

Appendix B

Northern New Mexico College

Request for Proposals - General Requirements

All RFP procurements will be conducted in accordance with the New Mexico Procurement Code (13-1-1 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978).

1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement: Offerors must indicate their acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement via the Letter of Transmittal. Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP.
2. Incurring Cost: Any cost incurred by the Offeror in preparation, transmittal, presentation of any proposal or material submitted in response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the Offeror.
3. Prime Contractor Responsibility: Any contract that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of the contract with the Agency. The Agency will make contract payments to only the prime contractor.
4. Subcontractors: Use of subcontractors shall be clearly explained in the proposal, and major subcontractors shall be identified by name. The prime contractor shall be wholly responsible for the entire performance whether or not subcontractors are used.
5. Amended Proposals: An Offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposals shall be complete replacements for a previously submitted proposal and shall be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. The Agency personnel will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.
6. Offeror's Rights to Withdraw Proposal: Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. The Offeror shall submit a written withdrawal request signed by the Offeror's duly authorized representative addressed to the Procurement Manager. The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations.
7. Proposal Offer Firm: Responses to this RFP, including proposed costs, will be considered firm for one hundred and twenty (120) days after the due date for receipt of proposals or ninety (90) days after receipt of a best and final offer if one is submitted.
8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents: The proposals will be kept confidential until a contract is awarded. At that time, all proposals and documents pertaining to the

Appendix B

proposals will be open to the public, except for the material that is proprietary or confidential. The Procurement Manager will not disclose or make public any pages of a proposal on which the Offeror has stamped or imprinted "proprietary" or "confidential" subject to the following requirements.

Proprietary or confidential data shall be readily separable from the proposal in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential portion of the proposal. Confidential data is normally restricted to confidential financial information concerning the Offeror's organization and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with New Mexico Uniform Trade Secrets Act [§57-3A-1 to 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978]. The cost of services proposed shall not be designated as proprietary or confidential information.

If a request is received for disclosure of data for which an Offeror has made a written request for confidentiality, the Chief Procurement Officer shall examine the Offeror's request and make a written determination that specifies which portions of the proposal should be disclosed. Unless the Offeror takes legal action to prevent the disclosure, the proposal will be so disclosed. The proposal shall be open to public inspection subject to any continuing prohibition on the disclosure of confidential data.

9. No Obligation: This procurement in no manner obligates NNMC or any of its departments or other subdivisions to the eventual lease, purchase, etc., of any proposed professional services proposed until a valid written contract is awarded by the Chief Procurement Officer and other required approval authorities.
10. Termination: This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the Agency determines such action to be in the best interest of NNMC.
11. Sufficient Appropriation: Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such termination will be effected by sending written notice to the contractor. The Agency's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.
12. Legal Review: The Agency requires that all Offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any Offeror concerns must be promptly brought to the attention of the Procurement Manager.
13. Governing Law: This procurement and any agreement with Offerors that may result shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.
14. Basis for Proposal: Only information supplied by the Agency in writing through the Procurement Manager or in this RFP should be used as the basis for the preparation of Offeror proposals.

Appendix B

15. Contract Terms and Conditions: The contract between the Agency and a contractor will follow the format specified by the Agency and contain the terms and conditions set forth in Appendix B, "Sample Contract". However, the Agency reserves the right to negotiate with a successful Offeror provisions in addition to those contained in this RFP. The contents of this RFP, as revised and/or supplemented, and the successful Offeror's proposal will be incorporated into and become part of the contract.

Should an Offeror object to any of the Agency's terms and conditions, as contained in this Section or in Appendix B, that Offeror shall propose specific alternative language to the referenced provisions. The Agency may or may not accept the alternative language. General references to the Offeror's terms and conditions or attempts at complete substitutions are not acceptable to the Agency and will result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal.

Offerors must provide a brief discussion of the purpose and impact, if any, of each proposed change followed by the specific proposed alternate wording in order for the proposed alternate wording to be considered.

16. Offeror's Terms and Conditions: Offeror's must submit with their proposal a complete set of any additional terms and conditions which they request be included in a contract negotiated with the Agency. The Agency may or may not accept the additional language, at the Agency's sole discretion.
17. Offeror Qualifications: The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the Offeror to adhere to the requirements specified within this RFP. The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any Offeror who is not a Responsible Offeror or fails to submit a Responsive Offer as defined as defined in Sections 13-1-83 and 13-1-85 NMSA 1978.
18. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities: The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor irregularities. The Evaluation Committee also reserves the right to waive mandatory requirements provided that all of the otherwise responsive proposals failed to meet the mandatory requirements and/or doing so does not otherwise materially affect the procurement. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.
19. Change in Contractor Representatives: The Agency reserves the right to require a change in contractor representatives if the assigned representatives are not, in the opinion of the Agency, meeting its needs adequately.
20. Notice: The Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978, imposes civil and misdemeanor criminal penalties for its violation. The State of New Mexico criminal statutes also impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kick-backs.

Appendix B

21. Agency Rights: The Agency reserves the right to accept all or a portion of an Offeror's proposal including the right to purchase software or services from authorized price agreements or in accordance with applicable provisions procurement regulations.
22. Right to Publish: Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, potential Offerors, Offerors and contractors shall secure from the Agency written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by this procurement or the subsequent contract. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal or termination of the contract.
23. Ownership of Proposals: All documents submitted in response to this Request for Proposals shall become the property of the Agency after the contract has been awarded. However, non-selected Offerors may retrieve at their expense any technical or user documentation submitted with their proposals after the expiration of the protest period.
24. Electronic Mail Address Required: A large part of the communication regarding this procurement will be conducted by electronic mail (e-mail). Offeror shall have a valid e-mail address to receive this correspondence.
25. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP: This RFP is being made available by electronic means. If accepted by such means, the Offeror acknowledges and accepts full responsibility to insure that no changes are made to the RFP. In the event of conflict between a version of the RFP in the Offeror's possession and the version maintained by the Procurement Manager, the version maintained by the Procurement Manager shall govern.
26. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage: For all contracts solicited and awarded on or after January 1, 2008: If the Offeror has, or grows to, six (6) or more employees who work, or who are expected to work an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, offer must agree to:
 - a) have in place and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees and offer that health insurance to those employees no later than July 1, 2008 if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed one million dollars or;
 - b) have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees and offer that health insurance to those employees no later than July 1, 2009 if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$500,000 dollars or;
 - c) have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees and offer that health insurance to those employees no later

Appendix B

than July 1, 2010 if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.

Offeror must agree to maintain a record of the number of employees who have:

- (a) accepted health insurance;
- (b) decline health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place;
- or
- (c) decline health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.
- (d) Offeror must agree to advise all employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following website link to additional information
<http://insurenemexico.state.nm.us/>.

For Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Delivery contracts (price agreements without specific limitations on quantity and providing for an indeterminate number of orders to be placed against it); these requirements shall apply the first day of the second month after the Offeror reports combined sales (from state and, if applicable, from local public bodies if from a state price agreement) of \$250,000, \$500,000 or \$1,000,000.

- 27. Letter of Transmittal: Each proposal shall be accompanied by a letter of transmittal (Please Refer to RFP Appendix A). CAUTION: The proposal shall be binding without restriction. Offerors shall not include language in the Letter Of Transmittal such as “subject to successful negotiation” or words to that effect. The letter of transmittal SHALL follow the format provided and it shall be signed by the appropriate representatives. Failure to follow these instructions shall result in the rejection of the proposal.
- 28. Confidentiality: Any confidential information provided to, or developed by, the contractor in the performance the contract resulting from this RFP shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the contractor without the prior written approval of the Agency.
- 29. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form: A completed Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form is required for all potential contractors secured by competitive sealed bid pursuant to NMSA 1978 13-1-191.1.
- 30. Conflict of Interest – Governmental Conduct Act: The Offeror warrants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance or services required under a contract resulting from this RFP. The Offeror certifies requirements of the Governmental Conduct Act, Sections 10-16-1 through 10-16-18, NMSA1978, regarding contracting with a public officer or state employee or former state employee have been followed.