

INSTITUTION Request for Proposals	Solicitation Number Date Printed Procurement Officer Phone E-Mail Address
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DESCRIPTION Student Matriculation Consulting Services

The Term "Offer" Means Your "Bid" or "Proposal".

SUBMIT OFFER BY (Opening Date/Time): Date, Time

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: Date, Time

See "Questions From Offerors" provision

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: One Original and Five (5) Copies

Offers must be submitted in a sealed package. Solicitation Number & Opening Date must appear on package exterior.

SUBMIT YOUR SEALED OFFER TO EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

MAILING ADDRESS:

(Institution, Address)

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

(Institution, Address)

See "Submitting Your Offer" provision

CONFERENCE TYPE: N/A DATE & TIME: N/A As appropriate, see "Conferences - Pre-Bid/Proposal" & "Site Visit" provisions	LOCATION: N/A
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AWARD & AMENDMENTS	Award notification will be posted at the Physical Address stated above on or about Date. The award, this solicitation, and any amendments will be posted at the following web address: (WEB ADDRESS)
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You must submit a signed copy of this form with Your Offer. By submitting a bid or proposal, You agree to be bound by the terms of the Solicitation. You agree to hold Your Offer open for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days after the Opening Date.

NAME OF OFFEROR (Full legal name of business submitting the offer)	OFFEROR'S TYPE OF ENTITY: (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (tax-exempt) <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate entity (not tax-exempt) <input type="checkbox"/> Government entity (federal, state, or local) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (See "Signing Your Offer" provision.)
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE (Person signing must be authorized to submit binding offer to enter contract on behalf of Offeror named above.)	
TITLE (Business title of person signing above)	
PRINTED NAME (Printed name of person signing above)	
DATE SIGNED	

Instructions regarding Offeror's name: Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the offeror above. An offer may be submitted by only one legal entity. The entity named as the offeror must be a single and distinct legal entity. Do not use the name of a branch office or a division of a larger entity if the branch or division is not a separate legal entity, *i.e.*, a separate corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.

STATE OF INCORPORATION (If offeror is a corporation, identify the state of Incorporation.)

TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NO. (See "Taxpayer Identification Number" provision)	STATE VENDOR NO. (Register to Obtain S.C. Vendor No. at www.procurement.sc.gov)
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COVER PAGE CIO

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS (Address for offeror's home office / principal place of business)	NOTICE ADDRESS (Address to which all procurement and contract related notices should be sent.) (See "Notice" clause)
	Area Code-Number - Extension _____ Facsimile _____ E-mail Address _____

PAYMENT ADDRESS (Address to which payments will be sent.) (See "Payment" clause)	ORDER ADDRESS (Address to which purchase orders will be sent) (See "Purchase Orders and "Contract Documents" clauses)
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Notice Address (check only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Notice Address (check only one)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS Offerors acknowledges receipt of amendments by indicating amendment number and its date of issue. (See "Amendments to Solicitation" Provision)							
Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT (See "Discount for Prompt Payment" clause)	10 Calendar Days (%)	20 Calendar Days (%)	30 Calendar Days (%)	_____ Calendar Days (%)
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PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS: The South Carolina General Assembly rewrote the law governing preferences available to in-state vendors, vendors using in-state subcontractors, and vendors selling in-state or US end products. This law appears in Section 11-35-1524 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A summary of the new preferences is available at www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences. **ALL THE PREFERENCES MUST BE CLAIMED AND ARE APPLIED BY LINE ITEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AWARD IS MADE BY ITEM OR LOT. VENDORS ARE CAUTIONED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE STATUTE BEFORE CLAIMING ANY PREFERENCES. THE REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY HAVE CHANGED. IF YOU REQUEST A PREFERENCE, YOU ARE CERTIFYING THAT YOUR OFFER QUALIFIES FOR THE PREFERENCE YOU'VE CLAIMED. IMPROPERLY REQUESTING A PREFERENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.** [11-35-1524(E)(4)&(6)]

PREFERENCES - ADDRESS AND PHONE OF IN-STATE OFFICE: Please provide the address and phone number for your in-state office in the space provided below. An in-state office is necessary to claim either the Resident Vendor Preference (11-35-1524(C)(1)(i)&(ii)) or the Resident Contractor Preference (11-35-1524(C)(1)(iii)). Accordingly, you must provide this information to qualify for the preference. An in-state office is not required, but can be beneficial, if you are claiming the Resident Subcontractor Preference (11-35-1524(D)).

_____ In-State Office Address same as Home Office Address
 _____ In-State Office Address same as Notice Address (check only one)

Solicitation Outline

- I. Scope of Solicitation
- II. Instructions to Offerors
 - A. General Instructions
 - B. Special Instructions
- III. Scope of Work / Specifications
- IV. Information for Offerors to Submit
- V. Qualifications
- VI. Award Criteria
- VII. Terms and Conditions
 - A. General
 - B. Special
- VIII. Bidding Schedule / Cost Proposal
- IX. Attachments to Solicitation

I. SCOPE OF SOLICITATION

The scope of this effort will be to review the student matriculation activities and make recommendations for improvements. The primary focus within matriculation will be enrollment growth and developmental advising. In addition to recommendations, we will also need assistance developing a detailed plan to implement changes.

ACQUIRE SERVICES : The purpose of this solicitation is to acquire services complying with the enclosed description and/or specifications and conditions. [01-1010-1]

MAXIMUM CONTRACT PERIOD - ESTIMATED Start date: DATE End date: DATE. Dates provided are estimates only. Any resulting contract will begin on the date specified in the notice of award. See clause entitled "Term of Contract - Effective Date/Initial Contract Period". [01-1040-1]

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS – A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

DEFINITIONS EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HEREIN, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTS OF THE SOLICITATION.

AMENDMENT – means a document issued to supplement the original solicitation document.

BOARD – means the South Carolina Budget & Control Board.

BUYER – means the Procurement Officer.

CHANGE ORDER - means any written alteration in specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, period of performance, price, quantity, or other provisions of any contract accomplished by mutual agreement of the parties to the contract.

CONTRACT - See clause entitled "Contract Documents & Order of Precedence."

CONTRACT MODIFICATION – means a written order signed by the Procurement Officer, directing the contractor to make changes which the changes clause of the contract authorizes the Procurement Officer to order without the consent of the contractor.

CONTRACTOR - means the Offeror receiving an award as a result of this solicitation.

COVER PAGE – means the top page of the original solicitation on which the solicitation is identified by number. Offerors are cautioned that Amendments may modify information provided on the Cover Page.

OFFER – means the bid or proposal submitted in response this solicitation. The terms “Bid” and “Proposal” are used interchangeably with the term “Offer.”

OFFEROR – means the single legal entity submitting the offer. The term “Bidder” is used interchangeably with the term “Offeror.” See bidding provisions entitled “Signing Your Offer” and “Bid/Proposal as Offer to Contract.”

ORDERING ENTITY - Using Governmental Unit that has submitted a Purchase Order.

PAGE TWO – means the second page of the original solicitation, which is labeled Page Two.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER – means the person, or his successor, identified as such on the Cover Page.

YOU and YOUR – means Offeror.

SOLICITATION – means this document, including all its parts, attachments, and any Amendments.

STATE – means the Using Governmental Unit(s) identified on the Cover Page.

SUBCONTRACTOR – means any person having a contract to perform work or render service to Contractor as a part of the Contractor’s agreement arising from this solicitation.

USING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT – means the unit(s) of government identified as such on the Cover Page. If the Cover Page names a “Statewide Term Contract” as the Using Governmental Unit, the Solicitation seeks to establish a Term Contract [11-35-310(35)] open for use by all South Carolina Public Procurement Units [11-35-4610(5)].

WORK - means all labor, materials, equipment and services provided or to be provided by the Contractor to fulfill the Contractor’s obligations under the Contract.

AMENDMENTS TO SOLICITATION (a) The Solicitation may be amended at any time prior to opening. All actual and prospective Offerors should monitor the following web site for the issuance of amendments: http://www.tctc.edu/visitors_media/purchase/solicitation_posting.htm (b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation (1) by signing and returning the amendment, (2) by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on Page Two, (3) by letter, or (4) by submitting a bid that indicates in some way that the bidder received the amendment. (c) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

AWARD NOTIFICATION Notice regarding any award or cancellation of award will be posted at the location specified on the Cover Page. The date and location of posting will be announced at opening. If the contract resulting from this Solicitation has a total or potential value in excess of fifty thousand dollars or more, such notice will be sent to all Offerors responding to the Solicitation. Should the contract resulting from this Solicitation have a potential value of one hundred thousand dollars or more, such notice will be sent to all Offerors responding to the Solicitation and any award will not be effective until the eleventh day after such notice is given.

BID / PROPOSAL AS OFFER TO CONTRACT By submitting Your Bid or Proposal, You are offering to enter into a contract with the Using Governmental Unit(s). Without further action by either party, a binding contract shall result upon final award. Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror on the Cover Page. An Offer may be submitted by only one legal entity; “joint bids” are not allowed.

BID ACCEPTANCE PERIOD In order to withdraw Your Offer after the minimum period specified on the Cover Page, You must notify the Procurement Officer in writing.

BID IN ENGLISH & DOLLARS Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the Solicitation.

BOARD AS PROCUREMENT AGENT (a) Authorized Agent. All authority regarding the conduct of this procurement is vested solely with the responsible Procurement Officer. Unless specifically

delegated in writing, the Procurement Officer is the only government official authorized to bind the government with regard to this procurement. (b) Purchasing Liability. The Procurement Officer is an employee of the Board acting on behalf of the Using Governmental Unit(s) pursuant to the Consolidated Procurement Code. Any contracts awarded as a result of this procurement are between the Contractor and the Using Governmental Units(s). The Board is not a party to such contracts, unless and to the extent that the board is a using governmental unit, and bears no liability for any party's losses arising out of or relating in any way to the contract.

CERTIFICATE OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION

GIVING FALSE, MISLEADING, OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON THIS CERTIFICATION MAY RENDER YOU SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION UNDER SECTION 16-9-10 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS.

(a) By submitting an offer, the offeror certifies that-

(1) The prices in this offer have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other offeror or competitor relating to-

- (i) Those prices;
- (ii) The intention to submit an offer; or
- (iii) The methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered.

(2) The prices in this offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other offeror or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a negotiated solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit an offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory-

(1) Is the person in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification; or

(2)(i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the offeror's principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification [As used in this subdivision (b)(2)(i), the term "principals" means the person(s) in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal];

(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals referenced in subdivision (b)(2)(i) of this certification have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification.

(c) If the offeror deletes or modifies paragraph (a)(2) of this certification, the offeror must furnish with its offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure. [02-2A032-1]

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (a)(1) By submitting an Offer, Offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that-

(i) Offeror and/or any of its Principals-

(A) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any state or federal agency;

(B) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, state, or local) contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and

(C) Are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this provision.

(ii) Offeror has not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any public (Federal, state, or local) entity.

(2) "Principals," for the purposes of this certification, means officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a subsidiary, division, or business segment, and similar positions).

(b) Offeror shall provide immediate written notice to the Procurement Officer if, at any time prior to contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(c) If Offeror is unable to certify the representations stated in paragraphs (a) (1), Offer must submit a written explanation regarding its inability to make the certification. The certification will be considered in connection with a review of the Offeror's responsibility. Failure of the Offeror to furnish additional information as requested by the Procurement Officer may render the Offeror nonresponsible.

(d) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by paragraph (a) of this provision. The knowledge and information of an Offeror is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(e) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly or in bad faith rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the State, the Procurement Officer may terminate the contract resulting from this solicitation for default.

CODE OF LAWS AVAILABLE : The South Carolina Code of Laws, including the Consolidated Procurement Code, is available at <http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/statmast.htm>. The South Carolina Regulations are available at: <http://www.scstatehouse.net/coderegs/statmast.htm>.

COMPLETION OF FORMS / CORRECTION OF ERRORS : All prices and notations should be printed in ink or typewritten. Errors should be crossed out, corrections entered and initialed by the person signing the bid. Do not modify the solicitation document itself (including bid schedule). (Applicable only to offers submitted on paper.)

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OFFER Any offer received after the Procurement Officer of the governmental body or his designee has declared that the time set for opening has arrived, shall be rejected unless the offer has been delivered to the designated purchasing office or the governmental bodies' mail room which services that purchasing office prior to the bid opening. [R.19-445.2070(G)]

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE CERTIFICATION By submitting an Offer, Contractor certifies that, if awarded a contract, Contractor will comply with all applicable provisions of The Drug-free Workplace Act, Title 44, Chapter 107 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended

DUTY TO INQUIRE Offeror, by submitting an Offer, represents that it has read and understands the Solicitation and that its Offer is made in compliance with the Solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the Solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the State's attention.

ETHICS CERTIFICATE By submitting an offer, the offeror certifies that the offeror has and will comply with, and has not, and will not, induce a person to violate Title 8, Chapter 13 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended (ethics act). The following statutes require special attention: Section 8-13-700, regarding use of official position for financial gain; Section 8-13-705, regarding gifts to influence action of public official; Section 8-13-720, regarding offering money for advice or assistance of public official; Sections 8-13-755 and 8-13-760, regarding restrictions on employment by former public official; Section 8-13-775, prohibiting public official with economic interests from acting on contracts; Section 8-13-790, regarding recovery of kickbacks; Section 8-13-1150, regarding statements to be filed by consultants; and Section 8-13-1342, regarding restrictions on contributions by contractor to candidate who participated in awarding of contract. The state may rescind any contract and recover all amounts expended as a result of any action taken in violation of this provision. If contractor participates, directly or indirectly, in the evaluation or award of public contracts, including without limitation, change orders or task orders regarding a public contract, contractor shall, if required by law to file such a statement, provide the statement required by Section 8-13-1150 to the procurement officer at the same time the law requires the statement to be filed. [02-2A075-2]

OMIT TAXES FROM PRICE: Do not include any sales or use taxes in your price that the State may be required to pay.

PROTESTS Any prospective bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation of a contract shall protest within fifteen days of the date of issuance of the applicable solicitation document at issue. Any actual bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of a contract shall protest within ten days of the date notification of award is posted in accordance with this code. A protest shall be in writing, shall set forth the grounds of the protest and the relief requested with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided, and must be received by the appropriate chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. See clause entitled "Protest-CPO". [II-3p-42101]

QUESTIONS FROM OFFERORS: (a) Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing. Questions must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than five (5) days prior to opening unless otherwise stated on the Cover Page. Label any communication regarding your questions with the name of the procurement officer, and the solicitation's title and number. Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding. Any information given a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an Amendment to the solicitation, if that information is necessary for submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective offerors. (b) The State seeks to permit maximum practicable competition. Offerors are urged to advise the Procurement Officer – as soon as possible – regarding any aspect of this procurement, including any aspect of the Solicitation that unnecessarily or inappropriately limits full and open competition.

Written questions may be emailed to Name prior to Date and Time.

REJECTION/CANCELLATION The College may cancel this solicitation in whole or in part. The College may reject any or all proposals in whole or in part. [SC Code Section 11-35-1710 & R.19-445.2065.]

RESPONSIVENESS / IMPROPER OFFERS

(a) Bid as Specified. Offers for supplies or services other than those specified will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation.

(b) Multiple Offers. Offerors may submit more than one Offer, provided that each Offer has significant differences other than price. Each separate Offer must satisfy all Solicitation requirements. If this solicitation is an Invitation for Bids, each separate offer must be submitted as a separate document. If this solicitation is a Request for Proposals, multiple offers may be submitted as one document, provided that you clearly differentiate between each offer and you submit a separate cost proposal for each offer, if applicable.

(c) Responsiveness. Any Offer which fails to conform to the material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected as nonresponsive. Offers which impose conditions that modify material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected. If a fixed price is required, an Offer will be rejected if the total possible cost to the College cannot be determined. Offerors will not be given an opportunity to correct any material nonconformity. Any deficiency resulting from a minor informality may be cured or waived at the sole discretion of the Procurement Officer. [R.19-445.2070 and Section 11-35-1520(13)]

(d) Price Reasonableness: Any offer may be rejected if the Procurement Officer determines in writing that it is unreasonable as to price. [R. 19-445.2070].

(e) Unbalanced Bidding. The College may reject an Offer as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or sub line items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the College even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount

RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO OFFERORS Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of the state Ethics Act. (a) After issuance of the solicitation, *you agree not to discuss this procurement activity in any way with the Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials.* All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer. This restriction may be lifted by express written permission from the Procurement Officer. This restriction expires once a contract has been formed. (b) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer, *you agree not to give anything to any Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials prior to award.*

SIGNING YOUR OFFER Every Offer must be signed by an individual with actual authority to bind the Offeror. (a) If the Offeror is an individual, the Offer must be signed by that individual. If the Offeror is an individual doing business as a firm, the Offer must be submitted in the firm name, signed by the individual, and state that the individual is doing business as a firm. (b) If the Offeror is a partnership, the Offer must be submitted in the partnership name, followed by the words "by its Partner," and signed by a general partner. (c) If the Offeror is a corporation, the Offer must be submitted in the corporate name, followed by the signature and title of the person authorized to sign. (d) An Offer may be submitted by a joint venturer involving any combination of individuals, partnerships, or corporations. If the Offeror is a joint venture, the Offer must be submitted in the name of the Joint Venture and signed by every participant in the joint venture in the manner prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (c) above for each type of participant. (e) If an Offer is signed by an agent, other than as stated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) above, the Offer must state that it has been signed by an Agent. Upon request, Offeror must provide proof of the agent's authorization to bind the principal.

STATE OFFICE CLOSINGS If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal government processes so that offers cannot be received at the government office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the solicitation, the time specified for receipt of offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal government processes resume. In lieu of an automatic extension, an Amendment may be issued to reschedule bid opening. If state offices are closed at the time a pre-bid or pre-proposal conference is scheduled, an Amendment will be issued to reschedule the conference. Useful information may available at: <http://www.scemd.org/myscgovweb/weather.html>.

SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: (An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains information that is exempt from public disclosure because it is either (a) a trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40(a)(1), or (b) privileged and confidential, as that phrase is used in Section 11-35-410. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the words "TRADE SECRET" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains a trade secret as that term is defined by Section 39-8-20 of the Trade Secrets Act. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "PROTECTED" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends is protected by Section 11-35-1810. All markings must be conspicuous; use color, bold, underlining, or some other method in order to conspicuously distinguish the mark from the other text. Do not mark your entire response (bid, proposal, quote, etc.) as confidential, trade secret, or protected! If your response, or any part thereof, is improperly marked as confidential or trade secret or protected, the State may, in its sole discretion, determine it nonresponsive. If only portions of a page are subject to some protection, do not mark the entire page. By submitting a response to this solicitation or request, Offeror (1) agrees to the public disclosure of every page of every document regarding this solicitation or request that was submitted at any time prior to entering into a contract (including, but not limited to, documents contained in a response, documents submitted to clarify a response, and documents submitted during negotiations), unless the page is conspicuously marked "TRADE SECRET" or "CONFIDENTIAL" or "PROTECTED", (2) agrees that any information not marked, as required by these bidding instructions, as a "Trade Secret" is not a trade secret as defined by the Trade Secrets Act, and (3) agrees that, notwithstanding any claims or markings otherwise, any prices, commissions, discounts, or other financial figures used to determine the award, as well as the final contract amount, are subject to public disclosure. In determining whether to release documents, the State will detrimentally rely on Offeror's marking of documents, as required by these bidding instructions, as being either "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "PROTECTED". By submitting a response, Offeror agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of South Carolina, its officers and employees, from every claim, demand, loss, expense, cost, damage or injury, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from the State withholding information that Offeror marked as "confidential" or "trade secret" or "PROTECTED". (All references to S.C. Code of Laws.)

SUBMITTING YOUR OFFER OR MODIFICATION (a) Offers and offer modifications shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages – (1) Addressed to the office specified in the Solicitation; and (2) Showing the time and date specified for opening, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the bidder. (b) If you are responding to more than one solicitation, each offer must be submitted in a different envelope or package. (c) Each Offeror must submit the number of copies indicated on the Cover Page. (d) Offerors using commercial carrier services shall ensure that the Offer is addressed and marked on the outermost envelope or wrapper as prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this provision when delivered to the office specified in the Solicitation. (e) Facsimile or e-mail offers, modifications, or withdrawals, will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation. (f) Offers submitted by electronic

commerce shall be considered only if the electronic commerce method was specifically stipulated or permitted by the solicitation.

TAX CREDIT FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESSES

Pursuant to Section 12-6-3350, a taxpayer having a contract with this State who subcontracts with a socially and economically disadvantaged small business is eligible for an income tax credit equal to four percent of the payments to that subcontractor for work pursuant to the contract. The subcontractor must be certified as a socially and economically disadvantaged small business as defined in Section 11-35-5010 and regulations pursuant to it. The credit is limited to a maximum of fifty thousand dollars annually. A taxpayer is eligible to claim the credit for ten consecutive taxable years beginning with the taxable year in which the first payment is made to the subcontractor that qualifies for the credit. After the above ten consecutive taxable years, the taxpayer is no longer eligible for the credit. A taxpayer claiming the credit shall maintain evidence of work performed for the contract by the subcontractor. The credit may be claimed on Form TC-2, "Minority Business Credit." A copy of the subcontractor's certificate from the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business (OSMBA) is to be attached to the contractor's income tax return. Questions regarding the tax credit and how to file are to be referred to: SC Department of Revenue, Research and Review, Phone: (803) 898-5786, Fax: (803) 898-5888. Questions regarding subcontractor certification are to be referred to: Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance, Phone: (803) 734-0657, Fax: (803) 734-2498. [02-2A135-1]

TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: (a) If Offeror is owned or controlled by a common parent as defined in paragraph (b) of this provision, Offeror shall submit with its Offer the name and TIN of common parent.

(b) Definitions: "Common parent," as used in this provision, means that corporate entity that owns or controls an affiliated group of corporations that files its Federal income tax returns on a consolidated basis, and of which the offeror is a member. "Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)," as used in this provision, means the number required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to be used by the offeror in reporting income tax and other returns. The TIN may be either a Social Security Number or an Employer Identification Number.

(c) If Offeror does not have a TIN, Offeror shall indicate if either a TIN has been applied for or a TIN is not required. If a TIN is not required, indicate whether (i) Offeror is a nonresident alien, foreign corporation, or foreign partnership that does not have income effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States and does not have an office or place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the United States; (ii) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of a state or local government; (iii) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of a foreign government; or (iv) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government.

VENDOR REGISTRATION MANDATORY: You must have a state vendor number to be eligible to submit an offer. To obtain a state vendor number, visit www.procurement.sc.gov and select "New Vendor Registration." (To determine if your business is already registered, go to "Vendor Search".) Upon registration, you will be assigned a state vendor number. Vendors must keep their vendor information current. If you are already registered, you can update your information by selecting "Change Vendor Registration." (Please note that vendor registration does not substitute for any obligation to register with the South Carolina Secretary of State (803-734-2170) or the South Carolina Department of Revenue (803-898-5391 or 803-898-5804).

WITHDRAWAL OR CORRECTION OF OFFER Offers may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the exact time set for opening. If the Solicitation authorizes facsimile offers, offers may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before the exact time set for opening. A bid may be withdrawn in person by a bidder or its authorized representative if, before the exact time set for opening, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for

the bid. The withdrawal and correction of Offers is governed by S.C. Code Section 11-35-1520 and Regulation 19-445.2085.

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS – B. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

CONTENTS OF OFFER (RFP) – SPO: (a) Offers should be complete and carefully worded and should convey all of the information requested. (b) Offers should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of offeror's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content. (c) Each copy of your offer should be bound in a single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with your offer should be bound in that single volume. (d) If your offer includes any comment over and above the specific information requested in the solicitation, you are to include this information as a separate appendix to your offer. Offers which include either modifications to any of the solicitation's contractual requirements or an offeror's standard terms and conditions may be deemed non-responsive and not considered for award.

CLARIFICATION Pursuant to Section 11-35-1520(8), the Procurement Officer may elect to communicate with you after opening for the purpose of clarifying either your offer or the requirements of the solicitation. Such communications may be conducted only with offerors who have submitted an offer which obviously conforms in all material aspects to the solicitation. Clarification of an offer must be documented in writing and included with the offer. Clarifications may not be used to revise an offer or the solicitation. [Section 11-35-1520(8); R.19-445.2080] [02-2B055-1]

DISCUSSIONS and NEGOTIATIONS Submit your best terms from a cost or price and from a technical standpoint. Your proposal may be evaluated and your offer accepted without any discussions, negotiations, or prior notice. Ordinarily, nonresponsive proposals will be rejected outright. Nevertheless, the State may elect to conduct discussions, including the possibility of limited proposal revisions, but only for those proposals reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. If improper revisions are submitted, the State may elect to consider only your unrevised initial proposal. [11-35-1530(6); R.19-445.2095(l)] The State may also elect to conduct negotiations, beginning with the highest ranked offeror, or seek best and final offers, as provided in Section 11-35-1530(8). If negotiations are conducted, the State may elect to disregard the negotiations and accept your original proposal. [02-2B060-1]

MAIL PICKUP: Institution picks up all mail from the US Postal Service once daily around 10:00 AM (excluding weekends and holidays). Please note: UPS/FedEx, etc. do not guarantee first delivery prior to 12:00 noon. See provision entitled Deadline for Submission of Offer.

PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS: The South Carolina General Assembly rewrote the law governing preferences available to in-state vendors, vendors using in-state subcontractors, and vendors selling in-state or US end products. This law appears in Section 11-35-1524 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A summary of the new preferences is available at www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences. ***ALL THE PREFERENCES MUST BE CLAIMED AND ARE APPLIED BY LINE ITEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AWARD IS MADE BY ITEM OR LOT.*** VENDORS ARE CAUTIONED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE STATUTE BEFORE CLAIMING ANY PREFERENCES. THE REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY HAVE CHANGED. IF YOU REQUEST A PREFERENCE, YOU ARE CERTIFYING THAT YOUR OFFER QUALIFIES FOR THE PREFERENCE YOU'VE CLAIMED. IMPROPERLY REQUESTING A PREFERENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. [11-35-1524(E)(4)&(6)]

PREFERENCES - SC/US END-PRODUCT: Section 11-35-1524 provides a preference to vendors offering South Carolina end-products or US end-products, if those products are made,

manufactured, or grown in SC or the US, respectively. An end-product is the tangible project identified for acquisition in this solicitation, including all component parts in final form and ready for the use intended. The terms "made," "manufactured," and "grown" are defined by Section 11-35-1524(A). By signing your offer and checking the appropriate space(s) provided and identified on the bid schedule, you certify that the end-product(s) is either made, manufactured or grown in South Carolina, or other states of the United States, as applicable. Preference will be applied as required by law. Post award substitutions are prohibited. See "Substitutions Prohibited - End Product Preferences (Sep 2009)" provision.

PREFERENCES - RESIDENT VENDOR PREFERENCE: To qualify for the RVP, you must maintain an office in this state. An office is a nonmobile place for the regular transaction of business or performance of a particular service which has been operated as such by the bidder for at least one year before the bid opening and during that year the place has been staffed for at least fifty weeks by at least two employees for at least thirty five hours a week each. In addition, you must either: (1) maintain at a location in South Carolina at the time of the bid an inventory of expendable items which are representative of the general type of commodities for which the award will be made and which have a minimum total value, based on the bid price, equal to the lesser of fifty thousand dollars [\$50,000] or the annual amount of the contract; or (2) be a manufacturer headquartered and having an annual payroll of at least one million dollars in South Carolina and the end product being sold is either made or processed from raw materials into a finished end product by that manufacturer or its affiliate (as defined in Section 1563 of the Internal Revenue Code).

III. SCOPE OF WORK / SPECIFICATIONS

Institution is soliciting proposals for Student Matriculation improvements.

Institution is a multi-campus educational institution. The College has the following locations:

(ALL CAMPUS LOCATIONS)

Institution is a two-year comprehensive community and technical college serving approximately 7,000 credit students and 10,000 non-credit students per year with approximately 700 faculty/staff. The College receives funds from student tuition and fees, in addition to funds from federal, local, and state governments.

Student matriculation is the process by which credit-seeking students enter or return to College, and prepare to attend class. As such, it is a core function of the College. The matriculation process requires the delivery of critical services to students across organizational boundaries, making it a prime candidate for process improvement and adoption of various organizational and process excellence models.

Within the process of Student Matriculation we include the following activities:

Recruiting – How the College promotes programs, services, and enrollment process to prospective students.

Application – How a student applies to the college and the information available for use in subsequent process steps.

Assessment – How a student qualifies for initial course placement.

Admission – How a student is admitted to the College.

Orientation – How a student receives College information about services, resources and prepares to meet with an advisor.

Advising – How an advisor works with students to build a strategy for completing their academic program and provides guidance in course selection.

Registration – How students register for classes.

Financial Aid – How students apply for and are awarded financial aid.

Drop/ Add – How students make adjustments to their class schedules.

Billing – How a student’s financial obligation is calculated and communicated to the student, including periodic status as the student makes changes to schedules, aid is applied, etc.

Settlement- How students settle their financial obligation to the college and how refunds (if any) are disbursed.

The focus of the engagement will be to review and make recommendations on improvements that will increase student success. Student success would be measured in terms of completed programs, degrees or transfer.

We would like a review the following activities:

1. The overall student experience / work flow needed to complete the matriculation process
2. The marketing efforts for students
3. Recruitment process
4. Application process
5. The advising model
6. Financial Aid process from a student point of view (Not a regulatory review)
7. The overall use of classroom space and class schedules
8. Orientation process

As part of this engagement we would also like help creating a detailed plan and timeline to implement any recommendations. The College reserves the right to purchase all, some or none of the services listed in this document based on cost, need and availability of funding. Any expansion of services resulting in an increase in the maximum fee for each Category below must have the prior written approval of the College. Full justification with and estimate of revised cost must be provided.

SERVICES REQUIRED

The scope of this effort will be to review the student matriculation activities listed above and make recommendations for improvements. The primary focus within matriculation will be **enrollment growth and developmental advising**. In addition to recommendations, we will also need assistance developing a detailed plan to implement changes. Part of this review will also need to focus on Title III efforts, and to factor in current plans in this area into the overall project plan.

Offerors must submit a detailed statement of work for each of the following nine (9) categories:

1. **On-Site observation**

Complete an on-site observation of a registration period to track the process from a student point of view.

This review would look into the overall student experience and work flow needed to complete the advising and registration processes. This review could use student focus groups to gain more feedback on experiences regarding obstacles.

2. **Review of targeted marketing needs**

Currently, many of the marketing efforts are general in nature and the College would like to look at ways to improve targeted marketing. We would like feedback on timing of marketing efforts, types of marketing outside of conventional methods for student enrollment. Within the plan we would like to include efforts such as market opportunity analysis. This targeted marketing effort would be to understand detail needs and incorporate into the final plan. This effort would not include actually completing the market analysis or surveys.

3. **Review of recruitment and application process**

Complete a detailed review of the recruitment and application process. This will be an audit of the admissions and recruitment operations. This review will examine the current structures, capacity, and capabilities within the organization to successfully execute student recruitment, marketing, communications and the organization capacity. Part of this review will evaluate the frequency and nature of touch points at each stage of the student lifecycle to determine the adequacy of each related to a goal of maximizing yield.

4. Review advising model

Review of current advising model. We have some efforts under way with Title III and small group advising that would need to be factored into the mix for developmental advising. Part of this review is to better understand the amount of flexibility students have to register and make changes to schedules and majors. Student's accessibility to an advisor must also be addressed as it is the chief complaint from students about advising at the College, especially on the community campuses.

5. Financial Aid student point of view

Review the Financial Aid process from a student point of view. Currently at Institution 85% of our students depend on some form of Financial Aid. As a result of SAP, Maximum Time frame and other Financial Aid regulations many students run into issues completing programs because they exhaust all Financial Aid before graduation. This is an issue because students can make schedule changes in the student information system (Banner) that may have a negative impact on financial aid. We are looking for ways to reduce the long term financial aid issues for students and the debt owed to the College and Department of Education.

6. Student Loans

Review improvements in the area of student loans. Our cohort default rate for student loans is currently 15.6% which is up from 10.1% last year.

7. Financial Aid process review

Financial Aid Operations Audit (Site visit in addition to visit on recruitment and application process) During a site visit, operations and workflow analyzed to identify opportunities to improve:

- Financial aid and scholarships processing and timing
- Integration of scholarship offers with the student search and admissions process
- Customer service
- Data management
- Staffing (number, mix, organization, and skills)
- Communication strategies
- Packaging strategies

8. Classroom utilization

Classroom use and seat openings

We currently are not maximizing our classroom seats and we have data to show openings. The primary problem is working out a better classroom forecast and spreading out demand. We would like to review this process and identify action items to improve this process.

9. Detailed implementation plan

List of recommendations for each review and help developing a detailed implementation plan. The thought here is that we will need to prioritize the implementation efforts and, in some cases, some activities may be prerequisites to other activities. So we need to develop a detailed plan and

timeline to implement changes. Part of this plan would be task and resources needed and an estimate of overall effort to implement.

DELIVERY / PERFORMANCE LOCATION - SPECIFIED: After award, all deliveries shall be made and all services provided to the following address, unless otherwise specified:

Institution, Address

IV. INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT

Written questions may be emailed to staff person prior to Date, Time. Questions and Answers will be posted on the website after this time. Responses are due no later than Date, Time.

INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT – GENERAL: Offeror shall submit a signed Cover Page and Page Two. Offeror should submit all other information and documents requested in this part and in parts II.B. Special Instructions; III. Scope of Work; V. Qualifications; VIII. Bidding Schedule/Price Proposal; and any appropriate attachments addressed in section IX. Attachments to Solicitations.

V. QUALIFICATIONS

QUALIFICATION OF OFFEROR: To be eligible for award of a contract, a prospective contractor must be responsible. In evaluating an Offeror's responsibility, the State Standards of Responsibility [R.19-445.2125] and information from any other source may be considered. An Offeror must, upon request of the College, furnish satisfactory evidence of its ability to meet all contractual requirements. Unreasonable failure to supply information promptly in connection with a responsibility inquiry may be grounds for determining that you are ineligible to receive an award. S.C. Code Section 11-35-1810.

SUBCONTRACTOR – IDENTIFICATION: If you intend to subcontract with another business for any portion of the work and that portion exceeds 10% of your price, your offer must identify that business and the portion of work which they are to perform. Identify potential subcontractors by providing the business' name, address, phone, taxpayer identification number, and point of contact. In determining your responsibility, the College may evaluate your proposed subcontractors.

QUALIFICATIONS -- REQUIRED INFORMATION

In order to evaluate your responsibility, offeror shall submit the following information or documentation for the offeror and any subcontractor, if the value of subcontractor's portion of the work exceeds 10% of your price (if in doubt, provide the information):

- (a) Include a brief history of the offeror's experience in providing work of similar size and scope.
- (b) Provide three (3) references for whom you currently provide similar services. Explain in detail how your company manages relationships with clients, conducts client reviews, problem resolution, adding additional services, adding value, expertise in the market and industry, etc. The College reserves the right to contact any and all references.
- (c) A list of customers for which offeror has performed, at any time during the past year, services substantially similar to those sought with this solicitation. Err on the side of inclusion; by submitting an offer, offeror represents that the list is complete.
- (d) List of failed projects, suspensions, debarments, and significant litigation.

VI. AWARD CRITERIA

AWARD CRITERIA – PROPOSALS: Award will be made to the highest ranked, responsive and responsible offeror whose offer is determined to be the most advantageous to the State.

AWARD TO ONE OFFEROR: Award will be made to one Offeror.

EVALUATION FACTORS -- PROPOSALS

Offers will be evaluated using only the factors stated below. Evaluation factors are stated in the relative order of importance, with the first factor being the most important. Once evaluation is complete, all responsive offerors will be ranked from most advantageous to least advantageous. Offerors must provide information to support each of the criteria below to obtain points in the evaluation.

Proposals will be evaluated by a review panel on the basis of the following criteria listed in order of importance:

- A. Experience in Student Matriculation process consulting, specifically with Two-year Colleges (Offerors must submit documentation describing their experience, including references.)
- B. Ability to address each component described in the Scope of Work (Offerors must submit a detailed Statement of Work for each of the nine categories listed in Section III.)
- C. Availability over next 2 to 6 months (Offerors must submit the date they are available to begin the project and the estimated completion date on the Bidding Schedule Section VIII.)

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – A. GENERAL

ASSIGNMENT: No contract or its provisions may be assigned, sublet, or transferred without the written consent of the Procurement Officer.

BANKRUPTCY: (a) Notice. In the event the Contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary, the Contractor agrees to furnish written notification of the bankruptcy to the Using Governmental Unit. This notification shall be furnished within five (5) days of the initiation of the proceedings relating to the bankruptcy filing. This notification shall include the date on which the bankruptcy petition was filed, the identity of the court in which the bankruptcy petition was filed, and a listing of all State contracts against which final payment has not been made. This obligation remains in effect until final payment under this Contract. (b) Termination. This contract is voidable and subject to immediate termination by the State upon the contractor's insolvency, including the filing of proceedings in bankruptcy.

CHOICE-OF-LAW : The Agreement, any dispute, claim, or controversy relating to the Agreement, and all the rights and obligations of the parties shall, in all respects, be interpreted, construed, enforced and governed by and under the laws of the State of South Carolina, except its choice of law rules. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS & ORDER OF PRECEDENCE : (a) Any contract resulting from this solicitation shall consist of the following documents: (1) a Record of Negotiations, if any, executed by you and the Procurement Officer, (2) documentation regarding the clarification of an offer [e.g., 11-35-1520(8) or 11-35-1530(6)], if applicable, (3) the solicitation, as amended, (4) modifications, if any, to your offer, if accepted by the Procurement Officer, (5) your offer, (6) any statement reflecting the state's final acceptance (a/k/a "award"), and (7) purchase orders. These documents shall be read to be consistent and

complimentary. Any conflict among these documents shall be resolved by giving priority to these documents in the order listed above. (b) The terms and conditions of documents (1) through (6) above shall apply notwithstanding any additional or different terms and conditions in either (i) a purchase order or other instrument submitted by the State or (ii) any invoice or other document submitted by Contractor. Except as otherwise allowed herein, the terms and conditions of all such documents shall be void and of no effect. (c) No contract, license, or other agreement containing contractual terms and conditions will be signed by any Using Governmental Unit. Any document signed or otherwise agreed to by persons other than the Procurement Officer shall be void and of no effect.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR UNFAIR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE: You warrant and represent that your offer identifies and explains any unfair competitive advantage you may have in competing for the proposed contract and any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your participation in this competition or your receipt of an award. The two underlying principles are (a) preventing the existence of conflicting roles that might bias a contractor's judgment, and (b) preventing an unfair competitive advantage. If you have an unfair competitive advantage or a conflict of interest, the state may withhold award. Before withholding award on these grounds, an offeror will be notified of the concerns and provided a reasonable opportunity to respond. Efforts to avoid or mitigate such concerns, including restrictions on future activities, may be considered.

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT

(a) Discounts for prompt payment will not be considered in the evaluation of offers. However, any offered discount will form a part of the award, and will be taken if payment is made within the discount period indicated in the offer by the offeror. As an alternative to offering a discount for prompt payment in conjunction with the offer, offerors awarded contracts may include discounts for prompt payment on individual invoices.

(b) In connection with any discount offered for prompt payment, time shall be computed from the date of the invoice. If the Contractor has not placed a date on the invoice, the due date shall be calculated from the date the designated billing office receives a proper invoice, provided the state annotates such invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt. For the purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date that appears on the payment check or, for an electronic funds transfer, the specified payment date. When the discount date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday when Federal Government offices are closed and Government business is not expected to be conducted, payment may be made on the following business day.

DISPUTES : (1) Choice-of-Forum. All disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the Agreement shall be resolved exclusively by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer in accordance with Title 11, Chapter 35, Article 17 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, or in the absence of jurisdiction, only in the Court of Common Pleas for, or a federal court located in, Richland County, State of South Carolina. Contractor agrees that any act by the Government regarding the Agreement is not a waiver of either the Government's sovereign immunity or the Government's immunity under the Eleventh Amendment of the United State's Constitution. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation. (2) Service of Process. Contractor consents that any papers, notices, or process necessary or proper for the initiation or continuation of any disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the Agreement; for any court action in connection therewith; or for the entry of judgment on any award made, may be served on Contractor by certified mail (return receipt requested) addressed to Contractor at the address provided as the Notice Address on Page Two or by personal service or by any other manner that is permitted by law, in or outside South Carolina. Notice by certified mail is deemed duly given upon deposit in the United States mail.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY . Contractor is referred to and shall comply with all applicable provisions, if any, of Title 41, Part 60 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including but not limited to Sections 60-1.4, 60-4.2, 60-4.3, 60-250.5(a), and 60-741.5(a), which are hereby incorporated by reference.

FALSE CLAIMS : According to the S.C. Code of Laws § 16-13-240, "a person who by false pretense or representation obtains the signature of a person to a written instrument or obtains from another person any chattel, money, valuable security, or other property, real or personal, with intent to cheat and defraud a person of that property is guilty" of a crime.

FIXED PRICING REQUIRED : Any pricing provided by contractor shall include all costs for performing the work associated with that price. Except as otherwise provided in this solicitation, contractor's price shall be fixed for the duration of this contract, including option terms. This clause does not prohibit contractor from offering lower pricing after award.

NON-INDEMNIFICATION : Any term or condition is void to the extent it requires the State to indemnify anyone.

NOTICE : (A) After award, any notices shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given (1) upon actual delivery, if delivery is by hand, (2) upon receipt by the transmitting party of automated confirmation or answer back from the recipient's device if delivery is by telex, telegram, facsimile, or electronic mail, or (3) upon deposit into the United States mail, if postage is prepaid, a return receipt is requested, and either registered or certified mail is used. (B) Notice to contractor shall be to the address identified as the Notice Address on Page Two. Notice to the state shall be to the Procurement Officer's address on the Cover Page. Either party may designate a different address for notice by giving notice in accordance with this paragraph.

PAYMENT & INTEREST: (a) Unless otherwise provided in this Solicitation, the State shall pay the Contractor, after the submission of proper invoices or vouchers, the prices stipulated in this contract for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less any deductions provided in this contract. Unless otherwise specified herein, including the purchase order, payment shall not be made on partial deliveries accepted by the Government. (b) Unless otherwise provided herein, including the purchase order, payment will be made by check. (c) Notwithstanding any other provision, payment shall be made in accordance with S.C. Code Section 11-35-45, which provides the Contractor's exclusive means of recovering any type of interest from the Owner. Contractor waives imposition of an interest penalty unless the invoice submitted specifies that the late penalty is applicable. Except as set forth in this paragraph, the State shall not be liable for the payment of interest on any debt or claim arising out of or related to this contract for any reason. (d) Amounts due to the State shall bear interest at the rate of interest established by the South Carolina Comptroller General pursuant to Section 11-35-45 ("an amount not to exceed fifteen percent each year"), as amended. (e) Any other basis for interest, including but not limited to general (pre- and post-judgment) or specific interest statutes, including S.C. Code Ann. § 34-31-20, are expressly waived by both parties. If a court, despite this agreement and waiver, requires that interest be paid on any debt by either party other than as provided by items (c) and (d) above, the parties further agree that the applicable interest rate for any given calendar year shall be the lowest prime rate as listed in the first edition of the Wall Street Journal published for each year, applied as simple interest without compounding.

PUBLICITY : Contractor shall not publish any comments or quotes by State employees, or include the State in either news releases or a published list of customers, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer.

PURCHASE ORDERS : Contractor shall not perform any work prior to the receipt of a purchase order from the using governmental unit. The using governmental unit shall order any supplies or services to

be furnished under this contract by issuing a purchase order. Purchase orders may be used to elect any options available under this contract, e.g., quantity, item, delivery date, payment method, but are subject to all terms and conditions of this contract. Purchase orders may be electronic. No particular form is required. An order placed pursuant to the purchasing card provision qualifies as a purchase order.

SETOFF The state shall have all of its common law, equitable, and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, the State's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this contract up to any amounts due and owing to the state with regard to this contract, any other contract with any state department or agency, including any contract for a term commencing prior to the term of this contract, plus any amounts due and owing to the state for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto.

SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATIONS: The Parties' rights and obligations which, by their nature, would continue beyond the termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration of this contract shall survive such termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration, including, but not limited to, the rights and obligations created by the following clauses: Indemnification - Third Party Claims, Intellectual Property Indemnification, and any provisions regarding warranty or audit.

TAXES: Any tax the contractor may be required to collect or pay upon the sale, use or delivery of the products shall be paid by the State, and such sums shall be due and payable to the contractor upon acceptance. Any personal property taxes levied after delivery shall be paid by the State. It shall be solely the State's obligation, after payment to contractor, to challenge the applicability of any tax by negotiation with, or action against, the taxing authority. Contractor agrees to refund any tax collected, which is subsequently determined not to be proper and for which a refund has been paid to contractor by the taxing authority. In the event that the contractor fails to pay, or delays in paying, to any taxing authorities, sums paid by the State to contractor, contractor shall be liable to the State for any loss (such as the assessment of additional interest) caused by virtue of this failure or delay. Taxes based on Contractor's net income or assets shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor.

TERMINATION DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDS Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefore. When funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract shall be canceled. In the event of a cancellation pursuant to this paragraph, contractor will be reimbursed the resulting unamortized, reasonably incurred, nonrecurring costs. Contractor will not be reimbursed any costs amortized beyond the initial contract term.

THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY This Contract is made solely and specifically among and for the benefit of the parties hereto, and their respective successors and assigns, and no other person will have any rights, interest, or claims hereunder or be entitled to any benefits under or on account of this Contract as a third party beneficiary or otherwise.

WAIVER The State does not waive any prior or subsequent breach of the terms of the Contract by making payments on the Contract, by failing to terminate the Contract for lack of performance, or by failing to strictly or promptly insist upon any term of the Contract. Only the Procurement Officer has actual authority to waive any of the State's rights under this Contract. Any waiver must be in writing.

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – B. SPECIAL

CHANGES :

(1) Contract Modification. By a written order, at any time, and without notice to any surety, the Procurement Officer may, subject to all appropriate adjustments, make changes within the general scope of this contract in any one or more of the following:

- (a) drawings, designs, or specifications, if the supplies to be furnished are to be specially manufactured for the [State] in accordance therewith;
- (b) method of shipment or packing;
- (c) place of delivery;
- (d) description of services to be performed;
- (e) time of performance (i.e., hours of the day, days of the week, etc.); or,
- (f) place of performance of the services.

Subparagraphs (a) to (c) apply only if supplies are furnished under this contract. Subparagraphs (d) to (f) apply only if services are performed under this contract.

(2) Adjustments of Price or Time for Performance. If any such change increases or decreases the contractor's cost of, or the time required for, performance of any part of the work under this contract, whether or not changed by the order, an adjustment shall be made in the contract price, the delivery schedule, or both, and the contract modified in writing accordingly. Any adjustment in contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the Price Adjustment Clause of this contract. Failure of the parties to agree to an adjustment shall not excuse the contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed, provided that the State promptly and duly make such provisional adjustments in payment or time for performance as may be reasonable. By proceeding with the work, the contractor shall not be deemed to have prejudiced any claim for additional compensation, or an extension of time for completion.

(3) Time Period for Claim. Within 30 days after receipt of a written contract modification under Paragraph (1) of this clause, unless such period is extended by the Procurement Officer in writing, the contractor shall file notice of intent to assert a claim for an adjustment. Later notification shall not bar the contractor's claim unless the State is prejudiced by the delay in notification.

(4) Claim Barred After Final Payment. No claim by the contractor for an adjustment hereunder shall be allowed if notice is not given prior to final payment under this contract.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS : During the term of the contract, contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of laws, codes, ordinances, rules, regulations, and tariffs.

CONTRACT LIMITATIONS : No sales may be made pursuant to this contract for any item or service that is not expressly listed. No sales may be made pursuant to this contract after expiration of this contract. Violation of this provision may result in termination of this contract and may subject contractor to suspension or debarment.

DEFAULT :

(a)(1) The College may, subject to paragraphs (c) and (d) of this clause, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate this contract in whole or in part if the Contractor fails to-

(i) Deliver the supplies or to perform the services within the time specified in this contract or any extension;

(ii) Make progress, so as to endanger performance of this contract (but see paragraph (a)(2) of this clause); or

(iii) Perform any of the other material provisions of this contract (but see paragraph (a)(2) of this clause).

(2) The College's right to terminate this contract under subdivisions (a)(1)(ii) and (1)(iii) of this clause, may be exercised if the Contractor does not cure such failure within 10 days (or more if authorized in writing by the Procurement Officer) after receipt of the notice from the Procurement Officer specifying the failure.

(b) If the College terminates this contract in whole or in part, it may acquire, under the terms and in the manner the Procurement Officer considers appropriate, supplies or services similar to those terminated, and the Contractor will be liable to the College for any excess costs for those supplies or services. However, the Contractor shall continue the work not terminated.

(c) Except for defaults of subcontractors at any tier, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises from causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Examples of such causes include (1) acts of God or of the public enemy, (2) acts of the State in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, (3) fires, (4) floods, (5) epidemics, (6) quarantine restrictions, (7) strikes, (8) freight embargoes, and (9) unusually severe weather. In each instance the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor.

(d) If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a subcontractor at any tier, and if the cause of the default is beyond the control of both the Contractor and subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs for failure to perform, unless the subcontracted supplies or services were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time for the Contractor to meet the required delivery schedule.

(e) If this contract is terminated for default, the College may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to the College, as directed by the Procurement Officer, any (1) completed supplies, and (2) partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (collectively referred to as "manufacturing materials" in this clause) that the Contractor has specifically produced or acquired for the terminated portion of this contract. Upon direction of the Procurement Officer, the Contractor shall also protect and preserve property in its possession in which the College has an interest.

(f) The College shall pay contract price for completed supplies delivered and accepted. The Contractor and Procurement Officer shall agree on the amount of payment for manufacturing materials delivered and accepted and for the protection and preservation of the property; if the parties fail to agree, the Procurement Officer shall set an amount subject to the Contractor's rights under the Disputes clause. Failure to agree will be a dispute under the Disputes clause. The College may withhold from these amounts any sum the Procurement Officer determines to be necessary to protect the College against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders.

(g) If, after termination, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, or that the default was excusable, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of the College, be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the College. If, in the foregoing circumstances, this contract does not contain a clause providing for termination for convenience of the College, the contract shall be adjusted to compensate for such termination and the contract modified accordingly subject to the contractor's rights under the Disputes clause.

(h) The rights and remedies of the College in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

INDEMNIFICATION - THIRD PARTY CLAIMS: Notwithstanding any limitation in this agreement, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend and hold harmless Indemnitees for and against any and all suits or claims of any character (and all related damages, settlement payments, attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, losses or liabilities) by a third party which are attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property arising out of or in connection with the goods or services acquired hereunder or caused in whole or in part by any act or omission of contractor, its subcontractors, their employees, workmen, servants, agents, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not caused in part by an Indemnitee, and whether or not such claims are made by a third party or an Indemnitee; however, if an Indemnitee's negligent act or omission is subsequently determined to be the sole proximate cause of a suit or claim, the Indemnitee shall not be entitled to

indemnification hereunder. Contractor shall be given timely written notice of any suit or claim. Contractor's obligations hereunder are in no way limited by any protection afforded under workers' compensation acts, disability benefits acts, or other employee benefit acts. This clause shall not negate, abridge, or reduce any other rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist. The obligations of this paragraph shall survive termination, cancelation, or expiration of the parties' agreement. This provision shall be construed fairly and reasonably, neither strongly for nor against either party, and without regard to any clause regarding insurance. As used in this clause, "Indemnitees" means the State of South Carolina, its instrumentalities, agencies, departments, boards, political subdivisions and all their respective officers, agents and employees.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INFRINGEMENT (a) Without limitation and notwithstanding any provision in this agreement, Contractor shall, upon receipt of notification, defend and indemnify the State, its instrumentalities, agencies, departments, boards, political subdivisions and all their respective officers, agents and employees against all actions, proceedings or claims of any nature (and all damages, settlement payments, attorneys' fees (including inside counsel), costs, expenses, losses or liabilities attributable thereto) by any third party asserting or involving an IP right related to an acquired item. State shall allow Contractor to defend such claim so long as the defense is diligently and capably prosecuted. State shall allow Contractor to settle such claim so long as (i) all settlement payments are made by Contractor, and (ii) the settlement imposes no non-monetary obligation upon State. State shall reasonably cooperate with Contractor's defense of such claim. (b) In the event an injunction or order shall be obtained against State's use of any acquired item, or if in Contractor's opinion, the acquired item is likely to become the subject of a claim of infringement or violation of an IP right, Contractor shall, without in any way limiting the foregoing, and at its expense, either: (1) procure for State the right to continue to use, or have used, the acquired item, or (2) replace or modify the acquired item so that it becomes non-infringing but only if the modification or replacement does not adversely affect the specifications for the acquired item or its use by State. If neither (1) nor (2), above, is practical, State may require that Contractor remove the acquired item from State, refund to State any charges paid by State therefore, and take all steps necessary to have State released from any further liability. (c) Contractor's obligations under this paragraph do not apply to a claim to the extent (i) that the claim is caused by Contractor's compliance with specifications furnished by the State unless Contractor knew its compliance with the State's specifications would infringe an IP right, or (ii) that the claim is caused by Contractor's compliance with specifications furnished by the State if the State knowingly relied on a third party's IP right to develop the specifications provided to Contractor and failed to identify such product to Contractor. (d) As used in this paragraph, these terms are defined as follows: "IP right(s)" means a patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, or any other proprietary right. "Acquired item(s)" means the rights, goods, or services furnished under this agreement. "Specification(s)" means a detailed, exact statement of particulars such as a statement prescribing materials, dimensions, and quality of work. (e) Contractor's obligations under this clause shall survive the termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration of this Agreement.

LICENSES AND PERMITS: During the term of the contract, the Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining, and maintaining in good standing, all licenses (including professional licenses, if any), permits, inspections and related fees for each or any such licenses, permits and /or inspections required by the State, county, city or other government entity or unit to accomplish the work specified in this solicitation and the contract.

MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP: Unless otherwise specifically provided in this contract, all equipment, material, and articles incorporated in the work covered by this contract are to be new and of the most suitable grade for the purpose intended.

PRICE ADJUSTMENTS: (1) Method of Adjustment. Any adjustment in the contract price made pursuant to a clause in this contract shall be consistent with this Contract and shall be arrived at through

whichever one of the following ways is the most valid approximation of the actual cost to the Contractor (including profit, if otherwise allowed):

(a) by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before commencement of the pertinent performance or as soon thereafter as practicable;

(b) by unit prices specified in the Contract or subsequently agreed upon;

(c) by the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the relevant clause, including profit if otherwise allowed, all as specified in the Contract; or subsequently agreed upon;

(d) in such other manner as the parties may mutually agree; or,

(e) in the absence of agreement by the parties, through a unilateral initial written determination by the Procurement Officer of the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the clause, including profit if otherwise allowed, all as computed by the Procurement Officer in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, subject to the provisions of Title 11, Chapter 35, Article 17 of the S.C. Code of Laws.

(2) Submission of Price or Cost Data. Upon request of the Procurement Officer, the contractor shall provide reasonably available factual information to substantiate that the price or cost offered, for any price adjustments is reasonable, consistent with the provisions of Section 11-35-1830.

OWNERSHIP OF DATA & MATERIALS: All data, material and documentation either prepared for the state pursuant to this contract shall belong exclusively to the State.

PRIVACY – WEB SERVICES: You agree that any information acquired by you about individuals or businesses that is available to you as a result of your performance of this contract shall not be retained beyond the end of the term of the contract without the express written consent of the government. Such information shall never be sold, traded, or released to another entity, including affiliates, and shall not be used for any purpose other than performing this contract. Upon request, contractor shall provide written confirmation of compliance with this clause.

PURCHASING CARD : Contractor agrees to accept payment by the South Carolina Purchasing Card for no extra charge. The Purchasing Card is issued by Visa. The purchasing card allows state agencies to make authorized purchases from a vendor without the requirement to issue a purchase order.

RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES: Neither party is an employee, agent, partner, or joint venturer of the other. Neither party has the right or ability to bind the other to any agreement with a third party or to incur any obligation or liability on behalf of the other party.

SHIPPING / RISK OF LOSS: F.O.B. Destination. Destination is the shipping dock of the Using Governmental Units' designated receiving site, or other location, as specified herein. (See Delivery clause)

STORAGE OF MATERIALS: Absent approval of the using governmental unit, Contractor shall not store items on the premises of the using governmental unit prior to the time set for installation.

SUBSTITUTIONS PROHIBITED - END PRODUCT PREFERENCES: If you receive the award as a result of the South Carolina end product or United States end product preference, you may not substitute a nonqualifying end product for a qualified end product. If you violate this provision, the State may terminate your contract for cause and you may be debarred. In addition, you shall pay to the State an amount equal to twice the difference between the price paid by the State and your evaluated price for the item for which you delivered a substitute. [11-35-1534(B)(4)]

TERM OF CONTRACT – EFFECTIVE DATE / INITIAL CONTRACT PERIOD: The effective date of this contract is the first day of the Maximum Contract Period as specified on the final statement of

award. The initial term of this agreement is one year from the effective date. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award. The initial term will be one (1) year.

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE – SHORT FORM: The Procurement Officer may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. In such a termination, the Procurement Officer may require the contractor to transfer title and deliver to the State in the manner and to the extent directed by the Procurement Officer: (a) any completed supplies; and (b) such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (hereinafter called "manufacturing material") as the contractor has specifically produced or specially acquired for the performance of the terminated part of this contract. Upon such termination, the contractor shall (a) stop work to the extent specified, (b) terminate any subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work, and (c) be paid the following amounts without duplication, subject to the other terms of this contract: (i) contract prices for supplies or services accepted under the contract, (ii) costs incurred in performing the terminated portion of the work, and (iii) any other reasonable costs that the contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the State, using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination. The contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred that reasonably could have been avoided. As a condition of payment, contractor shall submit within three months of the effective date of the termination a claim specifying the amounts due because of the termination. The absence of an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not increase the obligation of the state beyond what it would have been had the subcontract contained such a clause.

VIII. BIDDING SCHEDULE - Offerors must provide a cost estimate for each of the 9 categories listed in Section III Scope of Work/Specifications under the section titled Services Required. The cost estimate for each section must include any anticipated travel costs. Travel costs will not be paid or reimbursed separately; they must be included in the total cost for each required service. Offerors must also provide their hourly rate for consulting services for any services the College may require in addition to those listed. The hourly rate will apply to additional consulting services to be used as necessary. These costs must be listed below and should not be included in the Statement of Work. The College reserves the right to purchase all, some or none of the services listed in this document based on cost, need and availability of funding.

Category	Cost
On-Site observation	
Review of targeted marketing needs	
Review of recruitment and application process	
Review Advising Model	
Financial Aid student point of view	
Student Loans	
Financial Aid process review	
Classroom Utilization	
Detailed implementation plan	
Total Cost	

Availability to begin project and estimated completion date: _____

Hourly rate for additional consulting services: _____

I certify that I have read, understand and meet the specifications and requirements contained in this document. I certify that I have read the scope of work contained in this document and that I am able to provide all services specified.

Vendor Name: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Print Name (of authorized signatory): _____

Date: _____

IX. ATTACHMENTS TO SOLICITATION

OFFEROR'S CHECKLIST

AVOID COMMON PROPOSAL MISTAKES

Review this checklist prior to submitting your proposal.
If you fail to follow this checklist, you risk having your proposal rejected.

- DO NOT INCLUDE ANY OF YOUR STANDARD CONTRACT FORMS!
- UNLESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED, DO NOT INCLUDE ANY ADDITIONAL BOILERPLATE CONTRACT CLAUSES.
- REREAD YOUR ENTIRE PROPOSAL TO MAKE SURE YOUR PROPOSAL DOES NOT TAKE EXCEPTION TO ANY OF THE STATE'S MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS.
- MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PROPERLY MARKED ALL PROTECTED, CONFIDENTIAL, OR TRADE SECRET INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS ENTITLED: SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. ***DO NOT MARK YOUR ENTIRE PROPOSAL AS CONFIDENTIAL, TRADE SECRET, OR PROTECTED! DO NOT INCLUDE A LEGEND ON THE COVER STATING THAT YOUR ENTIRE RESPONSE IS NOT TO BE RELEASED!***
- HAVE YOU PROPERLY ACKNOWLEDGED ALL AMENDMENTS? INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING HOW TO ACKNOWLEDGE AN AMENDMENT SHOULD APPEAR IN ALL AMENDMENTS ISSUED.
- MAKE SURE YOUR PROPOSAL INCLUDES A COPY OF THE SOLICITATION COVER PAGE. MAKE SURE THE COVER PAGE IS SIGNED BY A PERSON THAT IS AUTHORIZED TO CONTRACTUALLY BIND YOUR BUSINESS.
- MAKE SURE YOUR PROPOSAL INCLUDES THE NUMBER OF COPIES REQUESTED.
- CHECK TO ENSURE YOUR PROPOSAL INCLUDES EVERYTHING REQUESTED!
- IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE SOLICITATION, DO NOT RAISE THOSE CONCERNS IN YOUR RESPONSE! **AFTER OPENING, IT IS TOO LATE!** THIS SOLICITATION INCLUDES A QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD, RAISE YOUR QUESTIONS AS A PART OF THAT PROCESS! PLEASE SEE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER THE HEADING "SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS".

This checklist is included only as a reminder to help offerors avoid common mistakes.
Responsiveness will be evaluated against the solicitation, ***not*** against this checklist.
You do not need to return this checklist with your response.

MINORITY PARTICIPATION

Is the bidder a South Carolina Certified Minority Business? Yes NO

Is the bidder a Minority Business certified by another governmental entity? Yes NO

If so, please list the certifying governmental entity: _____

Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? Yes NO

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? Yes NO

Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor? Yes NO

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor? Yes NO

If a certified Minority Business is participating in this contract, please indicate all categories for which the Business is certified:

- Traditional minority
- Traditional minority, but female
- Women (Caucasian females)
- Hispanic minorities
- DOT referral (Traditional minority)
- DOT referral (Caucasian female)
- Temporary certification
- SBA 8 (a) certification referral
- Other minorities (Native American, Asian, etc.)

(If more than one minority contractor will be utilized in the performance of this contract, please provide the information above for each minority business.)

IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE - NONRESIDENTS ONLY

Withholding Requirements for Payments to Nonresidents: Section 12-8-550 of the South Carolina Code of Laws requires persons hiring or contracting with a nonresident conducting a business or performing personal services of a temporary nature within South Carolina to withhold 2% of each payment made to the nonresident. The withholding requirement does not apply to (1) payments on purchase orders for tangible personal property when the payments are not accompanied by services to be performed in South Carolina, (2) nonresidents who are not conducting business in South Carolina, (3) nonresidents for contracts that do not exceed \$10,000 in a calendar year, or (4) payments to a nonresident who (a) registers with either the S.C. Department of Revenue or the S.C. Secretary of State and (b) submits a Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit - Income Tax Withholding, Form I-312 to the person letting the contract.

The withholding requirement applies to every governmental entity that uses a contract ("Using Entity"). Nonresidents should submit a separate copy of the Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit - Income Tax Withholding, Form I-312 to every Using Entity that makes payment to the nonresident pursuant to this solicitation. Once submitted, an affidavit is valid for all contracts between the nonresident and the Using Entity, unless the Using Entity receives notice from the Department of Revenue that the exemption from withholding has been revoked.

Section 12-8-540 requires persons making payment to a nonresident taxpayer of rentals or royalties at a rate of \$1,200.00 or more a year for the use of or for the privilege of using property in

South Carolina to withhold 7% of the total of each payment made to a nonresident taxpayer who is not a corporation and 5% if the payment is made to a corporation. Contact the Department of Revenue for any applicable exceptions.

For information about other withholding requirements (e.g., employee withholding), contact the Withholding Section at the South Carolina Department of Revenue at 803-898-5383 or visit the Department's website at www.sctax.org.

This notice is for informational purposes only. This agency does not administer and has no authority over tax issues. All registration questions should be directed to the License and Registration Section at 803-898-5872 or to the South Carolina Department of Revenue, Registration Unit, Columbia, S.C. 29214-0140. All withholding questions should be directed to the Withholding Section at 803-898-5383.

