

SECTION 1 – REQUIREMENTS

- **Do not** provide responses to items in this section unless specifically and expressly required.

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This Invitation for Bid (IFB) is issued by the Arkansas Department of Health to obtain pricing and a contract(s) for a _____ Direct all questions, comments, or concerns you may have regarding this solicitation to the issuing buyer noted on Page 1.

1.2 LIVE BID OPENING

1.3 CLARIFICATION OF SOLICITATION

- A. Submit any questions requesting clarification of information contained in this *Solicitation* in writing via email by 4:00 p.m., Central Time on or before _____ to the issuing buyer as shown on page one (1) of this *Solicitation*.
1. For each question submitted, Prospective Contractor should reference the specific solicitation item number to which the question refers.
 2. Prospective Contractors' written questions will be consolidated and answered by the State as deemed appropriate. The State's consolidated written response is anticipated to be posted to the ADH Grant and Bid Opportunities website by the close of business on _____. If Prospective Contractor questions are unclear or non-substantive in nature, the State may request clarification of a question(s) or decline to answer.
- B. The Prospective Contractor should notify the issuing buyer of any term, condition, etc., that precludes the Prospective Contractor from submitting a compliant, Responsive Bid. Prospective Contractors should note that it is the responsibility of the Prospective Contractor to seek resolution of all such issues, including those relating to the terms and conditions of the contract, prior to the submission of a bid.
- C. Prospective Contractors may contact the issuing buyer with non-substantive questions at any time prior to the bid opening.
- D. An oral statement by ADH will not be part of any contract resulting from this solicitation and may not reasonably be relied on by any Prospective Contractor as an aid to interpretation unless it is reduced to writing and expressly adopted by ADH.

1.4 DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. Unless otherwise defined herein, all terms defined in Arkansas Procurement Law have the same meaning herein.
- B. "Prospective Contractor" means a responsible bidder who submits a Responsive Bid in response to this solicitation.
- C. The terms "Invitation For Bid", "IFB" and "Solicitation" are used synonymously in this document.

- D. "Responsive Bid" means a bid submitted in response to this solicitation that conforms in all material respects to this IFB.
- E. "Shall" and "Must" mean the imperative and are used to identify requirements.
- F. "Requirement" means something required.
- G. "Specification" means any technical or purchase description or other description of the physical or functional characteristics, or of the nature, of a commodity or service. "Specification" may include a description of any requirement for inspecting, testing, or preparing a commodity or service for delivery.
- H. "State" means the State of Arkansas. When the term "State" is used herein to reference any obligation of the State under a contract that results from this solicitation, that obligation is limited to the Department using such a contract.
- I. Specific terms for the product or service being requested, if any:

1.5 SPECIFICATIONS (including Performance Standards and Minimum Qualifications, if required)

1.6 DELIVERY: FOB DESTINATION

- A. The Department requests delivery within _____ days after ordering. If this delivery date cannot be met, the Prospective Contractor **must** state the alternate number of days required to begin the service and/or place the commodity in the ordering Department's designated location. (See Official Solicitation Price Sheet.) Failure to state the alternate delivery time obligates the Contractor to complete delivery by the Department's requested date. Extended delivery dates may be considered when in the best interest of the State.

SECTION 2 – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

- **Do not** provide responses to items in this section unless specifically and expressly required.

2.1 TYPE OF CONTRACT

- A. As a result of this IFB, ADH intends to award a contract to
- B. The anticipated starting date for any resulting contract is _____, except that the actual contract start date may be adjusted unilaterally by the State for up to three (3) calendar months. By submitting a signed bid in response to the IFB, the Prospective Contractor represents and warrants that it will honor its bid as being held open as irrevocable for this period.
- C. The initial term of a resulting contract will be for one (1) year. Upon mutual agreement by the Contractor and Department, the contract may be renewed by ADH for up to six (6) additional one-year terms or portions thereof, not to exceed a total aggregate contract term of seven (7) consecutive years.

2.2 CONTRACTOR SELECTION

- A. Award will be made to the lowest-bidding, responsible Prospective Contractor on a/an _____ basis.

2.3 RESPONSE DOCUMENTS

- A. *Bid Response Packet*
 1. The following are bid submission requirements and **must** be submitted as a hard copy in the original *Bid Response Packet*.
 - a. Original signed *Bid Signature Page*. Signature may be ink or digital. (See *Bid Response Packet*.)
 - b. Completed *Bid Response Packet*, which **must** be in the English language.
 - c. One (1) original copy of the *Official Solicitation Price Sheet*. Pricing **must** be proposed in U.S. dollars and cents.
 - d. *Proposed Subcontractors Form*. The utilization of any proposed subcontractor is subject to approval by the Department.
 - e. *Exceptions Form*.
 2. The following items, which **must** be submitted prior to a contract award to the Prospective Contractor, may also be included with the Prospective Contractor's bid response:
 - a. *EO 98-04 Contract & Grant Disclosure Form*.
 - b. Copy of Prospective Contractor's *Equal Opportunity Policy*.
 - c. *Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT)*, if applicable.
 3. **DO NOT** include any other documents or ancillary information, such as a cover letter or promotional/marketing information.

2.4 ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIREMENTS

- A. Unless a Prospective Contractor expressly and conspicuously identifies any exception or exceptions to any of the Requirements in the Requirements Section(s) of this IFB by listing them on the

