| 24791 | Drawer Print out sheet - date at the bottom is wrong | A-Priority; Financial | A |
| 24881 | Track Portal - Missing Indicator for Renewals | A-Priority; HR Track Portal | A |
| 24891 | Ruling Detail Report - ERROR | A-Priority; Regulatory | A |
| 24901 | Issued application cannot be edited | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 25200 | Outstanding Dead Horse Report Queue - Field Wrong | A-Priority; Equine Medical | A |
| 25226 | Track HR Portal - Search is not working correctly | A-Priority; HR Track Portal | A |
| 25237 | Processing Payment - CASH - Amount too High | A-Priority; Financial | A |
| 25349 | License Detail Report | A-Priority; Licensing; Reports | A |
| 25529 | When entering a new license, it is not defaulted to 2025 | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 25588 | HR Track Portal doesn't show any pictures | A-Priority; HR Track Portal | A |
| 25589 | Draft Queue - Needs to be numerical to the application date that is expires - Oldest at top | A-Priority; Licensing; Queues | A |
| 25591 | Track Employee online app - Arrest descriptions are rolling, and the words are not staying together | A-Priority; Licensing; online application; Staff side | A |
| 25764 | Digital application - Last Fingerprinted - State coming over as NULL | A-Priority; online application | A |
| 25826 | Staff side - Digital Application - Review and Notes - Page Numbers not populating | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 25846 | E-Code goes away if VOIDED out a 20-day entry | A-Priority; Fingerprints; Licensing | A |
| 25856 | Editing the application from within the digital application - Nothing appears | A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 24111 | Track - going to the profile for the first time | A-Priority; HR Track Portal | A |
| 21995 | Breed: Payout Form | A-Priority; Breed; HIGH | A |
| 22066 | Awards: Need accurate Calculations | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed | 2.x-A |
| 21997 | Breed: Award Glitch - \*\*\* MUST Override to make this work | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed; meeting | 2.x-A |
| 22007 | Breed: Update to Award Payment Form \*\* must Override to make this work | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed | 2.x-A |
| 24202 | Fingerprint Tab - EDIT button for Admin | 2.x; A-Priority; Licensing | A |
| 21009 | Racing License Section - suspended/fined/pending -- beginning date-End Date - Violation Date | 2.x; A-Priority; Public Portal: Application | 2.x-A |
| 21491 | Quarter-Horse Open Races Award pulling Breeder's Name instead of Owner's Name | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed | 2.x-A |
| 21493 | Stallion Awards are not pulling the correct recipient | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed; meeting | 2.x-A |
| 21785 | Missing Date on Staff Side - Regulatory from Online app | 2.x; A-Priority; Public Portal: Application | 2.x-A |
| 22055 | Awards: need "Cleared" indicator for payments paid out | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed; meeting | 2.x-A |
| 22070 | Awards: information displayed (not editable) on horse info screen | 2.x; A-Priority; Breed | 2.x-A |
| 22088 | Equine Positive -- Able to add multiple drugs | 2.x; A-Priority; Equine Medical | 2.x-A |
| 24203 | Fingerprint TAB - Expiration of the card - YES 5 years | 2.x; A-Priority; Licensing | 2.x-A |

### 1.4.5 Technology Security Standards

The State has robust and comprehensive security standards that permeate all levels of the organization. The Indiana Office of Technology (IOT) has been tasked with establishing and maintaining these security standards. The security standards include assessing security risks, developing, and implementing effective security procedures, and monitoring the effectiveness of those procedures. If the proposed solution involves information technology-related products or services, all such products or services are to be compatible with any of the technology standards found in [Information Security Framework](https://www.in.gov/iot/iot-vendor-engagement/) (https://www.in.gov/iot/iot-vendor-engagement/) that are applicable, including the assistive technology standard. Respondents will be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) to access the IOT Information Security Framework; Respondent’s should review the IOT Information Security Framework, and ensure their proposed solution meets all standards therein.

These figures are only an estimate and are not to be construed as an amount to be offered under this solicitation. **However, when completing Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises Participation Plan Form (Attachment A), Indiana Veterans’ Participation Plan Form (Attachment A1), and the Indiana Economic Impact Form (Attachment C) please use the total bid amount from the Cost Proposal (Attachment D).**

## **1.5** **Solicitation Outline**

The outline of this solicitation document is described below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section** | **Description** |
| Section One – General Information and Requested Products or Services | This section provides an overview of the solicitation, general timelines for the process, and a summary of the products/services being solicited by the State/Agency via this solicitation |
| Section Two – Proposal Preparation Instruction | This section provides instructions on the format and content of the solicitation including an Executive Summary, Business Proposal, Technical Proposal, and a Cost Proposal |
| Section Three – Proposal Evaluation Criteria | This sections discusses the evaluation criteria to be used to evaluate Respondents’ proposals |
| Attachment A | M/WBE Participation Plan Form |
| Attachment A1 | IVOSB Participation Plan Form |
| Attachment B | Sample Contract |
| Attachment B1 | IOT - IaaS |
| Attachment B2 | IOT - PaaS |
| Attachment B3 | IOT - SaaS |
| Attachment C | Indiana Economic Impact Form |
| Attachment D | Cost Proposal Template |
| Attachment E | Business Proposal Template |
| Attachment F | Technical Proposal Template |
| Attachment G | Q&A Template |
| Attachment H | Reference Check Form |
| Attachment I | Pre-proposal Network Opportunities Form |
| Attachment J | Attestation Form |
| Attachment K | AI Technical Questions |
| Attachment L | Infrastructure Overview |

## **1.6** **Pre-Proposal Conference**

A pre-proposal conference will be held following IDOA’s Industry Day event at the date, time and location specified in [Section 1.24](bookmark://_1.24_SUMMARY_OF).  At this conference, potential respondents may ask questions about the solicitation and the solicitation process. Respondents are reminded that no answers issued verbally at the conference are binding on the State and any information provided at the conference, unless it is later issued in writing, also is not binding on the State.

The pre-proposal conference provides an opportunity for potential Prime Contractors and 7/potential Subcontractors to connect. The State strongly encourages potential Prime Contractors and potential Subcontractors to complete and submit **Attachment I** directly to [rfp@idoa.in.gov](mailto:rfp@idoa.in.gov) no later than the time and date outlined in [Section 1.24](bookmark://_1.24_SUMMARY_OF).  Compiled company contact information will be posted to the solicitation website to allow networking to take place among the vendor community.  Though **Attachment I** is not required, the State encourages its use.

## **1.7** **Question/Inquiry Process**

All questions/inquiries regarding this solicitation must be submitted by the date and time outlined in [Section 1.24](#_1.24_SUMMARY_OF). Questions/Inquiries may be submitted in **Attachment G**, Q&A Template, via email to[rfp@idoa.IN.gov](mailto:rfp@idoa.IN.gov) and must be received by the time and date indicated in [Section 1.24](#_1.24_SUMMARY_OF).

The subject line of the email submissions must clearly state the following:

“**RFP 26-86015 Questions/Inquiries – [*INSERT COMPANY NAME*]**”.

Following the question/inquiry due date, Procurement Division personnel will compile a list of the questions/inquiries submitted by all Respondents, redacting the name of the company who submitted the question. The responses will be posted to the IDOA website according to the timetable established in [Section 1.24](#_1.24_SUMMARY_OF). Only answers posted on the IDOA website will be considered binding and valid by the State. No Respondent shall rely upon, take any action, or make any decision based upon any verbal communication with any State employee.

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this solicitation, or if additional information is necessary for a clearer interpretation of provisions of this solicitation prior to the due date for proposals, an Addendum will be posted on the IDOA website. If such Addenda issuance is necessary, the Procurement Division may extend the due date and time of proposals to accommodate such additional information requirements, if required.

## **1.8** **Due Date for Proposals**

All proposals must be received through the Supplier Portal at the link below by the Procurement Division no later than the date and time outlined in [Section 1.24](#_1.24_SUMMARY_OF) Summary of Milestones.  The proposal will be considered the official response in evaluating responses for scoring and protest resolution and may be posted on the IDOA website, <https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/award-recommendations/> if recommended for selection. The proposal must follow the format indicated in [Section Two](#_2.1_General) of this document. No other method of submission will be accepted.  Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations, beyond those necessary to present a complete and effective proposal, are not desired.

Multi-Factor Authentication:

<https://www.in.gov/iot/customer-service/myshareingov/multi-factor-authentication/>

Supplier Portal:

<https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/supplier-resource-center/requirements-to-do-business-with-the-state/bidder-profile-registration/>

Instructions on submitting an electronic bid:

<https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/supplier-resource-center/requirements-to-do-business-with-the-state/bidder-profile-registration/manage-my-bidder-profile/submitting-a-bid/>

Important notes:

Remember that you cannot update the primary contact’s email address and use it to sign into Supplier Portal on the same day.

No more than one proposal per Respondent may be submitted.

Responses may no longer be sent in on flash drives.

The State encourages Respondents to break down their proposals into small file sizes and use compressed zip files, where possible.  Uploading large files may lengthen the time to successfully submit your proposal.  Checking file sizes of the proposal documents by viewing file properties is also recommended to reduce risks when uploading files.

A bidder ID and password are required to submit a response. For more information on that process, visit: <https://www.in.gov/idoa/wbt/SupplierPortal/index.html>.  Bidder ID and password issues are handled by submitting a request for assistance to the State of Indiana Office of Technology and are handled in the order in which they are received.  IDOA is not able to assist with these types of issues, and they are not justification to miss the submission deadline.

The State strongly encourages Respondents to allow plenty of time when electronically submitting their proposals.  Waiting until the last day is not recommended.  Supplier Portal allows documents to be edited until the proposal due date.  Therefore, documents could be loaded over several days.  The Supplier Portal will not accept proposals once the proposal due date and time has expired, even if a Respondent has already begun uploading bid documents.

The State accepts no obligations for costs incurred by Respondents in anticipation of being awarded a contract.

## **1.9** **Modification or Withdrawal of Offers[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Responses may be modified by Respondents until the time and date the response is due. The Respondent’s authorized representative may withdraw the proposal prior to the due date by sending notice to the address listed above in Section 1.8.

## **1.10** **Pricing**

Pricing on this solicitation must be firm and remain open for a period of not less than one hundred eighty (180 days) from the date of award issuance. Any attempt to manipulate the format of the document, attach caveats to pricing, or submit pricing that deviates from the current format will put your proposal at risk of being removed from consideration. **[[2]](#footnote-2)**

Please refer to the Cost Proposal sub-section under [Section Two](#_Section_Two_Proposal) for a detailed discussion of the proposal pricing format and requirements.

## **1.11** **Proposal Clarifications**

The State may request clarifications, in writing, on proposals submitted. These clarifications could include, but are not limited to, request for additional information, or request for Cost or Technical proposal revision. Additionally, in conducting clarifications, the State may use information derived from proposals submitted by competing Respondents only if the identity of the Respondent providing the information is not disclosed to others. The State will provide equivalent information to all Respondents which have been chosen for clarifications.

A sample contract is provided in **Attachment B**. Any requested changes to the sample contract must be submitted with your response (See [Section 2.3.6](#_2.3.5_Contract_Terms/Clauses) for details). The State may reject any of these requested changes. It is the State’s expectation that any material elements of the contract will be substantially finalized prior to contract award.

## **1.12** **Best and Final Offer (BAFO)**

Each proposal should contain the Respondents’ best terms from a price and technical perspective.

The State may request best and final offers from those Respondents determined by the State to be reasonably viable for contract award. However, the State reserves the right to award a contract based on initial proposals received.

Following evaluation of the best and final offers, the State may select for final contract negotiations/execution the offer(s) that are most advantageous to the State.

## **1.13** **Reference Site Visits**

The State may request a site visit to a Respondent’s working support center to aid in the evaluation of the Respondent’s proposal. Site visits, if required will be discussed in the technical proposal.

## **1.14** **Type and Term of Contract**

The State intends to sign a contract with one or more Respondent(s) to fulfill the requirements in this solicitation.

The term of the contract shall be for a period of three (3) years from the date of contract execution.

## **1.15** **Confidential Information**

Respondents are advised that materials contained in proposals are subject to the Access to Public Records Act (APRA), IC 5-14-3 *et seq*., and, after the contract award, the entire solicitation file will be posted on the IDOA website and may be viewed and copied by any member of the public, including news agencies and competitors. The responses are deemed to be “public records” unless a specific provision of IC 5-14-3 protects it from disclosure. Respondents claiming a statutory exception to the APRA **must indicate so per Attachment J** which specific provision applies to which specific part of the response.

Please note citing “Confidential” on an entire section is not sufficient or acceptable.

The Public Access Counselor (PAC) provides guidance on APRA. Respondents are encouraged to read guidance from the PAC on this topic as this is the guidance IDOA follows:

* [18-INF-06; Redaction of Public Procurement Documents Informal Inquiry](https://www.in.gov/pac/informal/files/18-INF-06.pdf)

If the Respondent does not identify the statutory exception, the Procurement Division will not consider the submission confidential. The State also may seek the opinion of the PAC for guidance.

## **1.16** **Taxes**

Proposals should not include any tax from which the State is exempt.

## **1.17** **Procurement Division Registration**

In order to submit a proposal per [Section 1.8](#_1.8_DUE_DATE), Respondents must be registered as a bidder with the Department of Administration, Procurement Division.

At Bidder Profile Registration, <https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/supplier-resource-center/requirements-to-do-business-with-the-state/bidder-profile-registration/> the following may be completed.

* To register, follow instructions provided in Section 2.3.8.
* If registered, a Bidder ID # list is available to complete the Submission Form per Section 2.1.

## **1.18** **Secretary of State Registration**

If awarded the contract, the Respondent will be required to register, and be in good standing, with the Secretary of State. The registration requirement is applicable to all limited liability partnerships, limited partnerships, corporations, S-corporations, nonprofit corporations, and limited liability companies. Information concerning registration with the Secretary of State may be obtained by contacting:

Secretary of State of Indiana

Corporation Division

402 West Washington Street, E018

Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-6576

[www.in.gov/sos](http://www.in.gov/sos)

## **1.19** **Compliance Certification**

Responses to this solicitation serve as a representation that the Respondent has no current or outstanding criminal, civil, or enforcement actions initiated by the State, and it agrees that it will immediately notify the State of any such actions. The Respondent also certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently in arrears in payment of its taxes, permit fees or other statutory, regulatory, or judicially required payments to the State. The Respondent agrees that the State may confirm, at any time, that no such liabilities exist, and, if such liabilities are discovered, that State may bar the Respondent from contracting with the State, cancel existing contracts, withhold payments to setoff such obligations, and withhold further payments or purchases until the entity is current in its payments on its liability to the State and has submitted proof of such payment to the State.

## **1.20** **Equal Opportunity Commitment**

It has been determined that there is a reasonable expectation of minority, woman, and Indiana veteran business enterprises subcontracting opportunities on a contract awarded under this solicitation. Therefore, a contract goal of 8% for Minority Business Enterprises, 11% for Woman Business Enterprises, and 3% for Indiana Veteran Owned Small Businesses has been established.

Failure to address these requirements may impact the evaluation of your proposal.

## **1.21** **Minority & Women Business Enterprises Subcontractor Commitment (MWBE)**

Indiana Code 4-13-16.5 and 25 IAC 5 governs the Division of Supplier Diversity program as it relates to the certification, oversight, and responsibilities around the certified Indiana Minority and/or Women Business Enterprises (MWBE). The contract goal for this solicitation is 8% Minority participation and 11% for Women participation.

If participation exists, the vendor must submit with its quote an MWBE Subcontractor Commitment Form. The entity must be on the State of Indiana Certified M/W/IVOSB list at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>.

If participation is met through the use of vendors who supply products and/or services directly to the Respondent, the Respondent must provide a description of products and/or services provided that are directly related to this quote and the cost of direct supplies for this quote. Respondents must complete the Subcontractor Commitment Form in its entirety. The total amount proposed should match the amount entered on the Supplier Commitment form. The subcontractor commitment shall apply to the life of the contract including any time after the initial term.

A signed letter(s), on company letterhead, from the MBE(s) and/or WBE(s) must accompany the MWBE Subcontractor Commitment Form. Each letter shall state and will serve as acknowledgement from the MBE and/or WBE of its subcontract amount, a description of products and/or services to be provided on this project and approximate date the subcontractor will perform work on this contract.

Questions about those rules and requirements should be directed to: Division of Supplier Diversity at (317) 232-3061 or the Supplier Diversity website at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe> Indiana Code 4-13-16.5 and 25 IAC 5 governs the Division of Supplier Diversity program as it relates to the certification, oversight, and responsibilities around the certified Indiana Minority and/or Women Business Enterprises (MWBE). As stated in [**Section 1.20**](#_1.20_EQUAL_OPPORTUNITY), there is a commitment goal for this solicitation. The MWBE Subcontractor Commitment form is **Attachment A.** The MWBE Subcontractor Commitment Form is to be submitted as a part of the Respondent’s proposal. In order for the Subcontractor commitment to result in evaluation points for the Respondent, the entity must be on the State of Indiana Certified M/W/IVOSB list at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>.

If participation is met through the use of Subcontractors, the Respondent must provide the scope of work of the products and/or services to be provided by the Subcontractor(s). This must include explanation of whether the products and/or services are to be utilized directly by the Respondent and/or directly by the State, a description of the process through which the products/services will be received and applied to the benefit of the award, the deliverable requirements as agreed upon between the Contractor and Subcontractor, the certified UNSPSC that applies to the award, and the cost of supplies being utilized by the Respondent for this proposal. Respondents must complete the Subcontractor Commitment Form in its entirety. The amount entered in “**TOTAL BID AMOUNT**” should match the amount entered in the **Attachment D**, Cost Proposal Template in cell D8 on the ‘Cost Per Deliverable’ tab. The MBE and/or WBE Subcontractor amount and Subcontractor percentage is based on the initial term of the contract for scoring purposes only. The overall committed Subcontractor percentage shall be sustained throughout the life of the contract including any time after the initial term.

Failure to meet these goals will affect the evaluation of your Proposal. The Department will verify all information included on the MWBE Subcontractor Commitment Form.

**Prime Contractors must ensure that the proposed Subcontractors meet the following criteria:**

|  |
| --- |
| * Must be on the State of Indiana Certified M/W/IVOSB list at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>, **on or before** the proposal due date. * Prime Contractor must include with their proposal the Subcontractor’s M/WBE Certification Letter provided by IDOA to show current status of certification. * Each firm may only serve as one classification – MBE, WBE, or IVOSB (see Section 1.22). * A Prime Contractor who is an MBE or WBE must meet Subcontractor goals by using other listed certified firms. Certified Prime Contractors cannot count their own workforce or companies to meet this requirement. See 25 IAC 5-6-2(d)) * **Must serve a Valuable Scope Contribution (VSC). The firm must serve a value-added purpose on the engagement, as confirmed by the State.** * Must provide goods or services only in the industry area for which it is certified. * Must be used to provide the goods or services specific to the contract. * National Diversity Plans are generally not acceptable. |

**Minority & Women’s Business Enterprises Subcontractor Letter**

**of Commitment (MWBE)**

A signed letter(s), on company letterhead, from the MBE(s) and/or WBE(s) must accompany the MWBE Subcontractor Commitment Form. Each letter shall state and will serve as acknowledgement from the MBE and/or WBE of its Subcontract amount, a description of products and/or services to be provided on this project and approximate date the Subcontractor will perform work on this contract. For scoring purposes, the MBE and/or WBE Subcontractor amount and Subcontractor percentage isbased on the initial term of the contract. However, the Subcontractor commitment shall apply to the life of the contract including any time after the initial term.

The State may deny evaluation points if the letter(s) is/are not attached, not on company letterhead, not signed and/or does not reference and match the subcontract amount, subcontract amount as a percentage of the “**TOTAL BID AMOUNT”** and the anticipated period that the Subcontractor will perform work for this solicitation.

By submission of the proposal, the Respondent acknowledges and agrees to be bound by the rules and requirements of the State’s Division of Supplier Diversity. Questions about those rules and requirements should be directed to: Division of Supplier Diversity at (317) 232-3061 or the Supplier Diversity website at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>.

**Minority & Women’s Business Compliance (MWBE)**

If awarded the contract with MWBE Subcontractor participation, the Respondent will be required to report payments made to Division of Supplier Diversity certified Subcontractors under the Contract monthly using the online audit tool, commonly referred to as “Pay Audit.”  The Contractor should also notify Subcontractors that they must confirm payments received from Contractor in Pay Audit. The Pay Audit system can be accessed on the IDOA Pay Audit System webpage at [www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe/payaudit.htm](http://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe/payaudit.htm).

Further, a copy of each Subcontractor agreement must be submitted to IDOA’s Division of Supplier Diversity within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this contract. The contracts may be uploaded into Pay Audit, emailed to [MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov](mailto:MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov); or mailed to Division of Supplier Diversity Compliance 402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis IN 46204.  Failure to provide a copy of any Subcontractor agreement or failure to meet these commitments could be considered a material breach of this contract and result in sanctions per 25 IAC 5.

Any changes to this information during the term of the contract must be approved by Division of Supplier Diversity Compliance at [MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov](mailto:MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov).

## **1.22** **Indiana Veteran Owned Small Business Subcontractor Commitment (IVOSB)**

In accordance with IC 5-22-14 and 25 IAC 9, it has been determined that there is a reasonable expectation of Indiana Veteran Owned Small Business subcontracting opportunities on a contract awarded under this solicitation. The IVOSB Subcontractor Commitment form is **Attachment A1.** The IVOSB Subcontractor Commitment Form is to be submitted as a part of the Respondent’s proposal. In order for the Subcontractor commitment to result in evaluation points for the Respondent, the entity must be on the State of Indiana Certified M/W/IVOSB list at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>.

If participation is met through the use of Subcontractors, the Respondent must provide the scope of work of the products and/or services to be provided by the Subcontractor(s). This must include explanation of whether the products and/or services are to be utilized directly by the Respondent and/or directly by the State, a description of the process through which the products/services will be received and applied to the benefit of the award, the deliverable requirements as agreed upon between the Contractor and Subcontractor, the certified UNSPSC that applies to the award, and the cost of supplies being utilized by the Respondent for this proposal. Respondents must complete the Subcontractor Commitment Form in its entirety. The amount entered in “**TOTAL BID AMOUNT**” should match the amount entered in the **Attachment D**, Cost Proposal Template in cell D8 on the ‘Cost Per Deliverable’ tab. The IVOSB subcontractor amount and Subcontractor percentage is based on the initial term of the contract for scoring purposes only. The overall committed Subcontractor percentage shall be sustained throughout the life of the contract including any time after the initial term.

If the Respondent to the solicitation is an IVOSB certified entity, the letter confirming same should be submitted with their response. The Respondent has the responsibility to alert IDOA of their certification. The IVOSB Respondent will receive the total points for the IVOSB evaluation criteria per [Section 3.2.7](#_3.2.7_Indiana_Veteran). Additional IVOSB Subcontractors must be included if the IVOSB Respondent is seeking the additional bonus point.

The IVOSB Respondent must list their **company contact information only** on the IVOSB Subcontractor Commitment Form.

Failure to address these goals may impact the evaluation of your Proposal. The Department may verify all information included on the IVOSB Subcontractor Commitment Form.

**Prime Contractors must ensure that the proposed IVOSB subcontractors meet the following criteria:**

|  |
| --- |
| * Must be listed on Federal Center for Veterans Small Business Certification VETCERT at <https://veterans.certify.sba.gov/> under INDIANA, or listed at State of Indiana Certified M/W/IVOSB list at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>, **on or before** the proposal due date * Prime Contractor must include with their proposal the Subcontractor’s veteran business Certification Letter provided by either IDOA or Federal Govt. VETCERT at <https://veterans.certify.sba.gov/>, to show current status of certification. * Each firm may only serve as one classification – MBE, WBE (see Section 1.21) or IVOSB * IVOSB must have a Bidder ID (see [Section 2.3.8](#_2.3.7_Registration_to) - Department of Administration, Procurement Division). * A Prime Contractor who is an IVOSB can count their own workforce or companies to meet this requirement. See IAC 25-9-4-1 (c). * **Must serve a Valuable Scope Contribution (VSC). The firm must serve a value-added purpose on the engagement, as confirmed by the State.** * Must provide goods or services only in the industry area for which it is certified as listed in the VETCERT federal registry, at <https://veterans.certify.sba.gov/> under INDIANA or at State of Indiana Certified M/W/IVOSB list at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>. * Must be used to provide the goods or services specific to the contract. |

**Indiana Veteran OWNED SMALL Business**

**Subcontractor Letter of Commitment**

A signed letter(s), on company letterhead, from the IVOSB must accompany the IVOSB Subcontractor Commitment Form. Each letter shall state and will serve as acknowledgement from the IVOSB of its subcontract amount, a description of products and/or services to be provided on this project, and approximate date the Subcontractor will perform work on this contract. For scoring purposes only, the IVOSB Subcontractor amount and Subcontractor percentage isbased on the initial term of the contract. However, the Subcontractor commitment shall apply to the life of the contract including any time after the initial term.

The State may deny evaluation points if the letter(s) is/are not attached, not on company letterhead, not signed and/or does not reference and match the subcontract amount, subcontract amount as a percentage of the “**TOTAL BID AMOUNT”** and the anticipated period that the Subcontractor will perform work for this solicitation.

By submission of the proposal, the Respondent acknowledges and agrees to be bound by the rules and requirements of the State’s IVOSB Program. Questions about those rules and requirements should be directed to: Division of Supplier Diversity at [indianaveteranspreference@idoa.in.gov](mailto:indianaveteranspreference@idoa.in.gov), (317) 232-3061 or the Supplier Diversity website at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe>.

**Indiana Veteran Owned Small Business Compliance (IVOSB)**

If awarded the contract with IVOSB Subcontractor participation, the Respondent will be required to report payments made to Division of Supplier Diversity certified Subcontractors under the Contract monthly using the online audit tool, commonly referred to as “Pay Audit.”  The Contractor should also notify Subcontractors that they must confirm payments received from Contractor in Pay Audit. The Pay Audit system can be accessed on the IDOA Pay Audit System webpage at [www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe/payaudit.htm](http://www.in.gov/idoa/mwbe/payaudit.htm).

Further, a copy of each Subcontractor agreement must be submitted to IDOA’s Division of Supplier Diversity within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Contract. The contracts may be uploaded into Pay Audit, emailed to [MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov](mailto:MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov); or mailed to Division of Supplier Diversity Compliance 402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis IN 46204.  Failure to provide a copy of any Subcontractor agreement or failure to meet these commitments could be considered a material breach of this Contract and result in sanctions.

Any changes to this information during the term of the contract must be approved by Division of Supplier Diversity Compliance at [MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov](mailto:MWBECompliance@idoa.IN.gov).

## **1.23** **Americans with Disabilities Act**

The Respondent specifically agrees to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq*. and 47 U.S.C. 225).

## **1.24** **Summary of Milestones**

The following timeline is only an illustration of the solicitation process. Not all the dates below are binding.**[[3]](#footnote-3)** Due to the unpredictable nature of the evaluation period, these dates are commonly subject to change. At the conclusion of the evaluation process, all Respondents will be informed of the evaluation team’s findings.

**Key Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Date** |
| Issue of solicitation | February 11, 2026 |
| Pre-Proposal Conference | Indiana Government Center South – Conference Center    February 25, 2026  9:30am |
| Deadline to Submit Written Questions | March 11, 2026  by 3:00 PM Eastern Time |
| Response to Written Questions/Amendments | March 25, 2026 |
| Submission Due Date/Time | April 8, 2026  by 3:00 PM Eastern Time |
| Submission of Reference Check Forms to State | April 8, 2026  by 3:00 PM Eastern Time |
| ***The dates for the following activities are target dates only. These activities may be completed earlier or later than the date shown.*** | |
| Proposal Evaluation | TBD |
| Proposal Discussions/Clarifications (if necessary) | TBD |
| Oral Presentations (if necessary) | TBD |
| Best and Final Offers (if necessary) | TBD |
| Award Recommendation | June 2026 |

## **1.25** **Evidence of Financial Responsibility (25 IAC 1.1-1-5)**

Removed at the request of the agency.

## **1.26** **Conflict of Interest**

Any person, firm or entity that assisted with and/or participated in the preparation of this solicitation document is prohibited from submitting a proposal to this specific solicitation. For the purposes of this solicitation, a “person” means a State officer, employee, special State appointee, or any individual or entity working with or advising the State or involved in the preparation of this solicitation proposal. This prohibition would also apply to an entity who hires, within a one-year period prior to the publication of this solicitation, a person that assisted with and/or participated in the preparation of this solicitation.

## **1.27** **Procurement Protest Policy**

The State’s procurement protest policy can be found at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/files/ProcurementProtestPolicy.pdf>. Per the policy, there are two periods of protest allowable for solicitation:

* Specifications Protest - written letter of protest regarding inadequate, unduly restrictive, or ambiguous requirements or specifications must be received by IDOA by the close of business not less than ten (10) business days (as defined by the State work calendar) prior to the proposal due date.
* Award Recommendation Letter Protest - written letter of protest regarding the procurement methods and/or procedures used during the procurement process must be received by IDOA by the close of business within five (5) business days (as defined by the State work calendar) after the date of the Award Recommendation Letter.

Additional details as to the required content in the letter and the steps involved in a protest can be found in the State’s Procurement Protest Policy at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/files/ProcurementProtestPolicy.pdf>.

# **Section Two Proposal Preparation Instructions**

## **2.1** **General**

To facilitate the timely evaluation of proposals, a standard format for proposal submission has been developed and is described in this section. All Respondents are required to format their proposals in a manner consistent with the guidelines described below:

* Proposals will be disqualified if received after 1.24 Summary of Milestones, Due Date.
* Each item must be addressed in the Respondent’s proposal.
* The Executive Summary must be in the form of a letter.
* Each item, Executive Summary, and attachments must be separate standalone electronic files. Please do not submit your proposal as one large file.
* A Bidder ID is required. See 1.8 Due Date for Bid Responses.
* Please submit all attachments in their original format. Any attempt to manipulate the format of the documents that deviates from the current format will put your proposal at risk of disqualification.
* Confidential Information must also be clearly indicated in Attachment J, Attestation Form and a redacted file provided (See 1.15 Confidential Information).

## **2.2** **Executive Summary**

The Executive Summary must address the following topics except those specifically identified as “optional.” The Executive Summary is to be attached to the Submission Form by the response due date and Eastern time.

### 2.2.1 Summary of Ability and Desire to Supply the Required Products or Services

The Executive Summary must briefly summarize the Respondent’s ability to supply the requested products and/or services that meet the requirements defined in [Section One](#_2.4_TECHNICAL_PROPOSAL) of this solicitation.

### 2.2.2 Signature of Authorized Representative

A person authorized to commit the Respondent to its representations and who can certify that the information offered in the proposal meets all general conditions including the information requested in [Section 2.3.4](#_2.3.4_Company_Financial), must sign the Executive Summary. **In the Executive Summary, please indicate the principal contact for the proposal along with an address, telephone, and e-mail address, if that contact is different than the individual authorized for signature.**

### 2.2.3 Respondent Notification

Unless otherwise indicated in the Executive Summary, Respondents will be notified via e-mail.

It is the Respondent’s obligation to notify the Procurement Division of any changes in any address that may have occurred since the origination of this solicitation. The Procurement Division will not be held responsible for incorrect vendor, contractor or respondent addresses.

### 2.2.4 Secretary of State

The Respondent shall indicate their status with respect to the Office of the Indiana Secretary of State.

### 2.2.5 Other Information

This item is optional. Any other information the Respondent may wish to briefly summarize will be acceptable.

## **2.3** **Business Proposal**

The Business Proposal must address the following topics except those specifically identified as “optional.” **The Business Proposal Template is Attachment E.**

Any attempt to manipulate the format of the document that deviates from the current format will put your proposal at risk for disqualification.

### 2.3.1 General (optional)

This section of the business proposal may be used to introduce or summarize any information the Respondent deems relevant or important to the State’s successful acquisition of the products and/or services requested in this solicitation.

### 2.3.2 Respondent’s Company Structure

The legal form of the Respondent’s business organization, the state in which formed (accompanied by a certificate of authority), the types of business ventures in which the organization is involved, and a chart of the organization are to be included in this section. If the organization includes more than one (1) product division, the division responsible for the development and marketing of the requested products and/or services in the United States must be described in more detail than other components of the organization.

### 2.3.3 Company Financial Information

This section must include documents to demonstrate the Respondent’s financial stability. Examples of acceptable documents include most recent Dunn & Bradstreet Business Report (preferred) or audited financial statements for the two (2) most recently completed fiscal years. If neither of these can be provided, explain why, and include an income statement and balance sheet, for each of the two most recently completed fiscal years.

If the documents being provided by the Respondent are those of a parent or holding company, additional information should be provided for the entity/organization directly responding to this solicitation. That additional information **should explain the business relationship between the entities and demonstrate the financial stability of the entity/organization which is directly responding to this solicitation.**

### 2.3.4 Integrity of Company Structure and Financial Reporting

This section must include a statement indicating that the CEO and/or CFO, of the responding entity/organization, has taken personal responsibility for the thoroughness and correctness of any/all financial information supplied with this proposal. The areas of interest to the State in considering corporate responsibility include the following items: separation of audit functions from corporate boards and board members, if any, the manner in which the organization assures board integrity, and the separation of audit functions and consulting services. The State will consider the information offered in this section to determine the responsibility of the Respondent under IC 5-22-16-1(d).

### 2.3.5 Contract Terms/Clauses

A sample contract that the State expects to execute with the successful Respondent(s) is provided in **Attachment B**. This contract contains mandatory clauses. Mandatory clauses are listed below and are non-negotiable. Other clauses are substantively required. It is the State’s expectation that the final contract will be substantially similar to the sample contract provided in **Attachment B**.

Please review the contract and indicate per **Attachment J,** your acceptance of mandatory contract clauses. If a non-mandatory clause is not acceptable as worded, suggest specific alternative wording to address issues raised by the specific clause in **Attachment E**. If you require additional contract terms, please include them in this section. To reiterate it’s the State’s strong desire to not deviate from the contract provided in the attachment and as such the State may reject all requested changes.

The mandatory contract terms are as follows:

* Agreement to Use Electronic Signatures
* Authority to Bind Contractor
* Compliance with Laws
* Drug-Free Workplace Certification
* Employment Eligibility Verification (E-Verify)
* Funding Cancellation
* Governing Law
* Indemnification
* Information Technology Enterprise Architecture Requirements
* Nondiscrimination Clause
* Penalties/Interest/Attorney’s Fees
* Renewal Option
* Termination for Convenience
* Non-Collusion and Acceptance

The substantively required terms are as follows:

* Duties of Contractor, Consideration, and Term of Contract
* Ownership of Documents and Materials
* Payments

This solicitation and all portions of the Respondent’s response will be incorporated as part of the final contract.**[[4]](#footnote-4)**

### 2.3.6 References

Reference information is captured on **Attachment H**. Respondent should complete the reference information portion of the **Attachment H** which includes the name, address, and telephone number of the client facility and the name, title, and phone number or email of a person who may be contacted for further information if the State elects to do so. The rest of **Attachment H** should be completed by **the reference** and **emailed by the reference DIRECTLY** to the State. The State should receive three (3) **Attachment H**s from clients for whom the Respondent has provided products and/or services that are the same, or similar, to those products and/or services requested in this solicitation.

* **Attachment H** should be submitted to <mailto:idoareferences@idoa.in.gov>.
* **Attachment H** should be submitted by the due date listed in [Section 1.24](#_1.24_SUMMARY_OF) of the solicitation. Please provide the customer information for each reference.

### 2.3.7 Registration to do Business

Secretary of State

Respondents providing the products and/or services required by this solicitation must be registered to do business within the State by the Indiana Secretary of State. This process must be concluded prior to contract negotiations with the State. It is the successful Respondent’s responsibility to complete the required registration with the Secretary of State at [www.in.gov/sos](http://www.in.gov/sos). The Respondent must indicate the status of registration, in the Executive Summary.

Department of Administration, Procurement Division

To complete the on-line Bidder registration, go to the Bidder Profile Registration website at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/supplier-resource-center/requirements-to-do-business-with-the-state/bidder-profile-registration/>. The Bidder registration offers email notification of upcoming solicitation opportunities, corresponding to the Bidder’s area(s) of interest, selected during the registration process. Respondents need to be registered to submit a proposal.  Completion of the Bidder registration will result in your name being added to the Bidder’s Database, for email notification.  The Bidder registration requires some general business information, an indication of the types of goods and services you can offer the State of Indiana, and locations(s) within the state that you can supply or service. There is no fee to be placed in Procurement Division’s Bidder Database.

### 2.3.8 Authorizing Document

A person authorized to commit the Respondent to its representations and who can certify that the information offered in the bid response meets all general conditions must sign the Executive Summary, please indicate the principal contact for the proposal along with an address, telephone number, and e-mail address, if that contact is different than the individual authorized for signature. Additionally, the Company’s Bidder ID #, FEIN, Type of Business (i.e., Corporation, Sole Proprietor, LLC, etc.), and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code should all be included in the Executive Summary with the contact information.

### 2.3.9 Diversity Subcontractor Agreements

a. Per RFP Section 1.21, Minority & Women’s Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE), and 1.22 Indiana Veteran Owned Small Business Subcontractor (IVOSB), explain process followed to engage with potential MBE, WBE and IVOSB owned, Indiana certified businesses listed on Division of Supplier Diversity site. List the businesses invited to discuss the opportunity for potential partnership.

b. If not proposing each MBE, WBE or IVOSB subcontractor partnership, explain the rationale for declining to do so. Complete this for each category not proposed.

### 2.3.10 Evidence of Financial Responsibility

Removed at the request of the agency.

### 2.3.11 General Information

Each Respondent must enter your company’s general information including contact information.

* 1. Does your Company have a formal business continuity and/or disaster recovery plan? Please provide a yes/no response. If not, please provide an explanation of any alternative solution your company has to offer. If yes, please note and include as an attachment.
  2. What is your company’s technology and process for securing any State information that is maintained within your company?

### 2.3.12 Experience Serving State Governments

Each Respondent is asked to please provide a brief description of your company’s experience in serving state governments and/or other governmental bodies.

### 2.3.13 Experience Serving Similar Clients

Each Respondent is asked to please describe your company’s experience in serving clients of a similar size to the State that also had a similar scope. Please provide specific clients and detailed examples.

### 2.3.14 Payment

Removed at the request of the agency.

### 2.3.15 Extending Pricing to Other Governmental Bodies

Removed at the request of the agency.

### 2.3.16 Cloud Terms and Conditions

Additional Terms and Conditions related to Cloud-based systems the State expects to execute with the successful Respondent(s) are provided in Attachments B1, B2, and B3, respectively Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS). Depending on your proposed System, you could be required to agree to one or more of the Additional Terms and Conditions. It is the State’s strong desire not to deviate from the Additional Terms and Conditions that are provided in these attachments and as such the State reserves the right to reject all requested changes. Any or all portions of this RFP and any or all portions of your response may be incorporated as part of the final contract.

## **2.4** **Technical Proposal**

The Technical Proposal must be divided into the sections as described below. Every point made in each section must be addressed in the order given. The same outline numbers must be used in the response. Where appropriate, supporting documentation may be referenced by a page and paragraph number. However, when this is done, the body of the Technical Proposal must contain a meaningful summary of the referenced material. **The referenced document must be included as an appendix to the technical proposal with referenced sections clearly marked**. If there are multiple references or multiple documents, these must be listed and organized for ease of use by the State. **The Technical Proposal Template is Attachment F.**

Any attempt to manipulate the format of the document that deviates from the current format will put your proposal at risk of disqualification.

## **2.5** **Cost Proposal**

**The Cost Proposal Template is Attachment D.**

The Cost Proposal must be submitted in the original format. Any attempt to manipulate the format of the Cost Proposal document, attach caveats to pricing, or submit pricing that deviates from the current format will put your proposal at risk of disqualification.

**Cost Proposal Narrative**

The Respondent should provide a brief narrative (not longer than two pages) in support of each Cost Proposal item.  The narrative should be focused on clarifying how the proposed prices correspond directly to the Respondent's Technical Proposal.  For example, evaluators will expect detailed explanation of *Maintenance and Support* to correspond to *Maintenance and Support items* if described in the Technical Proposal. **Please compose and return this document in a PDF format, labeled as “Cost Proposal Narrative”.**

**Cost Assumptions, Conditions and Constraints**

The Respondent should list and describe as part of its Cost Proposal any special cost assumptions, conditions, and/or constraints relative to, or which impact, the prices presented on the Cost Schedules.  It is of particular importance to describe any assumptions made by the Respondent in the development of the Respondent's Technical Proposal that have a material impact on price.  It is in the best interest of the Respondent to make explicit the assumptions, conditions, and/or constraints that underlie the values presented on the Cost Schedules. Assumptions, conditions, or constraints that conflict with the solicitation requirements is not acceptable. **Please compose and return this document in a PDF format, labeled as “Cost Assumptions, Conditions and Constraints”.**

## **2.6** **Attestation Form**

The Attestation Form is **Attachment J**. This is the formal declaration of responses to the following as well as to the additional areas cited within **Attachment J** as it relates to this solicitation. **Attachment J**, Attestation Form is to be attached to the Submission Form due on the Submission Form due date and Eastern time.

### 2.6.1 Indiana Economic Impact

All companies desiring to do business with State Agencies must complete an “Indiana Economic Impact” form (**Attachment C**). This is not a separate evaluation item scored as set forth in [Section 3.2](#_3.2_EVALUATION_CRITERIA) but still a required form. The collection and recognition of the information collected with the Indiana Economic Impact form places a strong emphasis on the economic impact a project will have on Indiana and its residents regardless of where a business is located. The collection of this information does not restrict any company or firm from doing business with the State. The amount entered in Line 16 “Total amount of this proposal, bid, or current contract” should match the amount entered in the **Attachment D**, Cost Proposal Template.

### 2.6.2 Buy Indiana Initiative (Indiana Business Preference) /Indiana Company

It is the Respondent’s responsibility to confirm its Buy Indiana certification is active as of the submission date the sourcing event. Check status within the Buy IN Designation List at <https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/supplier-resource-center/programs-and-preferences/buy-indiana/>.

Buy IN must be affirmatively claimed per **Attachment J.** **The State will only validate the Respondent’s claim to determine eligibility of potential points.**

**The State will not look up status on behalf of each Respondent without the Respondent’s claim on Attachment J, Attestation Form.**

If Respondents are not certified but wish to be, follow the Department of Administration, Procurement Division instructions within 2.3.8 Registration to Do Business. Along with registering, the Respondent can begin the Buy IN certification process.

**When applying to Buy IN status, be sure to allow sufficient time to complete this process, at least twenty (20) business days.** The Respondent’s Buy Indiana status must be finalized when the solicitation response is submitted to the State.

**Defining an Indiana Business:**

“Indiana business” refers to any of the following:

1. A business whose principal place of business is located in Indiana.

(2) A business that pays a majority of its payroll (in dollar volume) to residents of Indiana.

(3) A business that employs Indiana residents as a majority of its employees.

(4) A business that makes significant capital investments in Indiana.

(5) A business that has a substantial positive economic impact on Indiana.

**Substantial Capital Investment**:

Any company that can demonstrate a minimum capital investment in Indiana of $5 million or more in plant and/or equipment or annual lease payments in Indiana of $2.5 million or more shall qualify as an Indiana business under I.C.5-22-15-20.5 (b)(4).

**Substantial Indiana Economic Impact**:

Any company that is in the top 500 companies (adjusted) for one of the following categories: number of employees (DWD), unemployment taxes (DWD), payroll withholding taxes (DOR), or Corporate Income Taxes (DOR); it shall qualify as an Indiana business under I.C. 5-22-15-20.5 (b)(5).

### 2.6.3 Subcontractors

The Respondent is responsible for the performance of any obligations that may result from this solicitation and shall not be relieved by the non-performance of any subcontractor. Respondent’s proposal must identify all subcontractors including those not submitted in **Attachment A and/or Attachment A1** and describe the contractual relationship between the Respondent and each subcontractor. Per instructions in **Attachment J**, either a copy of the **executed subcontract** or a **letter of agreement** over the official signature of the firms involved must accompany each proposal.

Any subcontracts entered into by the Respondent must be in compliance with all State statutes and will be subject to the provisions thereof. For each portion of the proposed products or services to be provided by a subcontractor, **the Attestation Form, Attachment J, must include the identification of the functions to be provided by the subcontractor and the subcontractor’s related qualifications and experience**.

The combined qualifications and experience of the Respondent and any or all subcontractors will be considered in the State’s evaluation. The Respondent must furnish information to the State as to the amount of the subcontract, the qualifications of the subcontractor for guaranteeing performance, and any other data that may be required by the State. All subcontracts held by the Respondent must be made available upon request for inspection and examination by appropriate State officials, and such relationships must meet with the approval of the State.

The Respondent must list any subcontractor’s name, address, and the state in which formed that are proposed to be used in providing the required products or services. The subcontractor’s responsibilities under the proposal, anticipated dollar amount for subcontract, the subcontractor’s form of organization, and an indication from the subcontractor of a willingness to carry out these responsibilities are to be included for each subcontractor. This assurance in no way relieves the Respondent of any responsibilities in responding to this solicitation or in completing the commitments documented in the proposal. The Respondent must indicate which, if any, subcontractors qualify as a Minority Business Enterprise, Women’s Business Enterprise, or Veteran Owned Small Business under IC 4-13-16.5-1 and IC 5-22-14-3.5. See [Section 1.21](#_1.21_MINORITY_&), [Section 1.22](#_1.22_INDIANA_VETERAN) and **Attachments A/A1** for Minority, Women, and Veteran Business information.

IVOSB entities (whether a prime or subcontractor) must have a Bidder ID. If registered with IDOA, this should have already been provided (as with MWBEs). IVOSBs that are only registered with the Federal Center for Veterans Business Enterprise will need to ensure that they also have a Bidder ID provided by IDOA (please see [Section 2.3.8](#_2.3.7_Registration_to) for details).

# **Section Three Proposal Evaluation**

## **3.1** **Proposal Evaluation Procedure**

The State has selected a group of personnel to act as a proposal evaluation team. Subgroups of this team, consisting of one or more team members, will be responsible for evaluating proposals with regard to compliance with solicitation requirements. All evaluation personnel will use the evaluation criteria stated in [Section 3.2](#_3.2_EVALUATION_CRITERIA).

The procedure for evaluating the proposals against the evaluation criteria will be as follows:

3.1.1 Each proposal will be evaluated for adherence to mandatory requirements, per Section 3.2, Step 1, on a pass/fail basis. Proposals that are incomplete or otherwise do not conform to proposal submission requirements may be eliminated from consideration. Further any proposals not meeting the Mandatory Requirements listed in [Section 3.2](#_3.2_EVALUATION_CRITERIA), Step 1 and noted in **Attachment J** will be disqualified.

3.1.2 Each proposal will be evaluated based on the categories included in [Section 3.2](#_3.2_EVALUATION_CRITERIA). A point score has been established for each category.

3.1.3 Based on the results of this evaluation, the qualifying proposal determined to be the most advantageous to the State may be selected by IDOA and HRC for further action, such as contract negotiations. If, however, IDOA and HRC decide that no proposal is sufficiently advantageous to the State, the State may take whatever further action is deemed necessary to fulfill its needs. If, for any reason, a proposal is selected and it is not possible to consummate a contract with the Respondent, the State may begin contract preparation with another Respondent or determine that no such alternate proposal exists.

## **3.2** **Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based upon the proven ability of the Respondent to satisfy the requirements of the solicitation in a cost-effective manner. Each of the evaluation criteria categories is described below with a brief explanation of the basis for evaluation in that category. The points associated with each category are indicated following the category name (total maximum points = 103). Negative points may be assigned in the cost score.

Additionally, there is an opportunity for a bonus of three points if certain criteria are met. For further information, please reference [Section 3.2.3](#_3.2.3_Price). If any one or more of the listed criteria on which the responses to this solicitation will be evaluated are found to be inconsistent or incompatible with applicable federal laws, regulations or policies, the specific criterion or criteria will be disregarded, and the responses will be evaluated and scored without considering such criterion or criteria.

**Summary of Evaluation Criteria:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Points** |
| 1. Adherence to Mandatory Requirements | Pass/Fail |
| 2. Management Assessment/Quality (Business and Technical Proposal) | **50 available points** |
| 3. Cost (Cost Proposal) | **30 available points** |
| 4. Buy Indiana | 5 |
| 5. Minority Business Enterprise Subcontractor Commitment | 5 (1 bonus points are available,  see Section 3.2.5) |
| 6. Women Business Enterprise Subcontractor Commitment | 5 (1 bonus points are available,  see Section 3.2.5) |
| 7. Indiana Veteran Owned Small Business Subcontractor Commitment | 5 (1bonus points are available,  see Section 3.2.6) |
| **Total** | **100 (103 if bonus awarded)** |

All proposals will be evaluated using the following approach.

**Step 1**

In this step proposals will be evaluated only against Criteria 1 to ensure that they adhere to Mandatory Requirements. The Mandatory Requirements are:

* Executive Summary and required content
* **Attachment C** Indiana Economic Impact Form, completed;
* **Attachment D** Cost Proposal, **Attachment E** Business Proposal, **Attachment F** Technical Proposal, unaltered and complete with all requested supporting documents.
* **Attachment J** Attestation Form, complete with all requested supporting documents

Any proposals not meeting the Mandatory Requirements will be disqualified.

**Step 2**

The proposals that fulfill the Step 1 Mandatory Requirements will then be scored based on Criteria 2 and 3 ONLY. All proposals will be ranked based on their combined scores for Criteria 2 and 3 ONLY. This ranking will be used to create a “short list”. Any proposal not making the “short list” will not be further evaluated.

Step 2 may include one or more rounds of proposal discussions, oral presentations, clarifications, and/or demonstrations focused on cost and other proposal elements. Step 2 may include additional “short lists” at the State’s sole discretion.

**Step 3**

The short-listed proposals will then be evaluated based on the entire evaluation criteria outlined in the table above.

If the State conducts additional rounds of discussions and a BAFO round which lead to changes in either the technical or cost proposal for the short-listed Respondents, their scores will be recomputed.

The section below describes the different evaluation criteria.

### 3.2.1 Adherence to Requirements – Pass/Fail

Respondents passing this category move to Phase 2

**The following 2 categories cannot exceed 80 points.**

### 3.2.2 Management Assessment/Quality

**50** available points

### 3.2.3 Price

**30** available points

Cost scores will then be normalized to one another, based on the lowest cost proposal evaluated. The lowest cost proposal receives a total of 30 points. The normalization formula is as follows:

* *Respondent’s Cost Score = (Lowest Cost Proposal / Total Cost of Proposal) X 30*

### 3.2.4 Buy Indiana Initiative – 5 points

Respondents qualifying, and documenting per **Attachment J,** as an Indiana Company as defined in [Section 2.6.2](#_2.7_BUY_INDIANA) will receive 5 points in this category.

### 3.2.5 Minority Business Subcontractor Commitment – 5 points[[5]](#footnote-5)

The following formula will be used to determine points to be awarded based on the MBE goals listed in [Section 1.20](#_1.20_EQUAL_OPPORTUNITY) of this solicitation. Scoring is conducted based on an assigned 5-point, plus possible 1 bonus-points, scale. Points are assigned for respective MBE participation based upon the BAFO meeting or exceeding the established goals.

If the respondent’s commitment percentage is less than the established MBE goal, the maximum points achieved will be awarded according to the following schedule:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| % | 1% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 8% |
| Pts. | .625 | 1.25 | 1.875 | 2.5 | 3.125 | 3.75 | 4.375 | 5.0 |

*NOTE: Fractional percentages will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage. (e.g. 7.49% will be rounded down to 7% = 4.375 pts., 7.50% will be rounded up to 8% = 5.00 pts. Rounding will be calculated based on the Sub-Contract Amount, divided by the Total Bid Amount.)*

If the respondent’s commitment amount is greater than $0 but the commitment percentage is rounded down to 0% for MBE participation the respondent will receive 0 points.

If the respondent’s commitment amount is $0 and thus the commitment percentage is 0% for MBE participation, a deduction of 1 point will be discounted on the respective MBE score.

The respondent with the greatest applicable VSC participation which exceeds the stated goal (“exceeds” defined herein as a commitment percentage that is equal to or greater than 9% before rounding) for the respective MBE category will be awarded 6 points (5 points plus 1 bonus point). In cases where there is a tie for the greatest applicable VSC participation and both firms exceed the goal for the respective MBE category both firms will receive 6 points.

### 3.2.6 Women Business Subcontractor Commitment - 5 points [[6]](#footnote-6)

The following formula will be used to determine points to be awarded based on the WBE goals listed in [Section 1.20](#_1.20_EQUAL_OPPORTUNITY) of this solicitation.

Scoring is conducted based on an assigned 5-point, plus possible 1 bonus-point, scale. Points are assigned for WBE participation based upon the BAFO meeting or exceeding the established goals.

If the Respondent’s commitment percentage is less than the established WBE goal, the maximum points achieved will be awarded according to the following schedule:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| % | 1% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 8% | 9% | 10% | 11% |
| Pts. | 0.45 | 0.9 | 1.35 | 1.8 | 2.25 | 2.7 | 3.15 | 3.6 | 4.05 | 4.5 | 5.0 |

*NOTE: Fractional percentages will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage. (e.g. 7.49% will be rounded down to 7% = 3.15 pts., 7.50% will be rounded up to 8% = 3.6 pts. Rounding will be calculated based on the Sub-Contract Amount, divided by the Administrative Bid Amount.)*

If the Respondent’s commitment amount is greater than $0 but the commitment percentage is rounded down to 0% for WBE participation the Respondent will receive 0 points.

If the Respondent’s commitment amount is $0 and thus the commitment percentage is 0% for WBE participation, a deduction of 1 point will be discounted on the WBE score.

The Respondent with the greatest applicable VSC participation which exceeds the stated goal (“exceeds” defined herein as a commitment percentage that is equal to or greater than 12% before rounding) for the WBE category will be awarded 6 points (5 points plus 1 bonus point). In cases where there is a tie for the greatest applicable VSC participation and both firms exceed the goal for the WBE category both firms will receive 6 points.

### 3.2.7 Indiana Veteran Owned Small Business Subcontractor Commitment - 5 points [[7]](#footnote-7)

The following formula will be used to determine points to be awarded based on the IVOSB goal listed in [Section 1.20](#_1.20_EQUAL_OPPORTUNITY) of this solicitation. Scoring is conducted based on an assigned 5-point, plus possible 1 bonus-point, scale. Points are assigned for IVOSB participation based upon the BAFO meeting or exceeding the established goals.

If the respondent’s commitment percentage is less than the established IVOSB goal, the maximum points achieved will be awarded according to the following schedule:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| % | 0% | 0.6% | 1.2% | 1.8% | 2.4% | 3% |
| Pts. | -1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

*NOTE: Fractional points will be awarded based upon a graduated scale between whole points. (e.g., a 0.3% commitment will receive .5 points and a 1.5% commitment will receive 2.5 points)*

If the respondent’s commitment percentage is 0% for IVOSB participation, a deduction of 1 point will be assessed.

The IVOSB prime respondent commitment will be 3% and will receive 5 points. Any additional IVOSB subcontractor commitments will be added to the 3%.

The respondent with the greatest applicable VSC participation which exceeds the stated goal for the IVOSB category will be awarded 6 points (5 points plus 1 bonus point). In cases where there is a tie for the greatest applicable VSC participation and both firms exceed the goal for the IVOSB category both firms will receive 6 points.

### 3.2.8 Qualified State Agency Preference Scoring

 "Qualified Agency" refers to a nonprofit agency for persons with severe disabilities that meets the provisions of IC 5-22-13. When applicable, pursuant to Indiana Code 5-22-13, the qualified agency submitting or participating in a response to this solicitation will be awarded preference points for Minority, Women’s, and Indiana Veteran Business Enterprise equal to the Respondent awarded the highest combined points awarded for such preferences in the scoring of this solicitation. A list of active/certified “Qualified Agencies” can be found at:   <https://web.abilityin.org/state_use/Certified-Ability-Indiana-Organizations>.

1. Please note if the State elects to cancel the solicitation, all submitted responses would remain confidential, until the replacement solicitation is concluded, and an Award Recommendation made. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Making modifications to the Cost Proposal could result in the proposal being removed from consideration. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Submission dates for Proposals, and Reference Check Forms to State ARE binding and not subject to change. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The contracting agency will make the determination during contract negotiations whether proposed alternative language is acceptable. Proposed alternative language is not automatically accepted. The agency has the option to decline proposed language. Inability for the agency and the awardee(s) to agree to terms could jeopardize the contract and end the negotiations. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Required documentation must, of course, be provided to receive points as described. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Required documentation must, of course, be provided to receive points as described. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Required documentation must, of course, be provided to receive points as described. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)