



**Francis Marion University
Request for Proposal**

Solicitation Number	RFP-2458
Date Issued	10/18/2024
Purchasing Officer	Jennifer D Hester
Phone	(843) 661-1161
E-Mail Address	jdhester@fmarion.edu

DESCRIPTION: **Provide Financial Audit Services for Francis Marion University**

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

SUBMIT OFFER BY (Opening Date/Time): **11/21/2024 at 2:00 PM EST** See "Deadline for Submission of Offer" provision

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: **11/04/2024 at 2:00 PM EST** See "Questions from Offerors" provision

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: **One (1) original in hard copy (Technical Proposal), three (3) copies in hard copy clearly marked "COPY" (Technical Proposal), one (1) original in hard copy (Business Proposal), one (1) original in hard copy (Alternative Price Proposal), one (1) Redated Copy as Specified, and one (1) flash drive or other USB device as Specified.**

SUBMIT YOUR OFFER TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES IN A SEALED PACKAGE.

MAILING ADDRESS: Francis Marion University Purchasing Office P.O. Box 100547 Florence, SC 29502-0547	EXPRESS SHIPPING ADDRESS: Francis Marion University Central Receiving 4822 E. Palmetto Street Florence, SC 29506	HAND-DELIVERY: Francis Marion University Purchasing Office (Room 102) Stokes Administration Building 4822 E. Palmetto Street Florence, SC 29506
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CONFERENCE TYPE: **N/A**
DATE & TIME: **N/A**

LOCATION: **N/A**

AWARD &
AMENDMENTS

An **Intent to Award** will be posted at the Physical Address stated above on **12/16/2024**. The award, this solicitation, and any amendments will be posted at the following web address:
<http://www.fmarion.edu/procurement/solicitationsawards/>

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_
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	

(See "Signing Your Offer" provision.)

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)

COVER PAGE MMO (JAN. 2006)

PAGE TWO

(Return Page Two with Your Offer)

<p>HOME OFFICE ADDRESS (Address for offeror's home office / principal place of business)</p>	<p>NOTICE ADDRESS (Address to which all procurement and contract related notices should be sent.) (See "Notice" clause)</p> <hr/> <p>Address</p> <p>Area Code - Number - Extension Facsimile</p> <p>E-mail Address</p>
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<p>PAYMENT ADDRESS (Address to which payments will be sent.) (See "Payment" clause)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Home Office Address</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Notice Address (check only one)</p>	<p>ORDER ADDRESS (Address to which purchase orders will be sent) (See "Purchase Orders and "Contract Documents" clauses)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Home Office Address</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Notice Address (check only one)</p>
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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

<p>DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT (See "Discount for Prompt Payment" clause)</p>	<p>10 Calendar Days (%)</p>	<p>20 Calendar Days (%)</p>	<p>30 Calendar Days (%)</p>	<p>_____ Calendar Days (%)</p>
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PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS: On June 16, 2009, 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.

PREFERENCES DO NOT APPLY WITH THIS SOLICITATION: Per Section 11-35-1524(E)(5) preferences do not apply to procurements conducted pursuant to Section 11-35-1530 of the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code.

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

It is the intent of the University to solicit proposals for financial audit services for Francis Marion University in accordance with all requirements stated herein.

ACQUIRE SERVICES (JAN 2006)

The purpose of this solicitation is to acquire services complying with the enclosed description and/or specifications and conditions. [01-1005-1]

Type of Contract

A contract will be awarded in accordance with the provisions and conditions of this solicitation. The resulting contract will be for one (1) year with up to two (2) additional year options to renew.

MAXIMUM CONTRACT PERIOD - ESTIMATED (Jan 2006)

Start date: **02/01/2025** End date: **01/31/2028**. 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]

IMPORTANT NOTICE: PLEASE NOTE THAT IF TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE OBJECTED TO OR QUALIFIED, YOUR OFFER MAY BE DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND NOT CONSIDERED FURTHER.

IF YOU QUALIFY YOUR OFFER WITH STATEMENTS SUCH AS: "THIS IS NOT AN OFFER", YOU MAY BE DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

Questions:

Deadline for receipt of questions regarding this Solicitation: (see cover page for date & time)

To submit questions or request additional information, send your written question/request to be received in Francis Marion University's Purchasing Office no later than the date and time shown above.

Send Questions to:

Mail:

**Francis Marion University
Purchasing Office – SAB 102
PO Box 100547
Florence, SC 29502-0547
Attn: Jennifer D Hester**

Email: jdhester@fmarion.edu
Fax: (843) 661-1165

Mark Envelopes, faxes or emails: Questions: **RFP – 2458- Financial Audit Services**

The preferred method of receiving questions is via e-mail. All questions should be received no later than the date and time specified on the cover page.

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS -- A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

DEFINITIONS, CAPITALIZATION, AND HEADINGS (DEC 2015)

CLAUSE HEADINGS USED IN THIS SOLICITATION ARE FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND SHALL NOT BE USED TO CONSTRUE MEANING OR INTENT. EVEN IF NOT CAPITALIZED, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTS OF THE SOLICITATION, UNLESS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED OTHERWISE.

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

AUTHORITY means the State Fiscal Accountability Authority or its successor in interest.

BUSINESS means any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, joint venture, or any other legal entity. [11-35-310(3)]

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. [11-35-310(4)]

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 clause of the contract titled "Changes," if included herein, authorizes the Procurement Officer to order without the consent of the contractor. [11-35-310(9)]

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. 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 either the Cover Page, an amendment, or an award notice.

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 you contract with to perform or provide any part of the work.

US or WE means the using governmental unit.

USING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT means the unit(s) of government identified as such on the Cover Page.

If the Cover Page identifies the Using Governmental Unit as

"Statewide Term Contract," the phrase "Using Governmental Unit" means any South Carolina Public Procurement Unit [11-35-

4610(5)] that has submitted a Purchase Order to you pursuant to the contract resulting from this solicitation. Reference the clauses titled "Purchase Orders" and "Statewide Term Contract." WORK means all labor, materials, equipment, services, or property of any type, provided or to be provided by the Contractor to fulfill the Contractor's obligations under the Contract.[02-2A003-3]

INDEPENDENT CARRIERS – DELIVERY OF PROPOSAL OR BID (FMU 2024):

Francis Marion University is not responsible for delays related to variation in local delivery carriers schedules. Regardless of delivery method selected by the offeror, response to this solicitation is due no later than the date and time specified on the cover page of this solicitation.

AMENDMENTS TO SOLICITATION (JAN 2004)

- (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.fmarion.edu/about/solicitationsawards>
- (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. [02-2A005-1]

AUTHORIZED AGENT (FEB 2015)

All authority regarding 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 or the resulting contract.

AWARD NOTIFICATION (FEB 2015)

Notice regarding any award, cancellation of award, or extension of award will be posted at the location and on the date specified on the Cover Page or, if applicable, any notice of extension of award. Should the contract resulting from this Solicitation have a total or 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. [02-2A010-2]

AWARD NOTIFICATION – AUDITING SERVICES (FMU OCT 2021)

Per section 11-35-1240 of the State of South Carolina Procurement Code, no contract for auditing or accounting services shall be awarded without the approval of the State Auditor except where specific statutory authority is otherwise prohibited.

BID/PROPOSAL AS OFFER TO CONTRACT (JAN 2004)

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. [02-2A015-1]

BID ACCEPTANCE PERIOD (JAN 2004)

In order to withdraw Your Offer after the minimum period specified on the Cover Page, You must notify the Procurement Officer in writing. [02-2A020-1]

BID IN ENGLISH and DOLLARS (JAN 2004)

Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the Solicitation. [02-2A025-1]

AUTHORITY AS PROCUREMENT AGENT (DEC 2015)

The Procurement Officer is an employee of the Authority 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 Authority is not a party to such contracts, unless and to the extent that the Authority 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. [02-2A030-3]

CERTIFICATE OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION (MAY 2008)

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 (JAN 2004)

(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. [02-2A035-1]

CODE OF LAWS AVAILABLE (JAN 2006):

The South Carolina Code of Laws, including the Consolidated Procurement Code, is available at:

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/statmast.php>

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/statmast.php>

The South Carolina Regulations are available at:

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/coderegs/statmast.php> <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/coderegs/statmast.php>
[02-2A040-2]

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR UNFAIR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE (APR 2023):

("OCI FAQ for Contractors" is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) (a) You certify that, to the best of your knowledge and belief: (1) your offer identifies any services that relate to either this solicitation or the work and that have already been performed by you, a proposed subcontractor, or an affiliated business or consultant of either; and (2) there are no relevant facts or circumstances that may give rise to an actual or potential organizational conflict of interest, as defined in S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 19- 445.2127, or 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. (b) If you, a proposed subcontractor, or an affiliated business or consultant of either, have an unfair competitive advantage or a significant actual or potential conflict of interest, the State may withhold award. Before withholding award on these grounds, the State will notify you of the concerns and provide a reasonable opportunity for you to respond. The State may consider efforts to avoid or mitigate such concerns, including restrictions on future activities. (c) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which the State will rely when considering your offer for award. [02-2A047- 3]

ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (APR 2023):

(a) The Contractor agrees to immediately advise the Procurement Officer if an actual or potential organizational conflict of interest is discovered after award, and to make a full written disclosure promptly thereafter to the Procurement Officer. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Contractor has taken or proposes to take, after consultation with the Procurement Officer, to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict. (b) The State may terminate this contract for convenience, in whole or in part, if it deems such termination necessary to avoid an organizational conflict

of interest. Contractor's failure to include an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not increase the obligation of the State beyond what it would have been if the subcontract had contained such a clause. (c) The disclosure required by paragraph (a) of this provision is a material obligation of the contract. If the Contractor knew or should have known of an organizational conflict of interest prior to award, or discovers an actual or potential conflict after Organizational Conflicts of Interest PGI, page 32 award, and does not disclose, or misrepresents, relevant information to the Procurement Officer, the State may terminate the contract for default. [07-7A054-1]

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OFFER (JAN 2004)

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 body's mail room which services that purchasing office prior to the opening. [R.19-445.2070(G)] [02-2A050-1]

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE CERTIFICATION (JAN 2004)

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. [02-2A065-1]

DUTY TO INQUIRE (FEB 2015)

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. All ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation shall be interpreted to require the better quality or greater quantity of work and/or materials, unless otherwise directed by amendment. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the State's attention. See clause entitled "Questions from Offerors." [02-2A070-2]

ETHICS CERTIFICATE (MAY 2008)

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 (JAN 2004)

Do not include any sales or use taxes in Your price that the State may be required to pay. [02-2A080-1]

OPEN TRADE REPRESENTATION (JUN 2015)

By submitting an Offer, Offeror represents that Offeror is not currently engaged in the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with whom South Carolina can enjoy open trade, as defined in SC Code Section 1135-5300. [02-2A083-1]

PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS AND DONATIONS (FEB 2015)

Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of law.

(a) During the period between publication of the solicitation and final award, ***you must not communicate, directly or indirectly, with the Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials regarding any aspect of this procurement activity, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer.*** All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer. [R. 19-445.2010]

(b) You are advised to familiarize yourself with Regulation 19-445.2165, which restricts donations to a governmental entity with whom you have or seek to have a contract. ***You represent that your offer discloses any gifts made, directly or through an intermediary, by you or your named subcontractors to or for the benefit of the Using Governmental Unit during the period beginning eighteen months prior to the Opening Date.*** [R. 19-445.2165] [02-2A087-1]

PROTESTS (MAY 2019)

If you are aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of the contract, you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-4210. To protest a solicitation, you must submit a protest within fifteen days of the date the applicable solicitation document is issued. To protest an award, you must (i) submit notice of your intent to protest within seven business days of the date the award notice is posted, and (ii) submit your actual protest within fifteen days of the date the award notice is posted. Days are calculated as provided in Section 11-35-310(13). Both protests and notices of intent to protest must be in writing and must be received by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. See clause entitled "Protest-CPO". The grounds of the protest and the relief requested must be set forth with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided. [02-2A085-2]

PUBLIC OPENING (JAN 2004):

Offers will be publicly opened at the date/time and at the location identified on the Cover Page, or last Amendment, whichever is applicable. [02-2A090-1]

QUESTIONS FROM OFFERORS (FEB 2015)

Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing. Questions regarding the original solicitation or any amendment must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than five (5) days prior to opening unless an earlier date is 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. [See R. 19-445.2042(B)] 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. See clause entitled "Duty to Inquire." **We will not identify you in our answer to your question.** (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. [See R. 19-445.2140] [02-2A095-2]

REJECTION/CANCELLATION (JAN 2004)

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

RESPONSIVENESS/IMPROPER OFFERS (JUN 2015)

(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 State 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 State may reject an Offer as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline 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 State even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment.

(f) **Do not submit bid samples or descriptive literature unless expressly requested.** Unsolicited bid samples or descriptive literature will not be examined or tested, will not be used to determine responsiveness, and will not be deemed to vary any of the provisions of the solicitation. S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 19-445.2077(D). [02-2A105-2]

SIGNING YOUR OFFER (JAN 2004)

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. [02-2A115-1]

STATE OFFICE CLOSINGS (FMU 2017)

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 be available at: <http://www.scemd.org/planandprepare/disasters/severe-winter-weather> and at <http://www.fmarion.edu/>

DISCLOSURE OF YOUR BID / PROPOSAL & SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL DATA (FEB 2021)

(a) According to Section 11-35-410, any person submitting a document in response or with regard to any solicitation or other request must "comply with instructions provided in the solicitation for marking information exempt from public disclosure. Information not marked as required by the applicable instructions may be disclosed to the public." IF YOU IDENTIFY YOUR ENTIRE RESPONSE AS EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, OR IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT A REDACTED COPY AS REQUIRED, THE STATE MAY, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, DETERMINE YOUR BID OR PROPOSAL

NONRESPONSIVE AND INELIGIBLE FOR AWARD.

(b) By submitting a response to this solicitation or request, Offeror agrees to the public disclosure of every page, or portion thereof, 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, or portion thereof, was redacted and conspicuously marked "Trade Secret" or "Confidential" or "Protected", (2) agrees that any information not redacted and 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.

(c) If your offer includes any information that you claim is exempt from public disclosure, you must submit one complete copy of your offer from which you have removed or concealed such information (the redacted copy). Except for the information removed or concealed, the redacted copy must be identical to your original offer.

(d) Do not mark your entire response (bid, proposal, quote, etc.) as confidential, trade secret, or protected. If only portions of a page are subject to some protection, do not redact the entire page. The redacted copy must reflect the same pagination as the original and show the empty space from which information was redacted. The Procurement Officer must be able to view, search, copy and print the redacted copy without a password. 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.

(e) On the redacted copy, you must identify the basis of your claim by marking each redaction as follows: You must separately mark with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" every page, or portion thereof, that you redacted and claim as exempt from public disclosure because it is either (1) a trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40(a)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, or (2) privileged and confidential, as that phrase is used in Section 11-35-410. You must separately mark with the words "TRADE SECRET" every page, or portion thereof, that you redacted and claim as exempt from public disclosure as a trade secret pursuant to Section 39-8-20 of the Trade Secrets Act. You must separately mark with the word "PROTECTED" every page, or portion thereof, that you redacted and claim as exempt from public disclosure pursuant to 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.

(f) In determining whether to release documents, the State will detrimentally rely on your redaction and marking of documents, as required by these bidding instructions, as being either "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "Protected". By submitting a response, you agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of South Carolina, its agencies, officers and employees, from every claim, demand, loss, expense, cost, damage or injury, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from withholding information by the State of South Carolina or any of its agencies, that you have redacted or marked as "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "Protected". (All references to S.C. Code of Laws.) [02-2A125-3]

SUBMITTING A PAPER OFFER OR MODIFICATION (SPECIFIED – FMU – APR 2022):

Offers must be received in the Purchasing Office by date and time stated on cover page. By Submission of an offer, you are guaranteeing that all goods and/or services meet the requirements of the bid during the contract period. For paper offer or modification the following instructions apply. (a) 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). (b) (1) All copies of the offer or modification, and any other documents required to be submitted with the offer shall be enclosed in a sealed, opaque envelope or package. (2) Submit your offer or modification to the address on the Cover Page. (3) The envelope or package must show the time and date specified for opening, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the bidder. If the offer or modification is sent by mail or special delivery service (UPS, Federal Express, etc.), the outermost envelope or wrapper must be labeled "OFFER ENCLOSED" on the face thereof. (c) If you are responding to more than one solicitation, submit each offer in a separate envelope or package. (d) Submit the number of copies indicated on the Cover Page. (e) Facsimile or e-mail offers, modifications, or withdrawals, will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation.

TAX CREDIT FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESSES (JAN 2008)

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]

VENDOR REGISTRATION OPTIONAL (FMU NOV 2011)

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 S.C. Secretary of State or S.C. Department of Revenue. You can register with the agencies at <http://www.scbos.com/default.htm>) [02-2A145-1]

WITHDRAWAL OR CORRECTION OF OFFER (JAN 2004)

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. [02-2A150-1]

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS -- B. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

**SEND QUESTIONS TO: Francis Marion University
Purchasing Department – SAB 102
4822 East Palmetto Street
Florence, SC 29506
Attention: Jennifer D Hester
E-mail: jdhester@fmarion.edu**

The preferred method of receiving questions is via e-mail; please reference the solicitation name and number in the subject line.

CONTENTS OF OFFER (RFP) (FEB 2015)

- (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) The contents of your offer must be divided into two parts, the technical proposal and the business proposal. Each part should be bound in a 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.

[02-2B040-2]

DISCUSSION WITH OFFERORS (JAN 2006)

After opening, the Procurement Officer may, in his sole discretion, initiate discussions with you to discuss your offer. [Section 11-35-1530(6)]

ELECTRONIC COPIES – REQUIRED MEDIA AND FORMAT (FMU 2024)

In addition to your original offer, you must submit an electronic copy or copies on a USB drive. Submit the number of copies indicated on the cover page. USB drive must be labeled with the solicitation number and the offeror's name, and specify whether its contents address technical proposal or business proposal. If USBs are provided, each USB in the set must be appropriately identified as to its relationship to the set, e.g., 1 of 2. The electronic copy must be identical to the original offer. File format shall be compatible with Microsoft Office (version 2003 or later), or Adobe Acrobat or equivalent Portable Document Format (.pdf) viewer. The Procurement Officer must be able to view, search, copy and print electronic documents without a password.

[02-2B070-2]

MAIL PICKUP (FMU- October 2024)

Francis Marion University picks up all mail from The US Postal Service once daily around 8:30 a.m. (excluding weekends and holidays). See provision entitled Deadline for Submission of Offer. [02-2B080-1]

OPENING PROPOSALS -- INFORMATION NOT DIVULGED (FEB 2015)

In competitive sealed proposals, neither the number or identity of offerors nor prices will be divulged at opening. [Section 11-35-1530 & R. 19-445.2095(C)(1)] [02-2B110-2]

PROTEST - CPO - MMO ADDRESS (JUNE 2006)

Any protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Materials Management Office, and submitted in writing

(a) by email to protest-mmo@mmo.state.sc.us

(b) by facsimile at 803-737-0639, or

(c) by post or delivery to 1201 Main Street, Suite 600, Columbia, SC 29201. [02-2B122-1]

SAMPLES OR DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE Samples or descriptive literature should not be submitted unless expressly requested and regardless of any attempt by an offeror to condition its offer, unsolicited bid samples or descriptive literature which are submitted at offeror's risk will not be examined or tested, and will not be deemed to vary any of the provisions of the Request for Proposals.

UNIT PRICES REQUIRED (JAN 2006)

Unit price to be shown for each item. [02-2B170-1]

III. SCOPE OF WORK/SPECIFICATIONS

It is the intent of the University to solicit proposals for financial audit services for Francis Marion University (University) and the Francis Marion University Development Foundation (Development Foundation) in accordance with all requirements stated herein.

This contract will be to provide financial audit services for the fiscal years 2025, 2026, and 2027. Both the University and the Development Foundation's Fiscal Year End is June 30.

Background Information

Introduction

Francis Marion University (FMU) is a four-year public liberal arts institution established by the state of South Carolina in 1970, and is located in Florence, South Carolina. FMU offers bachelor's degrees in a wide range of liberal arts disciplines, as well as in the health sciences, education, engineering, and business. The University also offers professional degrees at the baccalaureate, master's, and specialist levels as well as professional doctorate degrees.

The University has an annual enrollment of around 4,200 students.

Financial records are maintained primarily at 4822 E. Palmetto Street, Florence, SC. The University uses the Ellucian Colleague Enterprise Requirements Planning system. The financial statements represent all activities of the University, the Francis Marion University Education Foundation (the Education Foundation hereafter) and the Francis Marion University Development Foundation (the Development Foundation hereafter). Both Foundations are legally separate, tax-exempt component units of the University. The Education Foundation has contracted with an Accounting Firm for their annual audits and the results of the audit are presented discretely in the University's financial statements. The Education Foundation is included in the University audit, discretely, and it requires a separate audit YE 12/31 each year conducted by a separate audit firm. The separate Education Foundation audit is not part of this solicitation.

Francis Marion University Development Foundation:

Included in the proposal is the Development Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, formed in 2004 to support the University in the development of student housing and other real estate issues.

Since 2004, the Development Foundation through an LLC (FMU Student Housing LLC) has operated the University's entire student housing under a lease-like agreement of housing facilities and land. The Development Foundation and the disregarded entity of the FMU Student Housing LLC are considered to be a component unit of Francis Marion University. Consolidated Financial statements and related notes are prepared for the Development Foundation and the disregarded LLC as well as a separate Financial Statement of just the LLC are prepared following FASB standards. Both financial statements audits are part of this solicitation. The Development Foundation will provide the successful bidder with trial balances and draft financials, including notes.

In 2024 total revenues for the Foundation and LLC were \$7,084,441. Total expenses for Housing operations were \$4,721,099 with additional expenses totaling \$1,183,719 in support of Francis Marion University's operations. As of June 30, 2024, total assets were \$27,833,233, total liabilities were \$15,081,2658 and net assets were \$12,751,968.

Francis Marion University Athletics (relevant to the NCAA audit):

The University is a member of NCAA Division II – 13 sports in Conference Carolinas (6 men’s, 7 women’s teams). In Men’s Golf, the University is a member of NCAA Division I Southland Conference.

**Francis Marion University
Accounting Records & Procedures**

Accounting records are processed electronically.

The University uses an Ellucian Colleague ERP system.

The June 30, 2024 audit report issued by Cline Brandt Kochenower (1225 W Floyd Baker Blvd, Gaffney, SC, 29341), 864-489-7121) was unqualified. A copy of the audit report may be obtained from the State Auditor’s web page: <https://osa.sc.gov/reports>

For Fiscal Year 2024, the audit fee charged to Francis Marion University was \$26,000 with no additional out of pocket expenses.

Previous audit teams have spent approximately one week on site before the end of the fiscal year and another week after the end of the fiscal year. The University does not know how much time the audit firm spent working remotely or from their office. Nor does the University have full knowledge of the number of individuals/staffing who worked on the audit. The precise time commitment by the Auditor is unknown.

The Accounting staff at Francis Marion University drafts the financial statements and notes.

There has been no significant change in the University’s financial management team or the University’s Accounting Office during FY 2025.

There has been no actual fraud detected and no one has alleged fraud during the current or last few years.

There are no monthly financial statements; however, there are monthly reports for budget managers of departments and various funds.

There is no outstanding financial litigation.

The University would qualify as a low-risk auditee for 2025.

The University has no Level 3 investments.

The largest federal programs are Federal Direct Student Loans, Pell, and Purchase and Provision of Medical Assistance.

Francis Marion University has not outsourced financial activities such as investments, payroll, etc.

Francis Marion University Development Foundation & FMU Student Housing, LLC

Accounting Records & Procedures

Accounting records are processed electronically. Details and a description of the systems will be provided at the pre-proposal conference.

The June 30, 2024 audit report issued by Cline Brandt Kochenower (1225 W Floyd Baker Blvd, Gaffney, SC, 29341, 864-489-7121) was unqualified. Financials are presented discretely in the financials of the University, but the separate audit report of the Development Foundation can be requested from the Office of Financial Services at 843-661-1110.

The June 30, 2023 annual 990 filing was prepared by Cline Brandt Kochenower (1225 W Floyd Baker Blvd, Gaffney, SC, 29341, 864-489-7121) The 990 can be requested from the Office of Financial Services at 843-661-1110.

For Fiscal Year 2024, the audit fee charged to the Development Foundation was \$12,000 for both the Development Foundation's consolidated financial statements and the LLC only audit with no additional out of pocket expenses. For Fiscal Year 2023, the fee charged for the completion of the Development Foundation Form 990 Return of the Organization Exempt from Income Tax was \$4,000.

A separate accounting firm for the Development Foundation drafts the financial statements and notes for both sets of financial statements prepared.

There has been no change of the financial management team. The current Executive Director of the Development Foundation transferred from FMUs Accounting Department and has expert level knowledge of both GAAP, FMU operations.

There has been no actual fraud detected and no one has alleged fraud during the current or last few years.

Unaudited quarterly financial statements are prepared for the FMU Student Housing, LLC only. These financials along with other tax compliance filings other than the 990 are prepared by an outside firm and not connected with the terms of delivery of this RFP.

There is no outstanding financial litigation.

Note: Per section 11-35-1240 of the State of South Carolina Procurement Code, no contract for auditing or accounting services shall be awarded without the approval of the State Auditor.

SCOPE OF WORK

Each proposal must address the following services:

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT SERVICES

Basic Requirements

1. Each proposal must address itself to the conduct of audits and expression of opinions upon the Francis Marion University's, Francis Marion University Development Foundation's and the FMU Student Housing LLC's financial statements subject to the availability of funds, for FY 2025, 2026, and 2027.
2. The proposal must address itself to the conduct of an audit performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the provisions of *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements of Federal Award* (Uniform Guidance); and the provisions of the Office of the Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement*.
3. The audit must be performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the Single Audit in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and Compliance Supplement, and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The audit must also include audit procedures to ensure that State Laws, Rules and Regulations that, if not followed, could materially affect the basic financial statements, have been complied with during the fiscal year.
4. From time to time, the University, the Development Foundation or the FMU Housing LLC may require assistance from the successful Offeror to assist them with technical issues, for example, the University may request the successful Offeror's assistance in reviewing policy and presentation issues related to GASB pronouncements. The proposal must specify rates for providing such services.

Each proposal must address the following services:

- Additional auditing or accounting services to either supplement audit services or due to a material change in the scope of work required services.
- Assistance in reviewing policy and presentation issues related to GASB or FASB pronouncements.
- Assessment of administrative computer or internal control related to automated administrative systems.
- Assistance with federal and related costing issues.
- Assistance in tax issues for higher education, research institutions, and Not-for-Profit corporations.
- Assistance in bond issues topics.
- Assistance in identifying and implementing best business practices for higher education research institutions.
- Other consulting services offered to higher education.

The successful Offeror may provide additional professional services to address areas of special emphasis defined by the University. Optional professional services must be specified on an hourly rate by staffing and skill level.

The University's financial statements are included in the statewide GAAP financial statements for the State of South Carolina. It is of extreme importance, therefore, that you meet the preliminary draft and final report delivery dates set out in this RFP.

A formal entrance conference is to be held annually to review audit objectives and strategies, current year considerations, the impact of new accounting and auditing developments and any changes in the State and Federal government regulations and deadlines.

A formal exit conference is to be held with the appropriate University and Development Foundation representatives for their respective audits. Both the University and Development Foundation are to be given an opportunity to provide a written response to the current management letter and to any findings of noncompliance. Responses will be included in the bound audit report (behind the management letter) when it is issued.

The winning contractor must deliver an electronic copy of the consolidated financial statements of the University to the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Accounting Francis Marion University and the Comptroller General, no later than 4:30 p.m. on the dates specified in the Time Considerations and Requirements section of this RFP.

The University may include the audited financial statements in documents issued in connection with the issuance of revenue bonds or other filings.

Description of Entity and Records to be Audited

The University is physically located in Florence, South Carolina. Financial records are maintained primarily at 4822 E. Palmetto Street, Florence, SC. The financial statements represent all activities of the University and the Francis Marion University Education Foundation (the Education Foundation hereafter) which is a legally separate, tax-exempt component unit of the University. The Education Foundation has contracted with an Accounting Firm for the annual audits and the result of the audit are presented discretely in the University's financial statements.

Included in the proposal is the Francis Marion University Development Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, formed in 2004 to support the University in the development of student housing and other real estate issues. The Development Foundation since 2004 through an LLC (FMU Student Housing LLC) has operated the University's entire student housing under a lease of housing facilities and of land. In 2024 total revenues for the Foundation and LLC were \$7,084,441. Total expenses for Housing operations were \$4,721,099 with additional expenses totaling \$1,183,719 in support of Francis Marion University's operations. As of June 30, 2024, total assets were \$27,833,233, total liabilities were \$15,081,2658 and net assets were \$12,751,968.

The Francis Marion University Development Foundation and the FMU Student Housing LLC are considered to be a component unit of Francis Marion University and are discretely presented in the University's financial statement. A consolidated audit is prepared for the Development Foundation and the FMU housing LLC as a wholly owned and disregarded entity, and a second audit of the FMU Housing LLC is prepared for bond disclosure requirements. The independent auditor shall also prepare the Annual Form 990 Return of the Organization Exempt from Income Tax for the Francis Marion University Development Foundation. The Development Foundation will provide the successful bidder with a trial balance and draft financials, including notes.

The June 30, 2024 audit report issued by Cline Brandt Kochenower (1225 W Floyd Baker Blvd, Gaffney, SC, 29341, 864-489-7121) for Francis Marion University was unqualified. A copy of the audit report may be obtained from the State Auditor's web page: <https://osa.sc.gov/reports>

The June 30, 2024 audit report issued by Cline Brandt Kochenower (1225 W Floyd Baker Blvd, Gaffney, SC, 29341, 864-489-7121) for the Development Foundation was unqualified. Financials are presented discretely in the financials of the University, but the separate audit report of the Development Foundation can be requested from the Office of Financial Services at 843-661-1110.

The June 30, 2023 annual 990 filing for the Development Foundation was prepared by Cline Brandt Kochenower (1225 W Floyd Baker Blvd, Gaffney, SC, 29341, 864-489-7121). The 990 can be requested from the Office of Financial Services at 843-661-1110.

Assistance Available to Offeror

- 1. Previous audit work papers for Francis Marion University, the Development Foundation and Housing LLC will be made available on site at Francis Marion University to the successful Offeror. Arrangements to obtain the work papers must be made in advance.**
- 2. The University's and Development Foundation's staff generally will pull requested documents.**
- 3. The University's staff will prepare a preliminary trial balance and draft financial statements including adjusting entries proposed by the auditor and accepted by the University. The Development Foundation (and Housing LLC) has engaged outside support for the preparation and compilation of the financial statements and notes.**

Report Requirements

1. The University will be accounted for as a business type activity.
2. The financial report will consist of a set of combined financial statements; namely, (a) statement of net position, (b) statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position, and (c) statement of cash flows and supplemental information of combining campus statements of a, b, and c, above.
3. The independent auditor's report on the University's financial statements is to be addressed to the Board of Trustees of Francis Marion University. The auditor's report must describe the nature of the audit and that the audit was performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The report must include an opinion as to whether the statements conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
4. A Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by OMB *Compliance Supplement* must be included. At a minimum, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards must:
 - List individual Federal programs by Federal Agency. For programs included in a cluster of programs, list the individual Federal programs.
 - Provide the name of the pass-through entity and identifying number assigned by the pass-through entity for Federal awards received as sub-recipient.

- Provide total Federal awards expended for each individual Federal program with ALN (Assistance Listing Number), and each grant or contract number.
 - This should include a schedule of findings and questioned costs, if necessary, as well as related auditor comments.
5. The independent auditor must issue a report on compliance with requirements applicable to each major Federal program and internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and OMB *Compliance Supplement*.
 6. The independent auditor must issue a report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.
 7. The independent auditor shall prepare the Annual Form 990 Return of the Organization Exempt from Income Tax for the Francis Marion University Development Foundation.

The University may include the audited financial statements in documents issued in connection with the issuance of revenue bonds or other filings.

Time Considerations and Requirements

1. A formal entrance conference will be held annually to review:
 - audit objectives and strategies
 - current year considerations
 - new accounting and auditing developments
 - changes in State and Federal government regulations and deadlines
2. Annually prior to the start of the audit, the University will update the auditor of any required changes in report deadlines which may be issued by the Comptroller General of South Carolina.
3. Audit work will begin at a time mutually agreed upon by the successful Offeror and the University. University Statements are ready usually by August. Sampling of transactions and review of procedures etc, can start at any time mutually agreed upon.
4. Preliminary report including auditor’s opinion letter and management letter draft must be submitted to the Office of the FMU Assistant Vice President for Accounting.
5. A formal exit conference will be held with appropriate University and Foundation representatives for their respective engagements. The University will be allowed to provide a written response to the current management letter and to any findings of noncompliance. This response will be included in the bound audit report (behind the management letter) upon issuance.
6. Final reports must be delivered to the South Carolina Comptroller General’s Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on the following dates:

	<u>Preliminary Drafts</u>	<u>Final Reports</u>
Financial Statement Audit	September 15	September 30
OMB Compliance Supplement	September 15	September 30

The University’s financial statements are included in the statewide GAAP financial statements for the State of South Carolina. These are absolute deadlines because the

audited financial statements will be incorporated in the South Carolina Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Contractual Arrangements

An award letter will be issued by the University to the successful Offeror. The award letter will specify the maximum fee to be paid for performance of the proposed audit as set forth in the successful proposal and will be for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2025, 2026, and 2027.

Any expansion of services resulting in an increase in the maximum fee must have the prior written approval of the University no less than 60 calendar days prior to any fiscal year end.

The proposal must include a statement that either the University or the successful Offeror can cancel this agreement, without cause, by written notice delivered no less than 120 calendar days prior to any fiscal year end

Progress billings will be accepted up to 50% of the total fee. Billings are to be based on percent of completion. Billing for the final 50% of the fee will be accepted upon final acceptance of the financial reports. The University reserves the right to adjust the percentages (up or down) based on your meeting agreed delivery dates in previous year(s). All invoices must include your Federal Employer Identification number.

Report Delivery

As specified in the Time Considerations and Requirements section of this RFP, the Auditor must deliver to the Office of the FMU Assistant Vice President for Accounting copies of the final audit report as follows:

- 1. Five copies for general distribution.**
- 2. One copy for each current board member (current quantity 20).**
- 3. The number of copies requested by the University for University use.**
- 4. One electronic copy of the audit report, including management's response to any management letter comments.**

Working Papers

1. Working papers will be retained by the successful Offeror for three years or until advised otherwise by the University in writing.
2. Working papers must be made available on site without charge for examination by representatives of the University and the Federal Government.
3. The successful Offeror must make all working papers physically available at the audit site without charge to the auditor who audits the subsequent fiscal year.

NCAA AUDIT SERVICES

Basic Requirements

Each proposal must address itself to the conduct of the NCAA Division II required agreed upon procedures for the **year ending June 30, 2027** to assist the University in evaluating whether its statement of athletic revenues and expenses is in compliance with the NCAA Bylaws in effect. The proposal must address itself to the conduct and performance of these procedures in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Time Considerations and Requirements

University statements will be ready by October 31. Audit work will begin at a time mutually agreed upon by the successful Offeror and the University.

Preliminary report must be submitted to the office of the Assistant Vice President for Accounting.

Final reports must be delivered to the office of the Assistant Vice President for Accounting no later than 4:30 p.m. on the following dates:

Preliminary Drafts: December 15

Final Drafts: January 10

Report Delivery

As specified in the Time Consideration and Requirements section of this RFP, the auditor must deliver to the office of the Assistant Vice President for Accounting copies of the final agreed upon procedures report as follows:

1. One copy for the University President
2. The number of copies requested by the University for its own use
3. One electronic copy of the report

Working Papers

4. Working papers will be retained by the successful Offeror for three years or until advised otherwise by the University in writing.
5. Working papers must be made available on site without charge for examination by representatives of the University and the Federal Government.
6. The successful Offeror must make all working papers physically available at the audit site without charge to the auditor who audits the subsequent fiscal year.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES (if requested)

BOND-RELATED ISSUES

As a separate issue, the University may request assistance in bond-related issues. In Section VIII (Pricing Proposal) of this document, the University requests an all-inclusive, per issue fee to be charged to review revenue bond documents which include the audited financial statements.

Francis Marion University has one Athletic Facility Bond series 2022 in the amount of \$8,610,000. The proceeds were used to renovate athletic facilities. These bonds are secured by student fee revenue.

The FMU Development Foundation has two series of bond issues. The 2014a is a \$12,575,000, refinance of the 2004 series bond used to construct Phase I of the Forest Villas and the 2021a&b series bond is a \$7,555,000 refinance of the 2006 series bonds used to construct Phase II of the Forest Villas. Both bond issuances are secured by student housing rental revenue.

PROFESSIONAL/CONSULTING SERVICES

The successful Offeror may be requested to provide additional professional/consulting services to address areas of special emphasis defined by the University. Optional professional/consulting services must be specified on an hourly rate by staffing and skill level as denoted in Section VIII (Pricing Proposal) of this document.

Contractual Arrangements

Progress Billings: Progress billings will be accepted up to 50% of the total fee. Billings are to be based on percent of completion. Billing for the final 50% of the fee will be accepted upon final acceptance of the financial reports. The University reserves the right to adjust the percentages (up or down) based on the firm meeting agreed dates in previous year(s).

Change Orders/Additional Services: Any expansion of services resulting in an increase in the maximum fee must have the prior written approval of the University no less than 60 calendar days prior to any fiscal year end.

Termination by University or Contractor (Auditor): See Termination related clauses in Section VII. entitled "Terms and Conditions – A. General" of this document.

NOTE: UPON AWARD, THE WINNING VENDOR WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

Certificate(s) of Insurance meeting the requirements of the "Contractor's Liability Insurance (MAR 2013)" under Section VII. Terms and Conditions B. Special

IV. INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT

Number of Proposal Copies to be submitted: **[See cover page]**

Financial Considerations must be submitted in one **separate, sealed envelope**.

INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT -- EVALUATION (JAN 2006)

In addition to information requested elsewhere in this solicitation, offerors should submit the following information for purposes of evaluation:

PROPOSAL CONTENTS

To be considered for award, all proposals must include, as a minimum, the following information. **All information should be presented in the listed order with each section titled using the appropriate heading:**

INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT -- EVALUATION (JAN 2006)

In addition to information requested elsewhere in this solicitation, offerors should submit the following information for purposes of evaluation:
[04-4005-1]

Offerors should restate each of the items below and provide their response to that item immediately after.

All information should be presented in the listed order:

Title Page

Show the RFP subject, the name of the Offeror's firm, local address, telephone number, name and title of the contact person, and the date.

Table of Contents

Include a clear identification of the material by section and by page number.

Letter of Transmittal - Limit to one or two pages.

1. Briefly state the Offeror's understanding of the work to be done and make a positive commitment to perform the work within the time period.
2. State that:
 - a) The audit is being performed on behalf of Francis Marion University.
 - b) That Francis Marion University is your client.
 - c) The University will be responsible for payment of the audit fee.
 - d) The University or the successful Offeror can cancel this agreement, without cause, by written notice delivered no less than 120 calendar days prior to any fiscal year end.
3. State the names of the persons who will be authorized to make representations for the Offeror, their titles, addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and email addresses.
4. State that the person signing the letter will be authorized to bind the Offeror.
5. State the name of the partner assigned to this engagement and also, the name of the partner assigned the responsibility for the quality of the report and working papers. Provide their telephone numbers, fax numbers and email addresses for use by the University.
6. State that the partner(s) and auditor-in-charge assigned to this engagement will be furnished copies of this RFP and their attention will be specifically directed to the following captions in Section I:
 - Nature of Services Required
 - Report Requirements

- Time Considerations and Requirements
 - Contractual Arrangements
 - Report Review, Timing and Number of Copies
 - Working Papers
7. State that the partner responsible for report quality will submit with the preliminary draft a signed statement certifying that in the responsible partner's professional opinion, the preliminary draft is a completed document and ready to be issued.

Cost Factor

- State the all-inclusive fee for which the audit work will be done for each of the three years to be audited. State that this all-inclusive fee includes all out of pocket costs.
- State the separate fee, if any, to review revenue bond documents which include the audited financial statements. This must be an all-inclusive, per issue amount.
- State separately the hourly rates, by position, for consulting services outside the scope of the audit.

Profile of the Offeror

1. State whether the firm is local, regional, national, or international.
2. State the location of the office from which the work is to be done and the number of partners, managers, supervisors, seniors, and other professional staff employed at that office.
3. Describe the range of activities performed by the local office such as auditing, accounting, tax service, or management services.

Summary of the Offeror's Qualifications

1. State the identity of the supervisors who will work on the audit, including staff from other than the local office. Resumes including relevant experience and continuing education for each supervisory person to be assigned to the audit should be included. (The resumes may be included as an appendix). Specify governmental CPE attended in the past 24 months by the partner(s) and auditor-in-charge to be assigned to this audit.
2. Describe the recent local office auditing experience similar to the type of audit requested, and give the names and telephone numbers of client officials responsible for three of the audits listed.

3. State that your firm is aware of the current GAO Yellow Book requirements concerning continuing education and peer review and that you will be in compliance with them during the term of this contract.
4. Provide a listing of higher education audit clients served over the past 5 years.
5. Describe the firm's policy on partner, manager, and staff rotation, both during audit fieldwork and between audits from one year to the next.
6. If the firm is subject of any litigation or professional disciplinary actions that might adversely affect its ability to carry out a multi-year audit engagement, describe the litigation or disciplinary action. Additionally, if any member of the proposed engagement team or their respective office has been subject to any professional disciplinary action within the last 10 years, please describe the matter and how it was resolved.

Offeror's Approach to the Audit

Submit a work plan to accomplish the scope defined in Section III of this RFP. The work plan should include time estimates for each significant segment of the work and the staff level to be assigned. Where possible, individual staff members should be named. The planned use of specialists should be specified.

1. Financial Audit

- a) State that the audit will be made in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the provisions of *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Uniform Guidance; and, the provisions of the Office of the Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement*.
- b) State that the primary purpose of the audit is to express an opinion on the financial statements and that an audit is subject to the inherent risk that errors or irregularities may not be detected. State that if conditions are discovered which lead to the belief that material errors, defalcations, or other irregularities may exist, or if any other circumstances are encountered that require extended services, the auditor will promptly advise the University, and finally, state that no extended services will be performed unless they are authorized in writing by the University.

2. Compliance Audit

Nature of Services Required: in accordance with the auditing standards set forth in Section III. of the RFP, the Offeror will select the necessary procedures to test compliance and to disclose noncompliance with specified laws, regulations, and contracts.

3. Partner Rotation

Describe the audit firm's policy on audit partner rotation.

Compensation

- State the total hours and hourly rate required by staff classification and the resulting all-inclusive maximum fee, including out of pocket costs, for which the requested work will be done. A separate all-inclusive fee must be stated for each of the three years.
- State the separate all-inclusive, per issue fee to be charged to review revenue bond documents which include the audited financial statements.
- State an hourly fee, by position, for consulting services.

Additional Data

Since the preceding sections are to contain only data that is specifically requested, any additional information considered essential to the proposal should be included in this section.

The Offeror's general information publications, such as directories or client lists, should not be included. If there is no additional information to present, state "There is no additional information we wish to present".

A. Qualifications:

- Address in writing items as required in Section V. of this document – clause entitled: **“QUALIFICATIONS – REQUIRED INFORMATION (MAR 2015)”**
- Provide a brief history and description of your company to include size, number of years in vending business, number of employees, and proof of financial stability.
- Detail experience providing services as indicated in this RFP with public and/or private sector clients with similar or greater size and complexity to Francis Marion University. Contractor must complete Attachment A “References”
- Provide a brief profile of proposed company personnel (including the local contract supervisor and service representative) who would plan, design, manage, and maintain the equipment and facilities covered under this contract including name, qualifications, experience and distance from the FMU campus.

- Describe the steps your company would take to ensure that only individuals of the highest quality are employed to provide services for the University.

B. Pricing:

- 1) The original hard copy Price Proposal **shall be sealed in a separate envelope** labeled “Price Proposal” and shall include Page 1 of this solicitation and **Section VIII. BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL**, of this solicitation document.
 - A digital version (duplicate copy) of the Price Proposal shall be submitted on the same USB device as the Technical proposal in a separate file.

C. AN ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL PROPOSAL (AFP) which includes pricing for an additional two years (total cost of contract for 5 years).

- The original hard copy of Alternative Financial Proposal **shall be sealed in a separate envelope** labeled “Alternative Price Proposal” and shall include Page 1 of this solicitation.
- The University requests that this alternative financial proposal includes the total cost for the contract for five (5) years. This cost shall include all labor and materials to provide audit services as specified herein.
- A digital version of the AFP shall be submitted on the same USB device as the Technical proposal in a separate file.

Note: The Alternative Financial Proposal (AFP) is required to be submitted for your entire proposal to be considered responsive. The Alternative Financial Proposal will hold no weight in the evaluation process; however, the AFP will be subject to negotiations with the most responsive and responsible offeror. This proposal shall be submitted as a separate file titled “Alternative Financial Proposal Including cost for two additional years”.

D. Provide Certificate of Insurance which meets requirements outlined in SECTION VII. “TERMS AND CONDITIONS - B. SPECIAL” under the heading “CONTRACTOR'S LIABILITY INSURANCE.”

E. Completed Attachment C “Certification of Financial Condition.”

F. Complete Other Attachments as Required

G. Complete Minority Participation Information below:

INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT – MODIFIED (FMU OCT 2018):

You shall submit a signed Cover Page and Page Two. Your offer should include 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 Part IX. Attachments to Solicitations. You should submit a summary of all insurance policies you have or plan to acquire to comply with the insurance requirements stated herein, if any, including policy types; coverage types; limits, sub-limits, and deductibles for each policy and coverage type; the carrier’s A.M. Best rating; and whether the policy is written on an occurrence or claims-made basis. [04-4010-2]

MINORITY PARTICIPATION (JAN 2006)

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? _____

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? _____

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.)

For a list of certified minority firms, please consult the Minority Business Directory, which is available at the following URL:<http://www.govoepp.state.sc.us/osmba/>
[04-4015-1]

OFFSHORE CONTRACTING (JAN 2006)

Work that will be performed offshore by the Offeror and/or its subcontractors must be identified in the Offeror's response. For the purpose of this solicitation, offshore is defined as outside the 50 States and US territories. Offeror is to include an explanation for the following:

(a) What type of work is being contracted offshore? _____

(b) What percentage (%) of the total work is being contracted offshore? _____

(c) What percentage (%) of the total value of the contract is being contracted offshore?

(d) Provide a Service Level Agreement (SLA) demonstrating the arrangement between the off-shore contractor and the Offeror. Attach Service Level Agreement to this document or paste here. Data provided by the Offeror in regards to this clause is for information only and will not be used in the evaluation and determination of an award.
[04-4020-1]

SUBMITTING REDACTED OFFERS

(FMU 2022)

If your offer includes any information that you marked as “Confidential,” “Trade Secret,” or “Protected” in accordance with the clause entitled “Submitting Confidential Information,” you must also submit one complete copy of your offer from which you have removed or concealed such information (the redacted copy). The redacted copy should (i) reflect the same pagination as the original, (ii) show the empty space from which information was redacted, and (iii) **be submitted on magnetic media. (See clause entitled “Electronic Copies - Required Media and Format.”)** Except for the information removed or concealed, the redacted copy must be identical to your original offer, and the Procurement Officer must be able to view, search, copy and print the redacted copy without a password. **NOTE: Offerors are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to submit a redacted copy of their Technical Proposal on a flash drive. Otherwise, all information provided may be shared with others in subsequent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests.**

V. QUALIFICATIONS

QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR (MAR 2015)

(1) To be eligible for award, you must have the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance. We may also consider a documented commitment from a satisfactory source that will provide you with a capability. We may consider information from any source at any time prior to award. We may elect to consider (i) key personnel, any predecessor business, and any key personnel of any predecessor business, including any facts arising prior to the date a business was established, and/or (ii) any subcontractor you identify.

(2) You must promptly furnish satisfactory evidence of responsibility upon request. Unreasonable failure to supply requested information is grounds for rejection. (3) **Corporate subsidiaries are cautioned that the financial capability of an affiliated or parent company will not be considered in determining financial capability**; however, we may elect to consider any security, e.g., letter of credit, performance bond, parent-company corporate guaranty, that you offer to provide. Instructions and forms to help assure acceptability are posted on procurement.sc.gov, link to "Standard Clauses & Provisions." [05-5005-2]

QUALIFICATIONS – REQUIRED INFORMATION (MAR 2015)

Submit the following information or documentation for you and for any subcontractor (at any tier level) that you identify pursuant to the clause titled Subcontractor – Identification. Err on the side of inclusion. You represent that the information provided is complete.

- (a) The general history and experience of the business in providing work of similar size and scope.
- (b) A detailed, narrative statement listing the three most recent, comparable contracts (including contact information) which have been performed. For each contract, describe how the services provided are similar to those requested by this solicitation, and how they differ.
- (c) A list of every business for which services substantially similar to those sought with this solicitation have been provided, at any time during the past three years.
- (d) A list of every South Carolina public body for which services have been provided at any time during the past three years, if any.
- (e) List of failed projects, suspensions, debarments, and significant litigation. [05-5015-2]

QUALIFICATIONS - SPECIAL STANDARDS OF RESPONSIBILITY (MAR 2015):

(a) This section establishes special standards of responsibility. UNLESS YOU POSSESS THE FOLLOWING MANDATORY MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS, DO NOT SUBMIT AN OFFER:

A. Offeror must be a properly licensed certified public accountant.

B. Offeror must be either currently licensed in South Carolina or is a nonresident properly registered under Section 40-2-250 of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, and the associated Regulation, 1-10. An affirmation that a nonresident Offeror will become properly registered prior to commencing work will be acceptable.

C. Offeror must meet the independence standards of the *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

D. Offeror must be capable of meeting time consideration requirements as shown in Section III Scope of Work/Specifications.

E. Offeror shall affirm that it does not discriminate in employment of persons upon the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age or physical handicap.

F. Offeror shall certify that, in accordance with Section 44-107-10 through 44-107-90 of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, you will provide a drug-free workplace during the term of this contract.

G. Offeror has not been suspended/debarred from doing federal audits.

H. Offeror shall maintain on file with the University a Certificate of Insurance for the protection of the University. The successful Offeror shall maintain throughout the performance of its obligations under this contract a policy or policies of Workers' Compensation Insurance, a policy or policies of general liability insurance, and a policy or policies of Automobile Liability Insurance.

(b) Provide a detailed, narrative statement providing adequate information to establish that you meet all the requirements stated in subparagraph (a) above. Include all appropriate documentation. The Procurement Officer may, in his discretion, consider (1) the experience of a predecessor firm or of a firm's key personnel which was obtained prior to the date offeror was established, and/or (2) any subcontractor proposed by offeror.

SUBCONTRACTOR --IDENTIFICATION (FEB 2015)

If you intend to subcontract, at any tier level, with another business for any portion of the work and that portion either (1) exceeds 10% of your cost, (2) involves access to any "government information," as defined in the clause entitled "Information Security -Definitions," if included, or (3) otherwise involves services critical to your performance of the work (err on the side of inclusion), your offer must identify that business and the 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 state may contact and evaluate your proposed subcontractors.

VI. AWARD CRITERIA

AWARD CRITERIA -- PROPOSALS (JAN 2006)

Award will be made to the highest ranked, responsive and responsible offeror whose offer is determined to be the most advantageous to the State. [06-6030-1]

AWARD TO ONE OFFEROR (JAN 2006)

Award will be made to one Offeror. [06-6040-1]

AWARD BY LOT (JAN 2006): Award will be made by complete lot(s). [06-6015-1]

COMPETITION FROM PUBLIC ENTITIES (JAN 2006)

If a South Carolina governmental entity submits an offer, the Procurement Officer will, when determining the lowest offer, add to the price provided in any offers submitted by non-governmental entities a percentage equivalent to any applicable sales or use tax. S.C. Code Ann. Regs 117-304.1 (Supp. 2004). [06-6057-1]

DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS – OPTIONAL (FEB 2015)

Submit your best terms from both a price and 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 without prior notice. 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. [11-35-1530(6); R.19-445.2095(I)] If improper revisions are

submitted during discussions, the State may elect to consider only your unrevised initial proposal, provided your initial offer is responsive. 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). Negotiations may involve both price and matters affecting the scope of the contract, so long as changes are within the general scope of the request for proposals. If negotiations are conducted, the State may elect to disregard the negotiations and accept your original proposal. [06-6058-1]

EVALUATION FACTORS -- PROPOSALS (JAN 2006)

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.

1. **Qualifications:** Points shall be awarded based on Offeror's experience and qualifications in providing Financial Audit Services similar in nature and scope to those outlined herein.
2. **Plan:** Points shall be awarded based on Offeror's demonstrated plan to successfully provide Financial Audit Services as specified in this solicitation, including the Offeror's understanding of the scope of work and ability to meet or exceed all of the specifications for the RFP along with the Offeror's work plan.
3. **Business Proposal:** Proposal shall contain (**in a separate, sealed envelope**) the Offeror's response to **Section VIII. BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL.**

NOTE: Business Proposal calculated by Purchasing Department only.

UNIT PRICE GOVERNS (JAN 2006): In determining award, unit prices will govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated.

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS -- A. GENERAL

ASSIGNMENT, NOVATION, AND CHANGE OF NAME, IDENTITY, OR STRUCTURE (FEB 2015)

(a) Contractor shall not assign this contract, or its rights, obligations, or any other interest arising from this contract, or delegate any of its performance obligations, without the express written consent of the responsible procurement officer. The foregoing restriction does not apply to a transfer that occurs by operation of law (e.g., bankruptcy; corporate reorganizations and consolidations, but not including partial asset sales). Notwithstanding the foregoing, contractor may assign monies receivable under the contract provided that the state shall have no obligation to make payment to an assignee until thirty days after contractor (not the assignee) has provided the responsible procurement officer with (i) proof of the assignment, (ii) the identity (by contract number) of the specific state contract to which the assignment applies, and (iii) the name of the assignee and the exact address or account information to which assigned payments should be made. (b) If contractor amends, modifies, or otherwise changes its name, its identity (including its trade name), or its corporate, partnership or other structure, or its FEIN, contractor shall provide the procurement officer prompt written notice of such change. (c) Any name change, transfer, assignment, or novation is subject to the conditions and approval required by Regulation 19-445.2180, which does not restrict transfers by operation of law. [07-7A004-2]

BANKRUPTCY - GENERAL (FEB 2015)

(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 two (2) 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. [07-7A005-2]

CHOICE-OF-LAW (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A010-1]

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS & ORDER OF PRECEDENCE (FEB 2015)

(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) the solicitation, as amended, (3) documentation of clarifications [11-35-1520(8)] or discussions [11-35-1530(6)] of an offer, if applicable, (4) your offer, (5) any statement reflecting the state's final acceptance (a/k/a "award"), and (6) 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 (5) above shall apply notwithstanding any additional or different terms and conditions in any other document, including without limitation, (i) a purchase order or other instrument submitted by the State, (ii) any invoice or other document submitted by Contractor, or (iii) any privacy policy, terms of use, or end user agreement. 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. [07-7A015-2]

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT (JAN 2006)

(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 [07-7A020-1]

DISPUTES (JAN 2006)

(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. [07-7A025-1]

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A030-1]

FALSE CLAIMS (JAN 2006)

According to the S.C. Code of Laws Section 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. [07-7A035-1]

FIXED PRICING REQUIRED (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A040-1]

NO INDEMNITY OR DEFENSE (FEB 2015)

Any term or condition is void to the extent it requires the State to indemnify, defend, or pay attorney's fees to anyone for any reason. [07-7A045-2]

NOTICE (JAN 2006)

(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. [07-7A050-1]

PAYMENT & INTEREST (FEB 2021)

(a) 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 electronic funds transfer (EFT). See clause titled " EFT Information." (c) Notwithstanding any other provision, payment shall be made in accordance with S.C. Code Section 11-35-45, or Chapter 6 of Title 29 (real property improvements) when applicable, 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, unless otherwise required by Section 29-6-30. (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. Section 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. (f) The State shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off. [07-7A055-4]

PUBLICITY (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A060-1]

PURCHASE ORDERS (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A065-1]

SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATIONS (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A075-1]

TAXES (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A080-1]

TERMINATION DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDS (JAN 2006)

Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefor. 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. [07-7A085-1]

THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A090-1]

WAIVER (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7A095-1]

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS -- B. SPECIAL

BANKRUPTCY –GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (FEB 2015)

(a) All government information (as defined in the clause herein entitled "Information Security -Definitions") shall belong exclusively to the State, and Contractor has no legal or equitable interest in, or claim to, such information. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that in the event Contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary, government information in its possession and/or under its control will not be considered property of its bankruptcy estate. (b) Contractor agrees to notify the State within forty-eight (48) hours of any determination that it makes to file for bankruptcy protection, and Contractor further agrees to turn over to the State, before such filing, all government information that is in Contractor's possession in a format that can be readily utilized by the State. (c) In order to protect the integrity and availability of government information, Contractor shall take reasonable measures to evaluate and monitor the financial circumstances of any subcontractor that will process, store, transmit or access government information.

[07-7B007-1]

CHANGES (JAN 2006)

(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. [07-7B025-1]

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS (JAN 2006)

During the term of the contract, Contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of laws, codes, ordinances, rules, regulations, and tariffs.

The contractor will be required to comply with all laws, rules and regulations applicable to dining facilities or to the service of meals therein promulgated by any federal, state or county government, bureau or department. The contractor shall maintain a DHEC A rating within the scope of their contract responsibilities. [07-7B035-1]

CONFERENCE – PRE-PERFORMANCE (FMU September 2017)

Unless waived by the Procurement Officer, a pre-performance conference between the Contractor, state and Procurement Officer shall be held at a location selected by the University within fifteen (15) days after final award, and prior to commencement of work under the contract. The responsibilities of all parties involved will be discussed to assure a meeting of the minds of all concerned. The successful Contractor or his duly authorized representative shall be required to attend at Contractor's expense.

Pre-performance Conference is to discuss expectations from both sides and to get an understanding of "move-in" times, etc.

CONTRACT LIMITATIONS (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7B045-1]

CONTRACTOR'S LIABILITY INSURANCE -GENERAL (FMU 2020)

(a) Without limiting any of the obligations or liabilities of Contractor, Contractor shall procure from a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in South Carolina and with a current A.M. Best rating of no less than A: VII, and maintain for the duration of the contract, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work and the results of that work by the Contractor, his agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors.

(b) Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

(1) Commercial General Liability (CGL): Insurance Services Office (ISO) Form CG 00 01 12 07 covering CGL on an "occurrence" basis, including products-completed operations, personal and advertising injury, with limits no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit. This contract shall be considered to be an "insured contract" as defined in the policy.

(2) Auto Liability: ISO Form Number CA 00 01 covering any auto (Code 1), or if Contractor has no owned autos, hired, (Code 8) and non-owned autos (Code 9), with limits no less than \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage.

(3) Worker's Compensation: As required by the State of South Carolina, with Statutory Limits, and Employer's Liability Insurance with limit of no less than \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.

(c) Every applicable Using Governmental Unit, and the officers, officials, employees and volunteers of any of them, must be covered as additional insureds on the CGL policy with respect to liability arising out of work or operations performed by or on behalf of the Contractor including materials, parts or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations. General liability coverage can be provided in the form of an endorsement to the Contractor's insurance at least as broad as ISO Form CG 20 10 11 85 or if not available, through the addition of both CG 20 10 and CG 20 37 if a later edition is used.

The endorsement must contain the following language:

“Francis Marion University, including its current and former trustees, officers, directors, employees, volunteer workers, agents, assigns and students, is added to this policy as additional insured.”

(d) For any claims related to this contract, the Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the State, every applicable Using Governmental Unit, and the officers, officials, employees and volunteers of any of them. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the State, every applicable Using Governmental Unit, or the officers, officials, employees and volunteers of any of them, shall be excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

(e) Prior to commencement of the work, the Contractor shall furnish the State with original certificates and

amendatory endorsements or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required by this section. All certificates are to be received and approved by the State before work commences. However, failure to obtain the required documents prior to the work beginning shall not waive the Contractor's obligation to provide them. The State reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by this section, at any time.

(f) Should any of the above described policies be cancelled before the expiration date thereof, notice will be delivered in accordance with the policy provisions. In addition, the Contractor shall notify the State immediately upon receiving any information that any of the coverages required by this section are or will be changed, cancelled, or replaced.

(g) Contractor hereby grants to the State and every applicable Using Governmental Unit a waiver of any right to subrogation which any insurer of said Contractor may acquire against the State or applicable Using Governmental Unit by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance. Contractor agrees to obtain any endorsement that may be necessary to effect this waiver of subrogation, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not the State or Using Governmental Unit has received a waiver of subrogation endorsement from the insurer.

(h) Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by the State. The State may require the Contractor to purchase coverage with a lower deductible or retention or provide proof of ability to pay losses and related investigations, claim administration, and defense expenses within the retention.

(i) The State reserves the right to modify these requirements, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.

CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL (JAN 2006)

The Contractor shall enforce strict discipline and good order among the Contractor's employees and other persons carrying out the Contract. The Contractor shall not permit employment of unfit persons or persons not skilled in tasks assigned to them. [07-7B060-1]

CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATION --GENERAL (JAN 2006)

The Contractor shall provide and pay for all materials, tools, equipment, labor and professional and non-professional services, and shall perform all other acts and supply all other things necessary, to fully and properly perform and complete the work. The Contractor must act as the prime Contractor and assume full responsibility for any subcontractor's performance. The Contractor will be considered the sole point of contact with regard to all situations, including payment of all charges and the meeting of all other requirements. [07-7B065-1]

CONTRACTOR'S USE OF STATE PROPERTY (JAN 2006)

Upon termination of the contract for any reason, the State shall have the right, upon demand, to obtain access to, and possession of, all State properties, including, but not limited to, current copies of all State application programs and necessary documentation, all data, files, intermediate materials and supplies held by the Contractor. Contractor shall not use, reproduce, distribute, display, or sell any data, material, or documentation owned exclusively by the State without the State's written consent, except to the extent necessary to carry out the work. [07-7B067-1]

DEFAULT (JAN 2006)

(a) (1) The State 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 State'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 State 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 State 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 State may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to the State, 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 State has an interest.

(f) The State 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 State may withhold from these amounts any sum the Procurement Officer determines to be necessary to protect the State 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 State, be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the State. If, in the foregoing circumstances, this contract does not contain a clause providing for termination for convenience of the State, 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 State in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract. [07-7B075-1]

DISPOSAL OF PACKAGING (JAN 2006)

Contractor shall dispose of all wrappings, crating, and other disposable materials pertaining to this contract at the end of each working day and upon completion of installation. [07-7B085-1]

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION (NOV 2008)

(An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) By signing your offer, you certify that you will comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and agree to provide to the State upon request any documentation required to establish either: (a) that Title 8, Chapter 14 is inapplicable to you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors; or (b) that you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors are in compliance with Title 8, Chapter 14. Pursuant to Section 8-14-60, "A person who knowingly makes or files any false, fictitious, or fraudulent document, statement, or report pursuant to this chapter is guilty of a felony, and, upon conviction, must be fined within the discretion of the court or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both." You agree to include in any

contracts with your subcontractors language requiring your subcontractors to (a) comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14, and (b) include in their contracts with the sub-subcontractors language requiring the sub-subcontractors to comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14. [07-7B097-1]

INDEMNIFICATION-THIRD PARTY CLAIMS -GENERAL (NOV 2011)

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. [07-7B100-2]

INDEMNIFICATION -THIRD PARTY CLAIMS – DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION (FEB 2015)

(a) Without limitation, Contractor shall defend and hold harmless Indemnitees from and against any and all suits, claims, investigations, or fines (hereinafter "action") of any character (and all related damages, settlement payments, attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, losses or liabilities) by a third party which arise out of or in connection with a disclosure of government information (as defined in the clause titled Information Security -Definitions) caused in whole or in part by any act or omission of Contractor, its subcontractors at any tier, 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 action is brought by a third party or an Indemnitee, but only if the act or omission constituted a failure to perform some obligation imposed by the contract or the law.

(b) Indemnitee must notify Contractor in writing within a reasonable period of time after Indemnitee first receives written notice of any action. Indemnitee's failure to provide or delay in providing such notice will relieve Contractor of its obligations under this clause only if and to the extent that such delay or failure materially prejudices Contractor's ability to defend such action. Indemnitee must reasonably cooperate with Contractor's defense of such actions (such cooperation does not require and is without waiver of an Indemnitee's attorney/client, work product, or other privilege) and, subject to Title 1, Chapter 7 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, allow Contractor sole control of the defense, so long as the defense is diligently and capably prosecuted. Indemnitee may participate in Contractor's defense of any action at its own expense. Contractor may not, without Indemnitee's prior written consent, settle, compromise, or consent to the entry of any judgment in any such commenced or threatened action unless such settlement, compromise or consent (i) includes an unconditional release of Indemnitee from all liability related to such commenced or threatened action, and (ii) is solely monetary in nature and does not include a statement as to, or an admission of fault, culpability or failure to act by or on behalf of, an Indemnitee or otherwise adversely affect an Indemnitee. Indemnitee's consent is necessary for any settlement that requires Indemnitee to part with any right or make any payment or subjects Indemnitee to any injunction.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision, Contractor's obligations pursuant to this clause are without any limitation whatsoever. Contractor's obligations under this clause shall survive the termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration of the contract. This provision shall be construed fairly and reasonably, neither strongly for nor against either party, and without regard to any clause regarding insurance.

(d) "Indemnitee" means the State of South Carolina, its instrumentalities, agencies, departments, boards, political subdivisions and all their respective officers, agents and employees. [07-7B102-1]

INFORMATION SECURITY -DEFINITIONS (FEB 2015)

The following definitions are used in those clauses that cross reference this clause.

Compromise means disclosure of information to unauthorized persons, or a violation of the security policy of a system in which unauthorized intentional or unintentional disclosure, modification, destruction, or loss of an object may have occurred. Without

limitation, the term "compromise" includes copying the data through covert network channels, or copying the data to unauthorized media, or disclosure of information in violation of any obligation imposed by this contract.

Data means a subset of information in an electronic format that allows it to be retrieved or transmitted.

Government information means information (i) provided to Contractor by, or generated by Contractor for, the using governmental unit, or (ii) acquired or accessed by Contractor as a result of performing the Work. Without limiting the foregoing, government information includes any information that Contractor acquires or accesses by software or web-based services, which includes, without limitation, any metadata or location data. Government information excludes unrestricted information.

Information means any communication or representation of knowledge such as facts, statistics, or opinions, in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual.

Information system means a discrete set of information resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information.

Public information means any specific information, regardless of form or format, that the State has actively and intentionally disclosed, disseminated, or made available to the public. Information is not public information solely because it may be subject to inspection pursuant to an unfulfilled public records request.

Software means any computer program accessed or used by the Using Governmental Unit or a third party pursuant to or as a result of this contract.

Third party means any person or entity other than the Using Governmental Unit, the Contractor, or any subcontractors at any tier.

Unrestricted information means (1) public information acquired other than through performance of the work, (2) information acquired by Contractor prior to contract formation, (3) information incidental to your contract administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing, or management information, and (4) any ideas,

concepts, know-how, methodologies, processes, technologies, techniques which Contractor develops or learns in connection with performance per Contractor's performance of the performance of the work.

Web-based service means a service accessed over the Internet and acquired, accessed, or used by the using governmental unit or a third party pursuant to or as a result of this contract, including without limitation, cloud services, software-as-a-service, and hosted computer services.

[07-7B104-1]

INFORMATION SECURITY - SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS (FEB 2015)

(a) Definitions. The terms used in this clause shall have the same meaning as the terms defined in the clause titled Information Security

– Definitions. In addition, as used in this clause—

Clearing means removal of data from an information system, its storage devices, and other peripheral devices with storage capacity, in such a way that the data may not be reconstructed using common system capabilities (i.e., through the keyboard); however, the data may be reconstructed using laboratory methods.

Intrusion means an unauthorized act of bypassing the security mechanisms of a system.

Media means physical devices or writing surfaces including but not limited to magnetic tapes, optical disks, magnetic disks, portable hard drives, "thumb" drives, large scale integration memory chips, and printouts (but not including display media, e.g., a computer monitor, cathode ray tube (CRT) or other (transient) visual output)

onto which information is recorded, stored, or printed within an information system.

Safeguarding means measures or controls that are prescribed to protect information. Voice means all oral information regardless of transmission protocol.

(b) Safeguarding Information. Without limiting any other legal or contractual obligations, contractor shall implement and maintain reasonable and appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards (including without limitation written policies and procedures) for protection of the security, confidentiality and integrity of

the government information in its possession. In addition, contractor shall apply security controls when the contractor reasonably determines that safeguarding requirements, in addition to those identified in paragraph (c) of this clause, may be required to provide adequate security, confidentiality and integrity in a dynamic environment based on an assessed risk or vulnerability.

(c) Safeguarding requirements and procedures. Contractor shall apply the following basic safeguarding requirements to protect government information from unauthorized access and disclosure: (1) Protecting information on public computers or Web sites: Do not process government information on public computers (e.g., those available for use by the general public in kiosks, hotel business centers) or computers that do not have access control. Government information shall not be posted on Web sites that are publicly available or have access limited only by domain/Internet Protocol restriction. Such information may be posted to web pages that control access by user ID/password, user certificates, or other technical means, and that provide protection via use of security technologies. Access control may be provided by the intranet (versus the Web site itself or the application it hosts). (2) Transmitting electronic information. Transmit email, text messages, blogs, and similar communications that contain government information using technology and processes that provide the best level of security and privacy available, given facilities, conditions, and environment. (3) Transmitting voice and fax information. Transmit government information via voice and fax only when the sender has a reasonable assurance that access is limited to authorized recipients. (4) Physical and electronic barriers . Protect government information by at least one physical and one electronic barrier (e.g., locked container or room, login and password) when not under direct individual control. (5) Sanitization. At a minimum, clear information on media that have been used to process government information before external release or disposal. Overwriting is an acceptable means of clearing media in accordance with National Institute of Standards and Technology 800–88, Guidelines for Media Sanitization, at http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-88/NISTSP800-88_with-errata.pdf. (6) Intrusion protection. Provide at a minimum the following protections against intrusions and compromise: (i) Current and regularly updated malware protection services, e.g., anti-virus, antispyware. (ii) Prompt application of security-relevant software upgrades, e.g., patches, service packs, and hot fixes. (7) Transfer limitations. Transfer government information only to those subcontractors that both require the information for purposes of contract performance and provide at least the same level of security as specified in this clause.

(d) Subcontracts. Any reference in this clause to Contractor also includes any subcontractor at any tier. Contractor is responsible for, and shall impose by agreement requirements at least as secure as those imposed by this clause on, any other person or entity that contractor authorizes to take action related to government information.

(e) Other contractual requirements regarding the safeguarding of information. This clause addresses basic requirements and is subordinate to any other contract clauses or requirements to the extent that it specifically provides for enhanced safeguarding of information or information or information systems. Information or information systems. [07-7B105-1]

INFORMATION USE AND DISCLOSURE (FEB 2015)

Except to the extent necessary for performance of the work, citizens should not be required to share information with those engaged by the government in order to access services provided by the government and such information should be used by those engaged by the government only to the extent necessary to perform the work acquired; accordingly, this clause addresses basic requirements for the Contractor's use and disclosure of government information, which expressly includes, but is not limited to, information provided by or obtained from the citizens. Anonymizing information does not resolve the foregoing concern. This clause should be broadly interpreted to effectuate this intent. Every obligation in this clause is material. Absent express reference to this clause, this clause supersedes any other clause to the extent of any inconsistency unless and to the extent the other clause provides greater protection for government information.

(a) Definitions. The terms used in this clause shall have the same meaning as the terms defined in the clause titled Information Security – Definitions.

(b) Legal mandates. Contractor shall be permitted to use, disclose, or retain government information to the limited extent necessary to comply with any requirement imposed on Contractor by law. If it is necessary for Contractor to use, disclose, or retain government information in order to comply with a law,

Contractor shall provide using governmental unit with written notice, including a description of the circumstances and applicable law, in advance of such use, disclosure or retention except to the extent expressly prohibited by law.

(c) Flow down. Any reference in this clause to Contractor also includes any subcontractor at any tier. Contractor is responsible for, and shall impose by agreement the requirements of this clause on, any other person or entity that contractor authorizes to take action related to government information.

(d) Collecting Information. Contractor must gather and maintain government information only to the minimum extent necessary to accomplish the work.

(e) Rights, Disclosure and Use. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this solicitation, Contractor agrees NOT to either (1) use or disclose government information, or (2) retain government information after termination or expiration of this contract. Contractor acquires no rights in any government information except the limited rights to use, disclose and retain the government information in accordance with the terms of this solicitation. To the extent reasonably necessary to perform the work, Contractor may: (i) use (including access, process, transmit, and store) and maintain the government information itself; and (ii) disclose government information to persons having a need-to-know (e.g., subcontractors). Before disclosing government information to a subcontractor or third party, Contractor shall give the using governmental unit detailed written notice of both the reason for disclosure and the identity and location of the recipient. The notice shall be provided no later than fifteen (15) business days in advance of the disclosure. (f) Return. Notwithstanding the using governmental unit's failure to perform or the pendency of a dispute, Contractor agrees to promptly deliver to the using governmental unit (or destroy, at the using governmental unit's option) all government information in its possession as and upon written request of using governmental unit (provided that, if the contract has not expired or been terminated, Contractor shall be excused from the performance of any work reasonably dependent on Contractor's further access to such government information).

(g) Privacy Policy & Applicable Laws. Without limiting any other legal or contractual obligations imposed by this contract or the law, Contractor shall (a) comply with its own privacy policies and written privacy statements relevant to the work, and (b) comply with (1) all laws applicable to Contractor regarding government information, and (2) all laws and standards identified in the clause, if included, entitled Information Use and Disclosure –Standards.

(h) Actions Following Disclosure. Immediately upon discovery of a compromise or improper use of government information, Contractor shall take such action as may be necessary to preserve forensic evidence and eliminate the cause of the compromise or improper use. As soon as practicable, but no later than twenty-four hours after discovery, Contractor shall notify using governmental unit of the compromise or improper use, including a description of the circumstances of the use or compromise. As soon as practicable after discovery, Contractor shall undertake a thorough forensic investigation of any compromise or improper use and provide the using governmental unit all information necessary to enable the using governmental unit to fully understand the nature and extent of the compromise or improper use. With regard to any compromise or improper use of government information, Contractor shall: (1) provide any notification to third parties legally required to be provided such notice by Contractor, and if not (e.g., if legally required of the using governmental unit), Contractor shall reimburse using governmental unit for the cost of providing such notifications; (2) pay all costs and expenses for at least two years of identity theft monitoring services (including without limitation, credit monitoring) and identity theft restoration services for any such affected individuals receiving notice where such services are appropriate given the circumstances of the incident and the nature of the information compromised; (3) undertake any other measures that are customary and reasonable for an entity to take when experiencing a similar disclosure, (4) pay any related fines or penalties imposed on the using governmental unit, and (5) reimburse the Using Governmental Unit all costs reasonably incurred for communications and public relations services involved in responding to the compromise or improper use. Notwithstanding any other provision, contractor's obligations pursuant to this item (h) are without limitation. (i) Survival & Remedy. All the obligations imposed by this paragraph are material. The obligations of this section shall survive termination or expiration of the contract. Without limiting any rights the using governmental unit may have, and notwithstanding any other term of this contract, Contractor agrees that using governmental unit may have no adequate remedy at law for a breach of Contractor's obligations under this clause and therefore the using governmental unit shall be entitled to pursue equitable remedies in the event of a breach of this clause.

[07-7B108-1]

LICENSES AND PERMITS (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7B115-1]

OWNERSHIP OF DATA & MATERIALS (JAN 2006)

All data, material and documentation prepared for the state pursuant to this contract shall belong exclusively to the State. [07-7B125-1]

PRICE ADJUSTMENTS (JAN 2006)

(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. [07-7B160-1]

PRICE ADJUSTMENT - LIMITED - AFTER INITIAL TERM ONLY (JAN 2006): Upon approval of the Procurement Officer, prices may be adjusted for any renewal term. Prices shall not be increased during the initial term. Any request for a price increase must be received by the Procurement Officer at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the applicable term and must be accompanied by sufficient documentation to justify the increase. If approved, a price increase becomes effective starting with the term beginning after approval. A price increase must be executed as a change order. Contractor may terminate this contract at the

end of the then current term if a price increase request is denied. Notice of termination pursuant to this paragraph must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than fifteen (15) days after the Procurement Officer sends Contractor notice rejecting the requested price increase. [07-7B165-1]

PRICE ADJUSTMENTS -- LIMITED BY CPI "OTHER GOODS and SERVICES" (JAN 2006)

Upon request and adequate justification, the Procurement Officer may grant a price increase up to, but not to exceed, the unadjusted percent change for the most recent 12 months for which data is available, that is not subject to revision, in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers (CPI-U), "Other Goods & Services" for services, as determined by the Procurement Officer. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics publishes this information on the web at www.bls.gov [07-7B175-1]

PRICING DATA --AUDIT --INSPECTION (JAN 2006)

[Clause Included Pursuant to Section 11-35-1830, -2210, & -2220] (a) Cost or Pricing Data. Upon Procurement Officer's request, you shall submit cost or pricing data, as defined by 48 C.F.R. Section 2.101 (2004), prior to either (1) any award to Contractor pursuant to 11-35-1530 or 11-35-1560, if the total contract price exceeds \$500,000, or (2) execution of a change order or contract modification with Contractor which exceeds \$100,000. Your price, including profit or fee, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the state finds that such price was increased because you furnished cost or pricing data that was inaccurate, incomplete, or not current as of the date agreed upon between parties.

(b) Records Retention. You shall maintain your records for three years from the date of final payment, or longer if requested by the chief Procurement Officer. The state may audit your records at reasonable times and places. As used in this subparagraph (b), the term "records" means any books or records that relate to cost or pricing data submitted pursuant to this clause. In addition to the obligation stated in this

subparagraph (b), you shall retain all records and allow any audits provided for by 11-35-2220(2). (c) Inspection. At reasonable times, the state may inspect any part of your place of business which is related to performance of the work. (d) Instructions Certification. When you submit data pursuant to subparagraph (a), you shall (1) do so in accordance with the instructions appearing in Table 15-2 of 48 C.F.R. Section 15.408 (2004) (adapted as necessary for the state context), and (2) submit a Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data, as prescribed by 48 CFR Section 15.406-2(a) (adapted as necessary for the state context). (e) Subcontracts. You shall include the above text of this clause in all of your subcontracts. (f) Nothing in this clause limits any other rights of the state. [07-7B185-1]

RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES (JAN 2006)

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. [07-7B205-1]

RESTRICTIONS ON PRESENTING TERMS OF USE OR OFFERING ADDITIONAL SERVICES (FEB 2015)

(a) Citizens, as well as public employees (acting in their individual capacity), should not be unnecessarily required to agree to or provide consent to policies or contractual terms in order to access services acquired by the government pursuant to this contract (hereinafter “applicable services”) or, in the case of public employees, to perform their job duties; accordingly, in performing the work, Contractor shall not require or invite any citizen or public employee to agree to or provide consent to any end user contract, privacy policy, or other terms of use (hereinafter “terms of use”) not previously approved in writing by the procurement officer. Contractor agrees that any terms of use regarding applicable services are void and of no effect.

(b) Unless expressly provided in the solicitation, public contracts are not intended to provide Contractors an opportunity to market additional products and services; accordingly, in performing the work, Contractor shall not – for itself or on behalf of any third party – offer citizens or public employees (other than the procurement officer) any additional products or services not required by the contract.

(c) Any reference to Contractor in items (a) or (b) also includes any subcontractor at any tier. Contractor is responsible for compliance with these obligations by any person or entity that Contractor authorizes to take any action related to the work.

(d) Any violation of this clause is a material breach of contract. The parties acknowledge the difficulties inherent in determining the damage from any breach of these restrictions. Contractor shall pay the state liquidated damages of \$1,000 for each contact with a citizen or end user that violates this restriction. [07-7B212-1]

TERM OF CONTRACT – EFFECTIVE DATE / INITIAL CONTRACT PERIOD (MODIFIED FMU

OCTOBER 2024): 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 for the initial Fiscal Year of 2025 to be audited. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award coinciding with the conclusion of the 2027 audit.

TERM OF CONTRACT – OPTION TO RENEW (JANUARY 2006): At the end of the initial term, and at the end of each renewal term, this contract shall automatically renew for a period of one year, unless Contractor receives notice that the State elects not to renew the contract at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of renewal. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award. [07-7B245-3]

TERM OF CONTRACT --TERMINATION BY CONTRACTOR (FMU 2024)

Contractor may terminate this contract at the end of the initial term, or any renewal term, by providing the Procurement Officer notice of its election to terminate under this clause **at least 120 days prior to the expiration of the then current term.**

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE (JAN 2006)

(1) Termination. The Procurement Officer may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. The Procurement Officer shall give written notice of the termination to the Contractor specifying the part of the contract terminated and **when termination becomes effective**.

(2) Contractor's Obligations. The Contractor shall incur no further obligations in connection with the terminated work and on the date set in the notice of termination the Contractor will stop work to the extent specified. The Contractor shall also terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work. The Contractor shall settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and orders connected with the terminated work. The Procurement Officer may direct the Contractor to assign the Contractor's right, title, and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the State. The Contractor must still complete the work not terminated by the notice of termination and may incur obligations as are necessary to do so.

(3) Right to Supplies. 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. The Contractor shall, upon direction of the Procurement Officer, protect and preserve property in the possession of the Contractor in which the State has an interest. If the Procurement Officer does not exercise this right, the Contractor shall use best efforts to sell such supplies and manufacturing materials in accordance with the standards of Uniform Commercial Code Section 2-706. Utilization of this Section in no way implies that the State has breached the contract by exercise of the Termination for Convenience Clause.

(4) Compensation. (a) The Contractor shall submit a termination claim specifying the amounts due because of the termination for convenience together with cost or pricing data required by Section 11-35-1830 bearing on such claim. If the Contractor fails to file a termination claim within one year from the effective date of termination, the Procurement Officer may pay the Contractor, if at all, an amount set in accordance with Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph.

(b) The Procurement Officer and the Contractor may agree to a settlement and that the settlement does not exceed the total contract price plus settlement costs reduced by payments previously made by the State, the proceeds of any sales of supplies and manufacturing materials under Paragraph (3) of this clause, and the contract price of the work not terminated;

(c) Absent complete agreement under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the Procurement Officer shall pay the Contractor the following amounts, provided payments agreed to under Subparagraph (b) shall not duplicate payments under this Subparagraph:

(i) contract prices for supplies or services accepted under the contract;

(ii) costs reasonably incurred in performing the terminated portion of the work less amounts paid or to be paid for accepted supplies or services;

(iii) reasonable costs of settling and paying claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts or orders pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this clause. These costs must not include costs paid in accordance with Subparagraph (c)(ii) of this paragraph;

(iv) any other reasonable costs that have resulted from the termination. The total sum to be paid the Contractor under this Subparagraph shall not exceed the total contract price plus the reasonable settlement costs of the Contractor reduced by the amount of payments otherwise made, the proceeds of any sales of supplies and manufacturing materials under Subparagraph

(b) of this Paragraph, and the contract price of work not terminated.

(d) Contractor must demonstrate any costs claimed, agreed to, or established under Subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this Paragraph using its standard record keeping system, provided such system is consistent with any applicable Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

(5) Contractor's failure to include an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not (i) affect the state's right to require the termination of a subcontract, or (ii) increase the obligation of the state beyond what it would have been if the subcontract had contained an appropriate clause. [07-7B265-1]

BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENTS (NOV 2007):

(a) Pursuant to S.C. Regulation 19-445.2100(B), this purchase order establishes a blanket purchase agreement to facilitate filling repetitive needs for small quantities of miscellaneous supplies or services. Contractor shall furnish the supplies or services described herein in general terms, if and when requested by authorized personnel during the specified period and within the stipulated aggregate amount, if any. The State is obligated only to the extent of authorized calls actually placed against this blanket purchase agreement. Only those individuals expressly identified herein, by organizational component, and within any dollar limitations identified herein, may place calls under the agreement. Calls against this blanket purchase agreement generally will be made orally, except that informal correspondence may be used when ordering against agreements outside the local trade area. Written calls may be executed. Acceptance of supplies, services, or information technology shall be indicated by signature and date on the appropriate form by authorized personnel after verification and notation of any exceptions. This agreement shall be issued for a period of no longer than 12 months.

(b) All shipments under the agreement, except subscriptions and other charges for newspapers, magazines, or other periodicals, shall be accompanied by delivery tickets or sales slips which shall contain the following minimum information: (1) name of supplier; (2) blanket purchase agreement number; (3) date of call; (4) call number; (5) itemized list of supplies or services furnished; (6) quantity, unit price, and extension of each item less applicable discounts (unit price and extensions need not be shown when incompatible with the use of automated systems, provided that the invoice is itemized to show this information); and (7) date of delivery or shipment.

The State shall choose one of the following statements:

___ A summary invoice shall be submitted at least monthly or upon expiration of the blanket purchase agreement, whichever occurs first, for all deliveries made during a billing period, identifying the delivery tickets covered therein, stating their total dollar value, and supported by receipted copies of the delivery tickets.

___ An itemized invoice shall be submitted at least monthly or upon expiration of the blanket purchase agreement, whichever occurs first, for all deliveries made during a billing period and for which payment has not been received. Such invoices need not be supported by copies of delivery tickets.

___ When billing procedures provide for an individual invoice for each delivery, these invoices shall be accumulated provided that a consolidated payment will be made for each specified period; and the period of any discounts will commence on final date of billing period or on the date of receipt of invoices for all deliveries accepted during the billing period, whichever is later. This procedure should not be used if the accumulation of the individual invoices materially increases the administrative costs of this purchase method.

[07-7C005-1]

VIII. BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL

The following Bidding Schedule is required to be completed by the offeror:
(do not include sales tax in your offer)

PRICE PROPOSAL (JAN 2006): Notwithstanding any other instructions herein, you shall submit the following price information as a separate document: [08-8015-1]

BIDDING SCHEDULE related to Francis Marion University:

Furnish all labor and materials to provide audit services as specified herein:

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
1	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the Francis Marion University Financial Audit for FY 2025				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
2	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the Francis Marion University Financial Audit for FY 2026				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
3	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the Francis Marion University Financial Audit for FY 2027				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
4	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the Francis Marion University NCAA Audit for FY 2027				
Subtotal (Items 1 – 4) Above:				

See next page of Section VIII BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL

BIDDING SCHEDULE related to the FMU Development Foundation:

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
5	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the FMU Development Foundation Financial Audit for FY 2025.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
6	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the FMU Development Foundation Financial Audit for FY 2026.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
7	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the FMU Development Foundation Financial Audit for FY 2027.				
Subtotal (Items 5 – 7) Above:				

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
8	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to prepare the Annual Form 990 “Return of the Organization Exempt from Income Tax” for the Francis Marion University Development Foundation for FY 2025.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
9	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to prepare the Annual Form 990 “Return of the Organization Exempt from Income Tax” for the Francis Marion University Development Foundation for FY 2026.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
10	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to prepare the Annual Form 990 “Return of the Organization Exempt from Income Tax” for the Francis Marion University Development Foundation for FY 2027.				
Subtotal (Items 8 – 10) Above:				

See next page of Section VIII BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL

BIDDING SCHEDULE related to the FMU Student Housing, LLC:

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
11	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the FMU Student Housing, LLC Financial Audit for FY 2025.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
12	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the FMU Student Housing, LLC Financial Audit for FY 2026.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
13	1	job		
Item Description: All-inclusive maximum fee (including out of pocket costs) to provide the FMU Student Housing, LLC Financial Audit for FY 2027.				
Subtotal (Items 11 - 13) Above:				

Grand Total (Items 1 – 13) Above:	
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See next page of Section VIII BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL

The following is requested for informational purposes only and will not be used for bid comparisons:

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
14	N/A	each (per issue)		N/A
Item Description: All-inclusive, per issue fee to be charged to review revenue bond documents which include the audited financial statements.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
15	N/A	hour		N/A
Item Description: State an hourly fee for Partner/Principals for professional/consulting services outside the scope of the audit.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
16	N/A	hour		N/A
Item Description: State an hourly fee for Senior/Managers for professional/consulting services outside the scope of the audit.				
Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
17	N/A	hour		N/A
Item Description: State an hourly fee for Staff for professional/consulting services outside the scope of the audit.				

SC Certified Minority Vendor: Y N S.C. Cert. #. _

Vendor: _____

Authorized Signature: _____
(Same as signature on cover page)

Date: _____

IX. ATTACHMENTS TO SOLICITATION

ATTACHMENTS LIST [09-9002-1]

The following documents are attached to this solicitation:

ATTACHMENT A: **References**

ATTACHMENT B: **Certification of Minority Participation and/or Offshore Contracting**
(if applicable)

ATTACHMENT C: **Certification of Financial Condition**

ATTACHMENT D: **Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit**

ATTACHMENT E: **Open Trade Representation**

ATTACHMENT F: **Offeror(s) Checklist**

ATTACHMENT A: References

Reference 1

Name of
Organization

Point of Contact

Telephone

E-mail

Reference 2

Name of
Organization

Point of Contact

Telephone

E-mail

Reference 3

Name of
Organization

Point of Contact

Telephone

E-mail

Reference 4

Name of
Organization

Point of Contact

Telephone

E-mail

Reference 5

Name of
Organization

Point of Contact

Telephone

E-mail

ATTACHMENT B: CERTIFICATION OF MINORITY PARTICIPATION AND/OR OFFSHORE CONTRACTING (if applicable)

MINORITY PARTICIPATION (JAN 2006):

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?

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?

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.)

OFFSHORE CONTRACTING (JAN 2006):

Work that will be performed offshore by the Offeror and/or its

subcontractors must be identified in the Offeror's response. For the purpose of this solicitation, offshore is defined as outside the 50 States and US territories. Offeror is to include an explanation for the following:

(a) What type of work is being contracted offshore?

(b) What percentage (%) of the total work is being contracted offshore?

(c) What percentage (%) of the total value of the contract is being contracted offshore?

(d) Provide a Service Level Agreement (SLA) demonstrating the arrangement between the off-shore contractor and the Offeror. Attach Service Level Agreement to this document or paste here. Data provided by the Offeror in regards to this clause is for information only and will not be used in the evaluation and determination of an award.

ATTACHMENT C: Certification of Financial Condition

Name of Vendor: _____

The undersigned hereby certifies that: [check all applicable boxes]

- The Vendor is in sound financial condition and received an unqualified audit opinion for the latest audit of its financial statements.
- Date of latest audit: _____
- The Vendor has no outstanding liabilities to the Internal Revenue Service or other government entities.
- The Vendor is not the subject of any current litigation or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law.
- The Vendor has not been the subject of any past litigation or findings of any past litigation or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law that may impact in any way its ability to fulfill the requirements of this Contract.
- He or she is authorized to make the foregoing statements on behalf of the Vendor.

If any one or more of the foregoing boxes is NOT checked, explain the reason in the space below:

SignatureDate

Printed NameTitle

[This Certification must be signed by an individual authorized to speak for the Vendor]

ATTACHMENT D: Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit Income Tax Withholding

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 803-896-1420.

PLEASE SEE THE "NONRESIDENT TAXPAYER REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING" FORM (FORM NUMBER I-312) LOCATED AT:
<http://www.sctax.org/forms/withholding/i-312-form> [09-9005-2]

ATTACHMENT E: Open Trade Representation

(S.C. Code Ann. §§ 11-35-5300)

The following representation, which is required by Section 11-35-5300(A), is a material inducement for the State to award a contract to you.

I, the official named below, certify I am duly authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the vendor identified below, and, as of the date of my signature, the vendor identified below is not currently engaged in the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with whom South Carolina can enjoy open trade, as defined in SC Code Section 11-35-5300.

Vendor Name (Printed)	State Vendor No.
By (Authorized Signature)	Date Executed
Printed Name and Title of Person Signing	[Not used]

ATTACHMENT F: Offeror's Checklist

AVOID COMMON MISTAKES

Review this checklist prior to submitting your proposal, provided to you as a point of reference.

If you fail to follow this checklist, you risk having your proposal rejected; however, the evaluation of Responsiveness will be based on the solicitation, not this checklist. Please DO NOT return this page with your offer.

- ✓ COMPLETED AND SIGNED ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.
- ✓ 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 SOLICITATION'S MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS.
- ✓ MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PROPERLY MARKED ALL PROTECTED, CONFIDENTIAL, OR TRADE SECRET INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HEADING ENTITLED: FOIA BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS, SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. ***DO NOT MARK YOUR ENTIRE BID 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! IF THIS SOLICITATION INCLUDES A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE OR A QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD, RAISE YOUR QUESTIONS AS A PART OF THAT PROCESS!** PLEASE SEE BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS AND ANY PROVISIONS REGARDING PRE-BID CONFERENCES.

[09-9010-1]