

State of Delaware

Laboratory Supplies and Equipment

Invitation to Bid

Contract No. GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES

July 11, 2011

**- *Deadline to Respond* -
August 2, 2011
*1:00 pm Local Time***

STATE OF DELAWARE
Office of Management and Budget
Government Support Services

CONTRACT NO. GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES

ALL CONTRACTORS:

The enclosed packet contains an "INVITATION TO BID" for Laboratory Supplies and Equipment. The invitation consists of the following documents:

INVITATION TO BID - CONTRACT NO. GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES

- 1 **DEFINITIONS and GENERAL PROVISIONS**
 - a. Definitions
 - b. General Provisions
 - c. Award and Execution of Contract
 - d. General Information
 - e. Equal Opportunity
- 2 **SPECIAL PROVISIONS and SPECIFICATIONS**
 - a. Special Provisions
 - b. Technical Specifications
- 3 **BID QUOTATION REPLY SECTION**
 - a. Attachment 1 – No Proposal Reply Form
 - b. Attachment 2 – Non-Collusion Statement
 - c. Attachment 3 – Exceptions
 - d. Attachment 4 – Company Profile and Capabilities
 - e. Attachment 5 – Confidentiality and Proprietary Information
 - f. Attachment 6 – Business Preferences
 - g. Attachment 7 – Subcontractor Information Form
 - h. Attachment 8 – Monthly Usage Report
 - i. Attachment 9 – Subcontracting (2nd tier spend) Report
 - j. Attachment 10 – Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise Certification Application
 - k. Appendix A – Core List Pricing Form(s) and Instructions

In order for your bid to be considered, the bid quotation reply section shall be executed completely and correctly and returned in a sealed envelope clearly displaying the contract number, by Aug 2, 2011/1:00pm (EST/EDT) .

Bids shall be submitted to:

**STATE OF DELAWARE
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT SERVICES
CONTRACTING SECTION
100 ENTERPRISE PLACE – SUITE 4
DOVER, DE 19904-8202**

Please review and follow the information and instructions contained in the general and special provisions section of the invitation. Should you need additional information, please email michael.bacu@state.de.us or call 302-857-4522.

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Section 1. DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

The attached Definitions and General Provisions apply to all contracts and are part of each invitation to bid. The requirement to furnish a bid bond and performance bond is applicable unless waived in the Special Provisions. Should the General Provisions conflict with the Special Provisions, the Special Provisions shall prevail. Contractors or their authorized representatives are required to fully acquaint themselves as to State procurement laws and regulations prior to submitting bid.

Section 1A. DEFINITIONS

Whenever the following terms are used, their intent and meaning shall be interpreted as follows:

STATE: The State of Delaware

AGENCY: State Agency as noted on cover sheet.

DESIGNATED OFFICIAL: The agent authorized to act for the Agency.

BID INVITATION: The “bid invitation” or “invitation to bid” is a packet of material sent to vendors and consists of General Provisions, Special Provisions, specifications, and enclosures.

GENERAL PROVISIONS: General Provisions are instructions pertaining to contracts in general. They contain, in summary, requirements of laws of the State, policies of the Agency, and instructions to vendors.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS: Special Provisions are specific conditions or requirements peculiar to the contract under consideration and are supplemental to the General Provisions. Should the Special Provisions conflict with the General Provisions, the Special Provisions shall prevail.

VENDOR: Any individual, firm, or corporation formally submitting a proposal for the material or work contemplated, acting directly or through a duly authorized representative.

PROPOSAL: The offer of the contractor submitted on the approved form and setting forth the contractor’s prices for performing the work or supplying the material or equipment described in the specifications.

SURETY: The corporate body which is bound with and for the contract, or which is liable, and which engages to be responsible for the contractor’s payments of all debts pertaining to and for its acceptable performance of the work for which its has contracted.

CONTRACTOR’S DEPOSIT: The security designated in the proposal to be furnished by the contractor as a guaranty of good faith to enter into a contract with the Agency if the work to be performed or the material or equipment to be furnished is awarded to the contractor.

CONTRACT: The written agreement covering the furnishing and delivery of material or work to be performed.

CONTRACTOR: Any individual, firm, or corporation with whom a contract is made by the Agency.

CONTRACT BOND: The approved form of security furnished by the contractors and its surety as a guaranty of good faith on the part of the contractor to execute the work in accordance with the terms of the contract.

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Section 1B. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. **BID INVITATION:**

See "Definitions".

2. **PROPOSAL FORMS:**

The invitation to bid shall contain pre-printed forms for use by the vendor in submitting its bid. The forms shall contain basic information such as description of the item and the estimated quantities and shall have blank spaces for use by the vendor for entering information such as unit bid price, total bid price, etc.

3. **INTERPRETATION OF ESTIMATES:**

- a. The attention of contractors is called to the fact that, unless stated otherwise, the quantities given in the proposal form are to be considered to be approximate only and are given as a basis for the comparison of bids. The Agency may increase or decrease the amount of any item as may be deemed necessary or expedient, during the period of the contract.
- b. An increase or decrease in the quantity for any item is not sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit price.

4. **SILENCE OF SPECIFICATIONS:**

The apparent silence of the specifications as to any detail, or the apparent omission from it of detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practice is to prevail and only material and workmanship of the first quality are to be used. Proof of specifications compliance will be the responsibility of the vendor.

5. **EXAMINATION OF SPECIFICATIONS AND PROVISIONS:**

The contractor shall examine carefully the proposal and the contract forms for the material contemplated. The contractor shall investigate and satisfy itself as to the conditions to be encountered, quality and quantities of the material to be furnished, and the requirements of the Special Provisions and the contract. The submission of a proposal shall be conclusive evidence that the contractor has made examination of the aforementioned conditions.

6. **PREPARATION OF PROPOSAL:**

- a. The contractor's proposal shall be written in ink or typewritten on the form provided.
- b. If items are listed with a zero quantity, contractor shall state unit price **ONLY** (intended for open end purchases where estimated requirements are not known). The proposal shall show a total bid price for each item bid and the total bid price of the proposal excluding zero quantity items.

7. **PRICES QUOTED:**

The prices quoted are those for which the material will be furnished F.O.B. Ordering Agency and include all charges that may be imposed during the period of the contract.

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8. **DISCOUNT:**

No qualifying letter or statements in or attached to the proposal, or separate discounts will be considered in determining the low bid except as may be otherwise herein noted. Cash or separate discounts should be computed and incorporated into unit bid price(s).

9. **SAMPLES OR BROCHURES:**

Samples or brochures may be required by the agency for evaluation purposes. They shall be such as to permit the Agency to compare and determine if the item offered complies with the intent of the specifications.

10. **PROPOSAL GUARANTY; BID BOND:**

- a. Each contractor shall submit with its proposal a guaranty in sum equal to at least 10% of the total value of its bid, according to Delaware Code Title 29, Section 6927(a).
- b. This bid bond shall be submitted in the form of good and sufficient bond drawn upon an insurance or bonding company authorized to do business in the State of Delaware, to the State of Delaware for the benefit of the Agency, or a certified check drawn on a reputable banking institution and made payable to the Agency in the requirement amount. If Agency bond form is not utilized, the substituted bond forms must conform to the minimum of conditions specified in the Agency bond form.

11. **DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS:**

Proposals shall be delivered in sealed envelopes, and shall bear on the outside the name and address of the contractor as well as the designation of the contract. Proposals forwarded by U.S. Mail shall be sent first class to the address listed below. Proposals forwarded by delivery service other than the U.S. Mail or hand delivered must be delivered to the address listed below. All bids must clearly display the bid number on the envelope.

STATE OF DELAWARE
Office of Management and Budget
Government Support Services, Contracting Section
100 Enterprise Place – Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202

All proposals will be accepted at the time and place set in the advertisement. Contractor bears the risk of delays in delivery. Proposals received after the time set for public opening will be returned unopened.

12. **WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS:**

A contractor may withdraw its proposal unopened after it has been deposited, if such a request is made prior to the time set for the opening of the proposal.

13. **PUBLIC OPENING OF PROPOSALS:**

The bids shall be publicly opened at the time and place specified by the Agency. Contractors or their authorized representatives are invited to be present.

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14. **PUBLIC INSPECTION OF PROPOSALS:**

If the contractor designates a portion of its bid as confidential, it shall isolate and identify in writing the confidential portions. The contractor shall include with this designation a statement that explains and supports the firm's claim that the bid items identified as confidential contain trade secrets or other proprietary data.

15. **DISQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS:**

Any one or more of the following causes may be considered as sufficient for the disqualification of a contractor and the rejection of its proposal or proposals:

- a. More than one proposal for the same contract from an individual, firm, or corporation under the same or different names.
- b. Evidence of collusion among contractors.
- c. Unsatisfactory performance record as evidenced by past experience.
- d. If the unit prices are obviously unbalanced either in excess or below reasonable cost analysis values.
- e. If there are any unauthorized additions, interlineations, conditional or alternate bids or irregularities of any kind which may tend to make the proposal incomplete, indefinite, or ambiguous as to its meaning.
- f. Non-attendance of mandatory pre-bid meetings may be cause of disqualification.

Section 1C. AWARD AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

1. **CONSIDERATION OF BIDS:**

- a. After the proposals have been opened, the bids will be tabulated and the results will be made available to the public. Tabulations of the bids will be based on the correct summation of items at the unit price bid.
- b. The right is reserved to waive technicalities, to reject any or all bids, or any portion thereof, to advertise for new proposals, to proceed to do the work otherwise, or to abandon the work, if in the judgment of the Agency or its agent, the best interest of the State will be promoted thereby.

2. **MATERIAL GUARANTY:**

Before any contract is awarded, the successful contractor may be required to furnish a complete statement of the origin, composition and manufacture of any or all of the material to be used in the contract together with such samples as may be requested for the purpose of testing.

3. **CONTRACT AWARD:**

Within thirty days from the date of opening proposals, the contract will be awarded or the proposals rejected.

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4. **EXECUTION OF CONTRACT:**

- a. The contractor to whom the award is made shall execute a formal contract and bond within twenty days after date of official notice of the award of the contract.
- b. If the successful contractor fails to execute the required contract and bond, as aforesaid, within twenty days after the date of official notice of the award of the contract, its proposal guaranty shall immediately become forfeited as liquidated damages. Award will then be made to the next lowest qualified contractor of the work or re-advertised, as the Agency may decide.

5. **REQUIREMENT OF CONTRACT BOND:**

- a. Successful contractors shall furnish bond, simultaneously with the execution of the formal contract, to the State of Delaware for the benefit of the Agency with surety in the amount of 100% of the total contract award or as otherwise provided in the Special Provisions. Said bonds shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract.
- b. The bond forms shall be provided by the Agency and the surety shall be acceptable to the Agency.

6. **WARRANTY:**

The successful contractor(s) shall be required to extend any policy guarantee usually offered to the general public, FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, or MUNICIPAL governments, on material in this contract against defective material, workmanship, and performance.

7. **THE CONTRACT(S):**

The contract(s) with the successful contractor(s) will be executed with the Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services acting for all participating agencies.

8. **RETURN OF CONTRACTOR'S DEPOSIT:**

The deposits shall be returned to the successful contractor upon the execution of the formal contract. The deposits of unsuccessful contractors shall be returned to them immediately upon the awarding of the contract or rejection of their bids.

9. **INFORMATION REQUIREMENT:**

The successful contractors shall be required to advise the Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services of the gross amount of purchases made as a result of the contract.

10. **CONTRACT EXTENSION:**

The State reserves the right to extend this contract on a month-to-month basis for a period of up to three months with thirty (30) days notice from the State.

11. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE:**

Contracts shall remain in effect for the time period and quantity specified unless the contract is terminated by the State. The State may terminate the contract at any time by giving written notice of such

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termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least sixty (60) days before the effective date of termination.

12. **TERMINATION FOR CAUSE:**

If, for any reasons, or through any cause, the Contractor fails to fulfill in timely and proper manner its obligations under this Contract, or if the Contractor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the State shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least 5 days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports or other material prepared by the Contractor under this Contract shall, at the option of the State, become its property, and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials which is usable to the State.

Section 1D. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **AUTHORITY OF AGENCY:**

On all questions concerning the interpretation of specifications, the acceptability and quality of material furnished and/or work performed, the classification of material, the execution of the work, and the determination of payment due or to become due, the decision of the Agency shall be final and binding.

2. **LAWS TO BE OBSERVED:**

The contractor is presumed to know and shall strictly comply with all National, State, or County laws, and City or Town ordinances and regulations in any manner affecting the conduct of the work. The contractor shall indemnify and save harmless the State of Delaware, the Agency, and all Officers, Agency and Servants thereof against any claim or liability arising from or based upon the violation of any such laws, ordinances, regulations, orders, or decrees whether by itself or by its employees.

3. **PERMITS AND LICENSES:**

All necessary permits, licenses, insurance policies, etc. required by local, State or Federal laws, shall be provided by the contractor at its own expense.

4. **PATENTED DEVICES, MATERIAL AND PROCESSES:**

- a. The contractor shall provide for the use of any patented design, device, material, or process to be used or furnished under this contract by suitable legal agreement with the patentee or owner, and shall file a copy of this agreement with the Agency.
- b. The contractor and the surety shall hold and save harmless the State of Delaware, the Agency, the Director, their Officers or Agents from any and all claims because of the use of such patented design, device, material, or process in connection with the work agreed to be performed under this contract.

5. **EMERGENCY TERMINATION OF CONTRACT:**

- a. Due to restrictions which may be established by the United States Government on material, or work, a contract may be terminated by the cancellation of all or portions of the contract.

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- b. In the event the contractor is unable to obtain the material required to complete the items of work included in the contract because of restrictions established by the United States Government and if, in the opinion of the Agency, it is impractical to substitute other available material, or the work cannot be completed within a reasonable time, the incomplete portions of the work may be cancelled, or the contract may be terminated.

6. **TAX EXEMPTION:**

- a. Material covered by this proposal is exempt from all FEDERAL and STATE TAXES. Such taxes shall not be included in prices quoted.
- b. Any material which is to be incorporated in the work or any equipment required for the work contemplated in the proposal may be consigned to the Agency. If the shipping papers show clearly that any such material is so consigned, the shipment will be exempt from the tax on the transportation of property under provisions of Section 3475 (b) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Public Law 180 (78th Congress). All transportation charges shall be paid by the contractor. Each contractor shall take its exemption into account in calculating its bid for its work.

7. **OR EQUAL (PRODUCTS BY NAME):**

Specifications of products by name are intended to be descriptive of quality or workmanship, finish and performance. Desirable characteristics are not intended to be restrictive. Substitutions of products for those named will be considered provided the vendor certifies that the function, characteristics, performance and endurance qualities of the material offered is equal or superior to that specified.

8. **BID EVALUATION AND AWARD:**

The Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services will award this contract to the lowest responsible contractor(s) which in their judgment best serves the interest of the State of Delaware in accordance with Delaware Code Title 29, Section 6923(k). Personnel with experience and technical background may be utilized by the Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services in making judgment. In case of error in price extension, the unit price(s) shall prevail.

9. **INVOICING:**

After the awards are made, the agencies participating in the bid may forward their purchase orders to the successful contractor(s) in accordance with State Purchasing Procedures. The State will generate a payment voucher upon receipt of an invoice from the vendor.

Section 1E. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

1. **EQUALITY OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ON PUBLIC WORKS:**

During the performance of any contract for public works financed in whole or in part by appropriation of the State of Delaware, the contractor agrees as follows:

- a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, sex, age, or national origin. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated equally during employment without regard to their race, creed, color, sex, age, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be

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limited to the following: advertising, lay-off or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeships. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, notices to be provided by the contracting agency setting forth the provisions of this non-discrimination clause.

- b. The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, or national origin.
- c. The term "contractor for public works" means construction, reconstruction, demolition, alteration, and/or repair work, maintenance work, and paid for in whole or in part out of the funds of a public body except work performed under a vocational rehabilitation program. The manufacture or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies or equipment is not a public work within the meaning of this subsection unless conducted in connection with and at the site of the public work.

Section 2. SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Section 2A. LABORATORY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS:

This contract will be issued to cover the Laboratory Supplies and Equipment requirements for all State Agencies and shall be accessible to any School District, Political Subdivision, or Volunteer Fire Company.

2. MANDATORY USE CONTRACT:

REF: Title 29, Chapter 6911(d) Delaware Code. Every state department and agency within the Executive Branch and Judicial Branch of the state government shall procure all material, equipment and nonprofessional services through the statewide contracts administered by Government Support Services, Office of Management and Budget. Delaware State University, Delaware Technical and Community College, the operations funded by Public School Districts, Delaware Transit Corporation, Department of Elections, the Legislative Branch and the Board of Pension Trustees and their consultants are specifically exempted from the requirements of this subsection.

3. CONTRACT PERIOD:

Each vendor's contract shall be valid from October 15, 2011 through October 31, 2013. Each contract may be renewed for three (3) one (1) year periods through negotiation between the contractor and Government Support Services. Negotiation must be initiated no later than ninety (90) days prior to the termination of the current agreement.

4. PRICES:

Prices shall remain firm for the term of the contract.

5. PRICE ADJUSTMENT:

If agreement is reached to extend this contract for the second, optional year, the Division of Government Support Services shall have the option of offering a determined price adjustment and shall not exceed the current Philadelphia All Urban Consumers Price Index (CPI-U), U.S. City Average. If the CPI-U is used,

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any increase/decrease shall reflect the change during the previous published twelve (12) month period at the time of renegotiation.

6. **SHIPPING TERMS:**

F.O.B. destination; freight pre-paid.

7. **QUANTITIES:**

The attention of contractors is called to the fact that, unless stated otherwise, the quantities given in the proposal are best estimates and are given as a basis for the comparison of bids. Quantities ordered may be increased or decreased by any eligible agency as deemed necessary during the period of the contract.

8. **FUNDING OUT:**

The continuation of this contract is contingent upon funding appropriated by the legislature.

9. **BID BOND REQUIREMENT:**

Bid Bond Waived.

10. **PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIREMENT:**

Performance Bond Waived

11. **MANDATORY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

A. Certificate of Insurance and/or copies of insurance policies for the following:

1. As a part of the contract requirements, the contractor must obtain at its own cost and expense and keep in force and effect during the term of this contract, including all extensions, the minimum coverage limits specified below with a carrier satisfactory to the State. All contractors must carry Comprehensive General Liability and at least one of the other coverages depending on the type of service or product being delivered.

- a. Comprehensive General Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence.

and

- b. Medical/Professional Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence.

or

- c. Miscellaneous Errors and Omissions - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence.

or

- d. Product Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per person/\$3,000,000 per occurrence.

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2. Automotive Liability Insurance covering all automotive units used in the work with limits of not less than \$100,000 each person and \$300,000 each accident as to bodily injury and \$25,000 as to property damage to others.
3. Forty-five (45) days written notice of cancellation or material change of any policies is required.
- 4.

Administrator, Government Support Services
Contract No. GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES
State of Delaware
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904-8202

Note: The State of Delaware shall not be named as an additional insured.

12. BASIS OF AWARD:

Government Support Services shall award this contract to the lowest responsible and responsive contractor(s) who best meets the terms and conditions of the bid. The award will be made on basis of price, product evaluation, and prior history of service and capability.

Government Support Services reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to make multiple awards, partial awards, award by types, item by item, or lump sum total, whichever may be most advantageous to the State of Delaware.

13. STATE OF DELAWARE BUSINESS LICENSE:

Prior to receiving an award, the successful vendor shall either furnish Government Support Services with proof of State of Delaware Business Licensure or initiate the process of application where required. An application may be requested in writing to: Division of Revenue, Carvel State Building, P.O. Box 8750, 820 N. French Street, Wilmington, DE 19899-8750 or by telephone to one of the following numbers: (302) 577-8201 - Public Service, (302) 577-8205 - Licensing Department.

Information regarding the award of this contract will be given to the Division of Revenue. Failure to comply with the State of Delaware licensing requirements may subject your organization to applicable fines and/or interest penalties.

14. HOLD HARMLESS:

The successful contractor agrees that it shall indemnify and hold the State of Delaware and all its agencies harmless from and against any and all claims for injury, loss of life, or damage to or loss of use of property caused or alleged to be caused, by acts or omissions of the successful contractor, its employees, and invitees on or about the premises and which arise out of the successful contractor's performance, or failure to perform as specified in the Agreement.

15. OWNERSHIP OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

All copyright and patent rights to all papers, reports, forms, materials, creations, or inventions created or developed in the performance of this contract shall become the sole property of the State of Delaware. On request, the contractor shall promptly provide an acknowledgment or assignment in a tangible form satisfactory to the State to evidence the State's sole ownership of specifically identified intellectual property created or developed in the performance of the contract.

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16. **NON-PERFORMANCE:**

In the event the vendor does not fulfill its obligations under the terms and conditions of this contract, the ordering agency may purchase equivalent product on the open market. Any difference in cost between the contract prices herein and the price of open market product shall be the responsibility of the vendor. Under no circumstances shall monies be due the vendor in the event open market products can be obtained below contract cost. Any monies charged to the vendor may be deducted from an open invoice.

17. **FORCE MAJEURE:**

Neither the vendor nor the ordering agency shall be held liable for non-performance under the terms and conditions of this contract due, but not limited to, government restriction, strike, flood, fire, or unforeseen catastrophe beyond either party's control. Each party shall notify the other in writing of any situation that may prevent performance under the terms and conditions of this contract.

18. **CONTRACTOR NON-ENTITLEMENT:**

State of Delaware Contractors for Materiel and for Services shall not have legal entitlement to, nor seek business from another Contractors' Central Contract. Additionally, they shall not utilize other Central Contracts to fulfill the requirements of their respective contract as they are not a "Covered Agency" as defined by Title 29 Chapter 69 of the State Procurement Code.

19. **EXCEPTIONS:**

Contractors may elect to take minor exception to the terms and conditions of this ITB. Government Support Services shall evaluate each exception according to the intent of the terms and conditions contained herein, but Government Support Services must reject exceptions that do not conform to State bid law and/or create inequality in the treatment of contractors. Exceptions shall be considered only if they are submitted with the bid or before the date and time of the bid opening.

20. **REQUIRED REPORTING:**

One of the primary goals in administering this contract is to keep accurate records regarding its actual value/usage. This information is essential in order to update the contents of the contract and to establish proper bonding levels if they are required. The integrity of future contracts revolves around our ability to convey accurate and realistic information to all interested Vendors.

A Usage Report shall be furnished on the 15th (or next business day after the 15th day) of each month by the successful Vendor **Electronically in Excel format** detailing the purchasing of all items on this contract. The reports (Attachment 8) shall be submitted electronically in EXCEL and sent as an attachment to vendorusage@state.de.us. It shall contain the six-digit department and organization code. Any exception to this mandatory requirement may result in cancellation of the award. Failure to provide the report with the minimum required information may also negate any contract extension clauses. Additionally, Vendors who are determined to be in default of this mandatory report requirement may have such conduct considered against them, in assessment of responsibility, in the evaluation of future proposals.

In accordance with Executive Order 14 – Increasing Supplier Diversity Initiatives within State Government, the State of Delaware is committed to supporting its diverse business industry and population. The successful Vendor will be required to report on the participation by a minority and/or women owned business (MWBE) under this awarded contract. The reported data elements shall

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include but not be limited to; name of state contract/project, the name of the MWBE, MWBE contact information (phone, email), type of product or service provided by MWBE and any MWBE certifications for the subcontractor (State MWBE certification, Minority Supplier Development Council, Women's Business Enterprise Council). The format used for this 2nd Tier report is found below.

2nd tier reports shall be submitted to the contracting Agency's Supplier Diversity Liaison found at http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/docs/sdc/mwbe_liaisons.xls and the OMWBE at vendorusage@state.de.us on the 15th (or next business day) of the month following each quarterly period. For consistency quarters shall be considered to end the last day of March, June, September and December of each calendar year. Contract spend during the covered periods shall result in a report even if the contract has expired by the report due date.

21. **BUSINESS REFERENCES:**

In order to have your bid considered, please supply three (3) business references consisting of current or previous customers with your reply. Please include name, address, telephone number, and a contact person.

22. **ORDERING PROCEDURE:**

Successful contractors are required to have either a local telephone number within the (302) area code, a toll free (800) number, or agree to accept collect calls. Each agency is responsible for placing their orders and may be accomplished by written purchase order, telephone, fax or computer on-line systems. The contractor or vendor must accept full payment by procurement (credit) card and/or conventional check and/or other electronic means at the State's option, without imposing any additional fees, costs or conditions.

23. **BILLING:**

The successful vendor is required to "Bill as Shipped" to the respective ordering agency(s). Ordering agencies shall provide contract number, ship to and bill to address, contact name and phone number.

24. **PAYMENT:**

The agencies or school districts involved will authorize and process for payment each invoice within thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of a correct invoice. The contractor or vendor must accept full payment by procurement (credit) card and/or conventional check and/or other electronic means at the State's option, without imposing any additional fees, costs or conditions.

25. **PRODUCT SUBSTITUTION:**

All items delivered during the life of the contract shall be of the same type and manufacture as specified or accepted as part of the bid proposal unless specific approval is given by Government Support Services to do otherwise. However, awarded vendors are highly encouraged to offer any like substitute product (s); either generic or brand name, at any time during the subsequent contract term, especially if an opportunity for cost savings to the state exists. In such cases, the state may require the submission of written specifications and/or product samples for evaluation prior to any approvals being granted.

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26. **BID/CONTRACT EXECUTION:**

Both the non-collusion statement that is enclosed with this Invitation to Bid and the contract form delivered to the successful contractor for signature **shall** be executed by a representative who has the legal capacity to enter the organization into a formal contract with the State of Delaware, Government Support Services. The awarded vendor(s) will be required to complete the new W-9 Form by visiting the Division of Accounting's Website: <http://accounting.delaware.gov>.

27. **CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY:**

The State will enter into a contract with the successful contractor. The successful contractor shall be responsible for all products and services as required by this ITB. Subcontractors, if any, shall be clearly identified in the financial proposal.

28. **PERSONNEL:**

- a. The Contractor represents that they have, or will secure at their own expense, all personnel required to perform the services required under this contract.
- b. All of the services required hereunder shall be performed by the Contractor or under its direct supervision, and all personnel, including subcontractors, engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized under State and local law to perform such services.
- c. None of the work or services covered by this contract shall be subcontracted without the prior written approval of the State.

29. **LIFE CYCLE COSTING:**

If applicable, the specifications contained within this ITB have been developed through Life Cycle Cost Analysis that will allow the State to realize the lowest total cost of ownership and operation over the useful life of the equipment.

30. **ENERGY STAR PRODUCTS:**

The contractor **must** provide products that earn the ENERGY STAR rating and meet the ENERGY STAR specifications for energy efficiency. The offeror is encouraged to visit www.energystar.gov for complete product specifications and updated lists of qualifying products.

31. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE:**

Contracts shall remain in effect for the time period and quantity specified unless the contract is terminated by the State. The State may terminate the contract at any time by giving written notice of such

termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least sixty (60) days before the effective date of termination.

32. **TERMINATION FOR CAUSE:**

If, for any reasons, or through any cause, the Contractor fails to fulfill in timely and proper manner its obligations under this Contract, or if the Contractor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the State shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least 5

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days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports or other material prepared by the Contractor under this Contract shall, at the option of the State, become its property, and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials which is usable to the State.

33. **VENDOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE POINT OF CONTACT:**

The awarded vendor(s) shall provide the name(s), telephone, or cell phone number(s) of those individuals who can be contacted twenty four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week to meet a critical need for commodities or services when the Governor of the State of Delaware declares a state of emergency under the current Delaware Emergency Operations Plan. Failure to provide this information could render the bid as non-responsive.

34. **ELECTRONIC CATALOG:**

The successful vendor(s) may be required to submit their items list in electronic format designated by the State.

Note: The State of Delaware is in the process of implementing a new financials system, which will require the use of:

- Electronic catalogs
- Commodity/classification code: United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC).
- A unique item ID for all items in our system

The state has made the determination to include the requirement in this contract for two reasons:

1. To find out what vendors can offer.
2. To give the agencies and school districts a level of comfort in using electronic catalogs.

35. **NUMBER OF COPIES WITH MAILING OF PROPOSAL:**

To be considered, all proposals must be submitted in writing and respond to the items outlined in this RFP. The State reserves the right to reject any non-responsive or non-conforming proposals. Each proposal must be submitted with one (1) paper copies and one (1) electronic copies on CD or DVD media disk. One of the copies shall be marked "Master Copy" and will contain original signatures in all locations requiring an offeror signature. The remaining copies do not require original signatures. CD or DVD media disk must also contain the completed Appendix B Excel sheets, in Excel format.

All properly sealed and marked proposals are to be sent to the State of Delaware and received no later than 1:00 PM Local Time on Aug 2, 2011. The Proposals may be delivered by Express Delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), US Mail, or by hand to:

**Government Support Services
Contract No. GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4
Dover, DE 19904**

Any proposal submitted by US Mail shall be sent by either certified or registered mail. Proposals must be received at the above address no later than 1:00 PM Local Time on Aug 2, 2011. Any proposal received after this date shall not be considered and shall be returned unopened. The proposing

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vendor bears the risk of delays in delivery. The contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed as to be made available to competing entities during the negotiation process.

Upon receipt of vendor proposals, each vendor shall be presumed to be thoroughly familiar with all specifications and requirements of this RFP. The failure or omission to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve vendors from any obligation in respect to this RFP.

The State reserves the right to award the proposed contract to multiple Vendors if the Head of the Agency determines that such an award is in the best interest of the State.

36. **CORE LIST ITEMS**

The State core list, contained in Appendix A, includes approximately 100 lab supplies and equipment items that were the most commonly purchased last year and that have been specially priced. The Core list will be updated on a semi-annual basis according to usage. If there is sufficient demand for a product, it can be added to the Core List at the appropriate time. The Appendix A also contains a tab for % off discount for CDC codes/categories, vendors are required to submit % off catalog prices for their CDC bucket along with the latest copy of the catalog to be discounted for the contract term.

37. **SEMI-ANNUAL MEETINGS**

Vendor(s) will meet with Contract Officer semi-annually to discuss vendor recommendations for the core item list (additions, deletions, substitutions – environmental or discontinued products), usage reports, and the contract overall.

38. **AUDIT ACCESS TO RECORDS:**

The Contractor shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence pertaining to this Contract to the extent and in such detail as shall adequately reflect performance hereunder. The Contractor agrees to preserve and make available to the State, upon request, such records for a period of five (5) years from the date services were rendered by the Contractor. Records involving matters in litigation shall be retained for one (1) year following the termination of such litigation. The Contractor agrees to make such records available for inspection, audit, or reproduction to any official State representative in the performance of his/her duties under the Contract. Upon notice given to the Contractor, representatives of the State or other duly authorized State or Federal agency may inspect, monitor, and/or evaluate the cost and billing records or other material relative to this Contract. The cost of any Contract audit disallowances resulting from the examination of the Contractor's financial records will be borne by the Contractor. Reimbursement to the State for disallowances shall be drawn from the contractor's own resources and not charged to Contract cost or cost pools indirectly charging Contract costs.

39. **CONFIDENTIALITY:**

Specific attention should be given to the identification of those portions of your proposal which you deem to be confidential or proprietary information which should not be disclosed under the Delaware Public Information Act. Offerors are advised that upon request for this information from a third party, the Procurement Officer is required to make an independent determination as to whether the information may be or must be divulged to the party.

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Section 2B. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

1. MANUFACTURING REQUIREMENTS:

All products must conform in every respect to the standards and regulations established by Federal and Delaware State laws. Products shall be manufactured and packaged under modern sanitary conditions in accordance with good commercial practice. Products are to be packed in sizes as specified in this ITB and shall be packaged in such a manner to insure delivery in first class condition and properly marked for identification. All shipments must be comprised of original cartons associated with the commercial industry represented by the actual product contained within each carton. Deliveries containing re-used, re-labeled, re-worked or alternate cartons are subject to rejection by the Using Agency at the contractor's expense.

2. DELIVERY:

The Contractor shall notify the using agency at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of shipment so that necessary arrangements can be made. Contractor shall deliver to all areas of the State and furnish catalogs and price list upon request by the using agencies.

3. CONTRACT DELIVERABLES:

Unless otherwise specified in the Special Terms and Conditions, all products offered by Contractor must be new. A "new" product is one for which the Purchaser will be the first user after the product is manufactured or produced. A contractor may propose only new products in its Bid. This clause, shall not be construed to prohibit contractors from offering products with recycled content, provided the product itself is new.

4. INSPECTION AND REJECTION:

No item(s) received by any Agency issuing a PO shall be deemed accepted until the Agency has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect the item(s). The Agency may reject any item(s) discovered to be defective or failing to conform to the Contract specifications upon initial inspection or at any later time if the defects contained in the item(s) or the noncompliance with the specifications were not reasonably ascertainable upon the initial inspection. The Contractor shall have the duty to remove rejected item(s) from the Agencies premises without expense to the Agency within fifteen (15) calendar days after notification. Rejected item(s) left longer than fifteen (15) calendar days will be regarded as abandoned, and the Agency shall have the right to dispose of the item(s) as its own property and shall retain that portion of the proceeds of any sale that represents the Agencies costs and expenses for the storage and sale of the item(s). Upon notice of rejection, the Contractor shall immediately replace all such rejected item(s) with other non-defective items conforming to the specifications. If the Contractor fails, neglects, or refuses to do so, the Agency shall then have the right to procure a corresponding quantity of such item(s), and deduct from any monies then or later due to the Contractor, the difference between the price stated in the Contract and the actual cost of the item(s) to the Agency.

5. DEFAULT:

The State of Delaware or any Agency may, subject to the provision of Special Provision #18 of this Contract ("Force Majeure") and in addition to its other rights under this contract, declare the Contractor in default under the Contract as to State of Delaware, or under any PO issued under the Contract as to the issuing Agency, by written notice to the whole or any part of this contract, or in the case of any Agency, terminate a PO issued under the Contract, for any of the following reasons:

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- Failure to deliver the awarded item(s) within the time specified in the Contract or PO or as otherwise specified;
- Improper delivery;
- Failure to provide an item(s) conforming with the specifications referenced in the Invitation to Bid;
- Delivery of a defective item;
- Failure or refusal to remove and replace any item(s) rejected as defective or nonconforming within fifteen (15) calendar days after notification;
- Insolvency or bankruptcy;
- Assignment made for the benefit of creditors;
- Failure to protect, to repair, or to make good any damage or injury to property; or
- Breach of any provision of this Contract or any PO.

6. **RETURNS:**

Any item(s) delivered in poor condition, in excess of the amount authorized by the PO or not included on the PO may, at the discretion of the Agency, be returned to the Contractor's warehouse at the Contractor's expense within fifteen (15) calendar days. Credit for returned good shall be made immediately once contractor receives returned goods. Over-shipments may be accepted at the contract user discretion. Return authorizations will be provided by the Contractor within fourteen (14) calendar days of verbal notification. If Agency orders wrong item, the return will be at the Agency's expense. Contractor shall work with the Agencies to ensure ordering of proper item(s).

7. **TEST SAMPLES:**

When requested contractors will be required to supply sample products in sufficient quantities for testing purposes at no charge to the Agencies or School Districts. Samples shall be provided within two (2) days of request by Agency.

8. **PRODUCT AVAILABILITY:**

The Contractor must agree that there will be no cancellation of products on the contract without an equal and acceptable replacement approved by the State Contract Procurement Officer during the term of the contract. Contractors must communicate manufacturer's discontinuation of any products to the contract officer in writing within five (5) business days of notification from the manufacturer and forward a copy of the manufacturer's notice. In such instances, the Contractor shall work with the contract officer to identify and implement alternative options that shall maintain or reduce costs associated with the replacements. The Contractor will be prepared to offer written detailed quarterly reports, is requested by the State of Delaware, displaying removed SKU's off of contract list and suggested replacements in either hard or electronic form, whichever is specified by the State. The contractor shall offer suggested replacement of discontinued products at least thirty (30) days prior to substitution, including replacement part number, description, list price, applicable discount, final price and sample, if requested.

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Section 3. BID QUOTATION REPLY SECTION

CONTRACT NO. GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES

LABORATORY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

Please fill out the attached forms fully and completely and return with your bid in a sealed envelope clearly displaying the contract number to Government Support Services by Aug 2, 2011/1:00pm, (EST/EDT) at which time bids will be opened.

Bids shall be submitted to:

**STATE OF DELAWARE
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT SERVICES
CONTRACTING SECTION
100 ENTERPRISE PLACE - SUITE 4
DOVER, DE 19904-8202**

PUBLIC BID OPENINGS

The public bid opening insures the citizens of Delaware that contracts are being bid fairly on a competitive basis and comply with Delaware procurement laws. The agency conducting the opening is required by law to publicly open the bids at the time and place specified and the contract shall be awarded within thirty (30) days thereafter. The main purpose of the bid opening is to reveal the name(s) of the contractor(s), not to serve as a forum for determining the apparent lowest bid. The disclosure of additional information, including prices, shall be at the discretion of the contracting agency until such time that the responsiveness of each bid has been determined.

After receipt of a fully executed contract(s), the Delaware public and all contractors are invited to make an appointment with the contracting officer in order to review pricing and other non-confidential information.

NOTE: ONLY THE CONTRACTOR'S NAME WILL BE READ AT THE BID OPENING

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Attachment 1

NO PROPOSAL REPLY FORM

CONTRACT # GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES

CONTRACT TITLE: Laboratory Supplies and Equipment

To assist us in obtaining good competition on our Request for Proposals, we ask that each firm that has received a proposal, but does not wish to bid, state their reason(s) below and return in a clearly marked envelope displaying the contract number. This information will not preclude receipt of future invitations unless you request removal from the Vendor's List by so indicating below, or do not return this form or bona fide proposal.

Unfortunately, we must offer a "No Proposal" at this time because:

- _____ 1. We do not wish to participate in the proposal process.
- _____ 2. We do not wish to bid under the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal document. Our objections are:

- _____ 3. We do not feel we can be competitive.
- _____ 4. We cannot submit a Proposal because of the marketing or franchising policies of the manufacturing company.
- _____ 5. We do not wish to sell to the State. Our objections are:

- _____ 6. We do not sell the items/services on which Proposals are requested.
- _____ 7. Other: _____

FIRM NAME

SIGNATURE

_____ We wish to remain on the Vendor's List **for these goods or services.**

_____ We wish to be deleted from the Vendor's List **for these goods or services.**

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CONTRACT NO.: GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES

TITLE: Laboratory Supplies and Equipment

OPENING DATE: Tuesday August 2, 2011, 1:00 p.m. EDT

Attachment 2

NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT

This is to certify that the undersigned Vendor has neither directly nor indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this proposal, **and further certifies that it is not a sub-contractor to another Vendor who also submitted a proposal as a primary Vendor in response to this solicitation** submitted this date to the State of Delaware, Government Support Services.

It is agreed by the undersigned Vendor that the signed delivery of this bid represents the Vendor's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal including all specifications and special provisions.

NOTE: Signature of the authorized representative **MUST** be of an individual who legally may enter his/her organization into a formal contract with the State of Delaware, Government Support Services.

COMPANY NAME _____ Check one)

☐	Corporation
☐	Partnership
☐	Individual

NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
(Please type or print) _____

SIGNATURE _____ TITLE _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FEDERAL E.I. NUMBER _____ STATE OF DELAWARE
(circle one) LICENSE NUMBER _____
(circle one)

(circle one)									
COMPANY CLASSIFICATIONS: CERT. NO. _____	<u>Women</u> <u>Business</u> <u>Enterprise</u> <u>(WBE)</u>	Yes	No	<u>Minority</u> <u>Business</u> <u>Enterprise</u> <u>(MBE)</u>	Yes	No	<u>Disadvantaged</u> <u>Business</u> <u>Enterprise</u> <u>(DBE)</u>	Yes	No

[The above table is for information and statistical use only.]

PURCHASE ORDERS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

(COMPANY NAME) _____

ADDRESS _____

CONTACT _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

AFFIRMATION: Within the past five years, has your firm, any affiliate, any predecessor company or entity, owner, Director, officer, partner or proprietor been the subject of a Federal, State, Local government suspension or debarment?

YES _____ NO _____ if yes, please explain _____

THIS PAGE SHALL BE SIGNED, NOTARIZED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL TO BE CONSIDERED

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME this _____ day of _____, 20 _____

Notary Public _____ My commission expires _____

City of _____ County of _____ State of _____

Attachment 3

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Attachment 4

CONTRACT NO. **GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES**

Contract Name: Laboratory Supplies and Equipment

PROPOSAL REPLY SECTION

COMPANY PROFILE & CAPABILITIES

Suppliers are required to provide a reply to each question listed below. Your replies will aid the evaluation committee as part of the overall qualitative evaluation criteria of this Invitation to Bid. Your responses should contain sufficient information about your company so evaluators have a clear understanding of your company's background and capabilities. Failure to respond to any of these questions may result in your proposal to be rejected as non-responsive.

1.	Provide a description of how your company will meet the packaging and delivery requirements outlined in the ITB.

2.	Provide a description of how your company will meet the product availability requirements outlined in the ITB.

3.	Provide a description of how your company will manage and meet the test sample requirements outlined in the ITB.

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Attachment 5

CONTRACT NO. **GSS11026-LAB SUPPLIES**
Contract Name: Laboratory Supplies and Equipment

PROPOSAL REPLY SECTION

☐ By checking this box, the Vendor acknowledges that they are not providing any information they declare to be confidential or proprietary for the purpose of production under 29 Del. C. ch. 100, Delaware Freedom of Information Act.

Confidentiality and Proprietary Information

Note: Add additional pages as needed.

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Attachment 6

CONTRACT NO. **GSS11026-LAB_SUPPLIES**

Contract Name: Laboratory Supplies and Equipment

Business References

List a minimum of three business references, including the following information:

- Business Name and Mailing address
- Contact Name and phone number
- Number of years doing business with
- Type of work performed

Please do not list any State Employee as a business reference. If you have held a State contract within the last 5 years, please list the contract.

1. Business Name/Mailing Address:
Contact Name/Phone Number:
Number of years doing business with :
Describe type of work performed:
2. Business Name/Mailing Address:
Contact Name/Phone Number:
Number of years doing business with :
Describe type of work performed:
3. Business Name/Mailing Address:
Contact Name/Phone Number:
Number of years doing business with :
Describe type of work performed:

Attachment 7

* Use a separate form for each subcontractor

ATTACHMENT 8

STATE OF DELAWARE
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ATTACHMENT 9

State of Delaware																		
Subcontracting (2nd tier) Quarterly Report																		
Prime Name:							Report Start Date:											
Contract Name/Number							Report End Date:											
Contact Name:							Today's Date:											
Contact Phone:							*Minimum Required		Requested detail									
Vendor Name*	Vendor TaxID*	Contract Name/ Number*	Vendor Contact Name*	Vendor Contact Phone*	Report Start Date*	Report End Date*	Amount Paid to Subcontractor*	Work Performed by Subcontractor UNSPSC	M/WBE Certifying Agency	Veteran/Service Disabled Veteran Certifying Agency	2nd tier Supplier Name	2nd tier Supplier Address	2nd tier Supplier Phone Number	2nd tier Supplier email	Description of Work Performed	2nd tier Supplier Tax Id	Date Paid	

Note: A copy of the Usage Report will be sent by electronic mail to the Awarded Vendor

Completed reports shall be saved in an Excel format, and submitted to the following email address: vendorusage@state.de.us

OMWBE Certification Application found here:

<http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/certify.shtml>

State of Delaware

Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise Certification Application



Complete application and send via email, fax or mail to:

Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise (OMWBE)
100 Enterprise Place Suite # 4 Dover, DE 19904-8202 Telephone: (302) 857-4554 Fax: (302) 677-7086
Email: deomwbe@state.de.us

Web site: <http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/index.shtml>

Link to Certification Application: <http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/omwbe/certify.shtml>

Important Information Please Read!

Is my firm eligible?

A minority and/or women owned business (sole-proprietorship, partnership, corporation or joint venture) must meet the following criteria:

- a) Minority groups include: African Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Subcontinent Asian Americans.
- b) At least 51 percent owned, controlled and actively managed by minority group members or by women.
- c) Serving a for profit business with “useful business functions.”
- An out-of-state company must first **be certified in its home state** before it can be considered for certification in Delaware. This must be a state-level certification, if available.
- There is no fee for processing your application. In addition, free assistance is available. If you have questions about the application or your company’s qualifications, call (302)739-4206.
- If your business is certified by **Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) City of Wilmington, Minority Supplier Development Council (MSDC), Women Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) and located in Delaware**, there is a specialized shortened application. You must also attach a copy of your certification and mail all documents to the OMWBE.
- Also, please note that it is extremely important to provide other certifying agency documentation. This can expedite the certification process.

Document Request checklist

- **Unless otherwise indicated, copies of documents are sufficient.**
- **Any deficiency may delay the certification process.**
- **Certification generally takes four to six weeks.**
- **An on-site visit.** *(The OMWBE office may schedule an on-site visit once the completed application and appropriate supporting documentation have been received).*

Documents to attach to your application	Sole Prop	Part/ LLP	Corp/ S-Corp	LLC	OMWBE Use
Notarized Minority and Women Business Enterprise Affidavit form	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Copy of birth certificate, permanent resident card, passport or tribal memberships	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Last two years of your firm's tax returns (gross receipts). If not available, last two years W2 and/or 1099 forms for all owners, directors, officers and senior management.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Copy of MBE/WBE certification from home state, if company headquarters are not in Delaware. (must be a state level certification, if available)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Copies of any relevant licenses, certificates of training and degrees held by the company or its owners/employees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Partnership Agreement, including any amendments, buy-out rights as well as any profit sharing arrangements		Yes			
Articles of Incorporation with all amendments		Yes			
Minutes of the last annual shareholders meeting		Yes			
By-laws and By-law Amendments		Yes			
Copy of most recent Stock Ledger		Yes			
Copy of Certificate of Organization				Yes	
Copy of Operating Agreement				Yes	

Delaware Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise Certification

Certification Application

The following is the application for Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) certification with the State of Delaware. All questions must be answered. Please type or print clearly.

Questions that do not apply to your firm should be marked N/A in the space provided.

The Affidavit on page 14 must be signed and notarized by a Notary Public. Faxed copies of the Affidavit will only be accepted if the notary seal has the stamped seal with the expiration date visible. Otherwise, mail the original Affidavit with the raised seal to our office.

Please return the completed application with signature and required notarization to the address below:

**Office of Minority and Women
Business Enterprise
Haslet Armory
122 William Penn Street
Dover, DE 19901**

Phone: (302) 739-4206

Fax: (302) 739-1965

Web site: www.state.de.us/omwbe

Definitions

Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise

A Minority and Women Business Enterprise is a business that is at least 51 percent owned, controlled and actively managed by minority and/or women group members who are United States citizens or persons lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.

The business must be a for-profit business and currently be performing a useful function.

Minorities – United States citizens or permanent residents who are African Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Subcontinent Asian Americans, or as defined herein:

African (Black) Americans. All persons having origins from any of the Black groups of Africa and all persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Cape Verde Islands.

Asian/Pacific Americans. All persons having origins from any of the original peoples of the Far East, Asia, or the Pacific Islands, including China, Japan, Korea, Samoa, Philippine Islands, and Hawaii. Guam, the U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific or the Northern Marianas.

Hispanic Americans. Persons having origins from any of the Spanish-speaking peoples of México, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central or South America, or the Caribbean Islands.

Native Americans. All persons having origins from the original peoples of North America and who are recognized as Native Americans by a tribe or tribal organization.

Subcontinent Asian Americans. All persons whose ancestors originated in India, Pakistan or Bangladesh.

Certification - A determination by the OMWBE that a for-profit business entity is a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and/or Women Business Enterprise (WBE).

Definitions

Ownership

The minority or woman ownership interest in the firm must be real, substantial and continuing and shall go beyond the pro forma ownership of the business as reflected in its ownership documents. The minority and women owners shall enjoy the customary incidents of ownership and shall share in the risks and profits commensurate with their ownership interest as demonstrated both by an examination of the substance and form of arrangements.

Control

Control will be exemplified by possession of the requisite knowledge and expertise to run the particular business. Control includes the authority to determine the direction of a business, including but not limited to capital investments and all other financial transactions; property acquisitions; day-to-day decisions; contract negotiations; legal matters; selection and hiring of officers, directors, and employees; operating responsibility; cost-control; income and dividend matters; and the rights of other shareholders or partners.

The minority and/or women owners must hold the highest officer position in their companies, example chief executive officer or president.

The minority and/or women must demonstrate that they possess the experience, expertise and knowledge to operate their particular types of business.

Expertise limited to office management, administration, or bookkeeping functions unrelated to the principal business activities of the company is insufficient to demonstrate control. Women and/or minority owners must also verify that they hold any licenses or certification required by the type of business in which they are engaged.

Definitions

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) - A for profit business in which at least 51% of the beneficial ownership interest and control are held by a minority or minorities. In the case of a corporation, minorities must hold at least 51% of voting interest.

Minority & Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) - A for-profit business in which at least 51% of beneficial interest and control is held by minority women or by an equal combination of minorities and women. In the case of a corporation, women and minorities must also hold at least 51% of voting interest.

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) - A for-profit business in which at least 51% of beneficial interest and control is held by women. In the case of a corporation, women must also hold at least 51% of the voting interest.

Useful Business Function

A useful business function is one, which results in the provision of materials, supplies, equipment or services to consumers in the State. A business acting as a conduit to transfer funds to a non-minority business does not constitute a useful business function unless doing so is a normal industry practice.

Benefits of Certification

Current certified minority and/or women owned firms are eligible to be listed in the State of Delaware Directory of Minority and Women Owned Businesses which is circulated to all state and local government agencies.

Recertification

At the ends of three years from original certification date, firms must submit the recertification affidavit to remain actively visible in the State of Delaware's Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise database.

Eligibility

A minority and women owned business (sole-proprietorship, partnership, corporation or joint venture) must meet the following criteria:

- a) Belong to a minority group: African Americans, Asian/Pacific Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Subcontinent Asian Americans. *(Please reference above definitions)*
- b) At least 51 percent owned, controlled and actively managed by minority group members or by women.
- c) Serving a for profit business with “useful business functions.” *(Please reference above definitions)*

Reasons for denial *(please note the below may include but not be limited to)*

- a) A business located in a state other than Delaware must first obtain state-level certification in its home state, if such certification is available. “Home state” is defined as the state the company’s headquarters are located.
- b) All securities, which constitute ownership and/or control of a corporation for the purpose of establishing it as a MWBE, must be held directly by minorities or women. No securities held in trust, or by a guardian for a minor, shall be considered as held by a minority or women in determining the ownership or control of a corporation.
- c) If the business operations do not reflect the ownership shown on paper.

- d) Firm is not a for-profit business
- e) Firm has provided false or misleading information
- f) Control will not be deemed to exist in cases of simple majority or absentee ownership, or when a non-minority/non-female owner or employee of the firm is disproportionately responsible for its operation.
- g) The firm shall not be subject to any formal or informal restrictions through, for example through, by-laws provisions, partnership agreements, or charter requirements for cumulative voting rights or otherwise that prevents the minority and women owners, without the cooperation or vote of any owner who is not a minority or women for making a business decision of the firm.
- h) If the owners of the firm who are not minorities or women are disproportionately responsible for the operation of the firm, then the firm is not controlled by minorities and shall not be considered as MWBE within the meaning of the definition. Where the actual management of the firm is contracted out to individuals other than the owner, those person who have the ultimate power to hire and fire the managers, can, for the purpose of this
- i) The certification application was submitted incomplete.

How to Apply

- Applications and additional information are available by calling the Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise at (302) 739-4206 or visiting the web site www.state.de.us/omwbe
- Complete an application for certification and provide required documentation (ethnic status of minority owner(s), financial records, on-going business activity, etc.)
- Provide access to its business facilities and key personnel for state certification on-site visit.

WHERE TO APPLY:

Submit completed applications to:
Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise
Haslet Armory
122 William Penn Street
Dover, DE 19901

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Does certification cost money?

A: No

Q: Are there any set asides for MWBEs?

A: No

Q: Does my certification expire?

A: At the end of three years from original certification date.

Q: Will I be notified of all procurement opportunities?

A: No, however, the OMWBE will continue to research bid opportunities and assist in your effort. We are consistently working on ways to improve communication but strongly encourage you to visit the respective resources.

Q: What is the best way to communicate with the OMWBE?

A: Email. Please check your email daily for procurement opportunities.

Q: Do I have to register with any other agency?

A: Yes. There are multiple agencies that have their own contractor's list. Please check OMWBE's web site for each respective agency. For example, Government Support Services and the Department of Technology and Information have vendor registration processes.

State of Delaware Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise Application
All completed applications must be returned with the appropriate requested documents listed.

Please type or print clearly

OMWBE use only: Application Date:

Mail application to:
Office of Women and Minority Business Enterprise
Haslet Armory
122 William Penn Street
Dover, DE 19901

If you have any questions regarding the completion of this application, please contact us at (302) 739-4206.

**Note – This section must be filled out in its entirety for the application to be processed.
Incomplete applications will not be processed.**

1. Business Name(s), Contact Information, Federal Employee Identification Number or Social Security Number(EIN/SSN)				
Legal Name of Firm:				
Doing Business As (If applicable):				
Federal E.IN or SSN:		E-Mail Address:		
Address line 1:				
Address line 2:				
City		State	Zip Code	Country
Telephone Number:		Extension:	Fax Number:	
Company Web Site Address:				
Corp ☐	LLC* ☐	S Corp ☐	Partnership ☐	LLP** ☐
Sole Proprietor ☐				
Joint Venture ☐				
Date firm was established?				
Date firm began doing business (date of first contract or sale)				

* Limited Liability Corporation

** Limited Liability Partnership

2. Primary owner applicant information				
Name:		Title:		
Home Address:		City:	State:	Zip Code: Country:
Telephone Number:		Extension:	Fax Number:	
E-Mail Address:				
Date owner acquired controlling interest?				
Sex: ☐ M ☐ F		Ethnic Group:		
U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident: ☐ No ☐ Yes				

3. Firm is applying as:			
Minority Business Enterprise		Women Business Enterprise	
☐ African American	☐ Asian American	☐ African American	☐ Asian American
☐ Hispanic American	☐ Native American	☐ Hispanic American	☐ Native American
☐ Subcontinent Asian	☐ Other	☐ Subcontinent Asian	☐ White American
		☐ Other	

4. Describe, in detail, what product(s) and/or services your business provides. Attach additional pages and/or the company's catalog or inventory list, if needed.

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5. Five digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code(s): (To assist you in determining your NAICS Code(s) go to www.census.gov/naics)					
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

6. Type of Business		
☐ Building trade	☐ Manufacturer	☐ Other
☐ Consultant	☐ Supplier	
☐ Generalized service	☐ Highway Construction	
☐ Licensed professional services		

7. Provide the following information for: 1) all business owners, 2) corporate directors (if incorporated), 3) officers, and 4) senior management. If more space is needed, attach additional pages.

Name	Title	Date Appointed	Gender	Ethnicity
Officers of the Company				
Board of Directors				

8. Is any owner or board member of the business, an owner or former owner of another firm engaged in the same or similar type of enterprise?

☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, identity below)

9. Are there any written, oral, or implied agreements between persons associated in any manner with the firm concerning its ownership and/or operation? (check one) ☐ No ☐ Yes

10. Please list the gross receipts of last two years

(A) Year Ending:	Gross Receipts:
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(B) Year Ending:	Gross Receipts:
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11. Number of employees

Full time:

Part time:

Seasonal (approximate):

12. List names and titles of persons who perform the following functions. If more than one, indicate what percent each person handles.

	Name	Ethnicity	Gender
Financial Decisions			
Estimating & Bidding			
Negotiating & Contract Execution			
Personnel Management			
Field/Production Operations Supervisor			
Office Management			
Marketing/Sales			
Purchasing of Major Equipment			
Authorized to Sign Company Checks (for any purpose)			

13. Identify persons or firms who provide Legal, Accounting, and Banking services:			
Attorney:		Contact:	
Phone:	Fax:	Email:	
Address:			
Accountant:		Contact:	
Phone:	Fax:	Email:	
Address:			
Bank:		Contact:	
Phone:	Fax:		
Address:			

14. If the business is a corporation or LLC, please list the following information:
a. Total shares authorized:
b. Total shares issued to date:
c. Are there any restrictions that limit the voting rights of ethnic minority group members, who are shareholders, within the By-laws or Articles of Incorporation, or any other documents? ☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, please explain below)

15. List the three largest contracts or sales completed by the firm during the last three years. List each customer's name and company or organization, the dollar amount of each contract or sale, and the date completed. If any are subcontracts, provide the name of the firm to which you subcontracted.			
1. Company or Individual:			
Address, City, State:			
Phone:	Fax:	Email:	
Description & Amount:			
2. Company or Individual:			
Address, City, State:			
Phone:	Fax:	Email:	
Description & Amount:			
3. Company or Individual:			
Address, City, State:			
Phone:	Fax:	Email:	
Description & Amount:			

16. Has this firm or other firm(s) owned by any of its current owners or officers ever been denied certification by the OMWBE or any other certifying entity (check one)? ☐ No; ☐ Yes (If yes, provide the name of the certifying organization and the reason(s) given for denial, below. Attach copies of any relevant documents (letters, appeal documents, etc.).)

17. Debarment

Is this company, or any other company owned in full or part by any of this company's owners and/or officers, currently debarred from doing business with the State of Delaware? ☐ No; ☐ Yes.

18. Is the Business certified as a M/W/BE with any other certifying agency? If yes, provide the name(s) of the certifying organization(s), below, and attach letters or other documents verifying such certification.

☐ No ☐ Yes

Name	Date Certified	Expiration Date
a.		
b.		
c.		
d.		
e.		
f.		

19. How did you hear about the Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise:

☐ OMWBE staff speak at an event sponsored by another organization	☐ OMWBE staff at a trade show or expo
☐ OMWBE's web site	☐ Materials published by OMWBE
☐ Referred by another organization	☐ Referred by the owner of an MBE or WBE
☐ Delaware state employee	☐ Other, please explain briefly:

Optional Questions

You are not required to answer the following questions and the answers will not affect your company's eligibility for certification. However, the answers will help OMWBE to identify business opportunities that may be suited to your company. Answers may be estimated; exact figures aren't necessary.

For all companies
How many years has your company been conducting business with you as owner?
How many contracts, subcontracts, and/or sales has your company completed during the last 12 months?
What is the largest contract, subcontract, or sale your company completed in the past 24 months?
Has your company done any business with government? ☐ No; ☐ Yes
If yes, what level of government (check all that apply): ☐ Federal; ☐ State; ☐ Local
Has your company done any business with government in the State of Delaware? ☐ No; ☐ Yes
Number of government contracts, subcontracts, or sales completed (estimate):
For Construction-Related Companies Only (not including suppliers of construction materials)
What is your company's bonding capacity? \$ (indicate "unknown" if you do not know)
What % of your business is direct contracting?
What % of your business is subcontracting?

State of Delaware Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise Affidavit

Hereafter, "the Business" refers to

Business Name

I understand the illegal nature of receiving public or private funds or other property as a consequence of false representation as to the minority status of the business and do herein certify under penalty imposed by Delaware statutes that the information provided is correct and said information herein may be used for the purposes of certifying the business as a Minority and/or Women Business Enterprise. Any false representation will be grounds for denying certification or initiating decertification in the future.

I agree to make available for inspection to the MWBE office any such materials that may be required to substantiate the degree of minority and women ownership and control of the business. I agree to arrange for on-site inspections of the business' facilities in order to verify information provided in this document.

I agree to provide written information relative to any future change in ownership and/or management of the business to the MWBE office within two weeks of the occurrence of the change. I acknowledge that failure to timely submit required change of status documentation might result in the decertification of the business.

I understand that the certification expiration is three years following the initial date of certification. I further understand that the business must apply for recertification prior to the expiration.

Type or Print Name of Owner

Signature of Owner

Date

Title

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of
_____ a.d.

Month, Year

Signed _____
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE

County of _____

State _____

My Commission Expires _____
Date



