

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

INVITATION FOR BID

ATTENTION: This is not an order. Read all instructions and terms and conditions carefully.

INVITATION NO.:	T052477	RETURN ALL COPIES OF BIDS TO:
Issue Date:	7/21/2011	THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
Title:	Mulch and Bark Nuggets	PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
Buyer:	Robin Schmitt	(Street Address) 1101 Jackson Ave Suite 3000
Phone:	(205) 348-5385	Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
Email:	rschmitt@fa.ua.edu	OR
		(Mailing Address) Box 870130
		Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487
		PHONE: (205)348-5230 FAX: (205) 348-8706

Bid Responses may NOT be faxed or emailed.

IMPORTANT: SEALED BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 8/1/2011 @ 2:00 P.M. CST TIME

Bid number and opening date must be clearly marked on the outside of all bid packages.

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the State of Alabama Competitive Bid Law, Section 41-16-20 and/or 39-2, rules and regulations adopted there under sealed bids will be received on the items noted herein by The University of Alabama Purchasing Department until the date and time stated above. In accordance with Alabama State Bid Law Section 41-16-27, where applicable, the University reserves the right to enter into negotiations within thirty (30) days of the bid opening.
2. The University's [General Terms and Conditions](#) and [Instructions to Bidders](#), viewable at www.purchasing.ua.edu/vendors apply to this Solicitation and shall become a part of any contract issued hereunder.
3. For purposes of this Solicitation, the Solicitation documents shall consist of the following components:
a) Invitation for Bid and any Addenda; b) [General Terms and Conditions](#); c) [Instructions to Bidders](#)
In the event that any provision of the component parts of the Solicitation conflicts with any provision of any other component parts, the component part first enumerated shall govern.
4. This Agreement and any disputes hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the State of Alabama without regard to conflict of law principles.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ACT NO. 2006-557

Alabama law (section 41-4-116, code of Alabama 1975) provides that every bid submitted and contract executed shall contain a certification that the vendor, contractor, and all of its affiliates that make sales for delivery into Alabama or leases for use in Alabama are registered, collecting, and remitting Alabama state and local sales, use, and/or lease tax on all taxable sales and leases in Alabama. **By submitting a response to this solicitation, the bidder is hereby certifying that they are in full compliance with Act No. 2006-557;** they are not barred from bidding or entering into a contract pursuant to 41-4-116, and acknowledges that The University of Alabama may declare the contract void if the certification is false.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. If you or any owner, officer, partner, board or director member, employee, or holder of more than 5% of the fair market value of your firm or any member of their households is an employee of The University of Alabama, this information must be included in your solicitation response. Failure to disclose this information in your response may result in the elimination of your proposal from evaluation.
2. If you or any owner, officer, partner, board or director member, employee, or holder of more than 5% of the fair market value of your firm or any member of their households is an employee of The University of Alabama; and you or your firm is awarded a contract as a result of this solicitation, then within ten (10) days after the contract is entered into, you agree to file a copy of that contract with the State of Alabama Ethics Commission in accordance with Code of Alabama, Section 36-25-11 and upon request by the University furnish evidence of such filing.
3. By accepting payments agreed to in any purchase order resulting from this bid, Contractor certifies that to its knowledge no University employee or official, and no family members of a University employee or official, will receive a benefit from these payments, except as has been previously disclosed, in writing, to the University on the Disclosure Statement of Relationship Between Contractors/Grantees and Employees/Officials of The University of Alabama.

AUTHENTICATION OF BID AND STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION AND NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST

I hereby swear (or affirm) under the penalty for false swearing as provided in Code of Alabama 6-5-180 that

1. In accordance with Code of Alabama Section 41-16-25, amended 1975 that the attached response has been arrived at independently and has been submitted without collusion with, and without any agreement, understanding or planned common course of action with, any other vendor of materials, supplies, equipment or services described in the Invitation for Bids, designed to limit independent bidding or competition;
2. The contents of the bid or bids have not been communicated by the bidder or its employees or agents to any person not an employee or agent of the bidder or its surety on any bond furnished with the bid or bids and will not be communicated to any such person prior to the official opening of the bid or bids.
3. The bidder is legally entitled to enter into contracts with The University of Alabama and is not in violation of any prohibited conflict of interest, including those prohibited by the Code of Alabama 13A-10-62, as amended 1975.
4. I have fully informed myself regarding the accuracy of the statement made above.

THIS AREA MUST BE COMPLETED

DELIVERY AFTER RECEIPT OF ORDER:	NAME OF COMPANY:	PHONE:
FEDERAL EMPLOYER ID NO.:	ADDRESS:	FAX:
PAYMENT TERMS:	ADDRESS:	E-MAIL:
SHIPPING TERMS:	CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE:	DATE:
F.O.B. DESTINATION—PREPAID AND ALLOWED		
QUOTE VALID UNTIL:	SIGNATURE:	Typed/Printed Name of Signor

SIGNATURE REQUIRED: This bid cannot be considered valid unless signed and dated by an authorized agent of the bidder. Type or print the information requested in the spaces provided.

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The University of Alabama requests sealed bids as per attached general and technical specifications or equal unless otherwise specified in the Special Conditions.

All Bidders submitting a bid must read all specifications carefully and respond accordingly. Failure to do so may eliminate your bid from consideration due to non-compliance.

1.0 GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

- 1.1 All bid responses, technical information and any other attachments furnished to The University of Alabama in response to this request for quotation must be submitted in duplicate (THE ORIGINAL BID AND ATTACHMENTS WITH ORIGINAL SIGNATURE AND ONE EXACT COPY OF THE ENTIRE BID RESPONSE). Bidders who fail to follow this format may be disqualified from the evaluation and award phase of this bid.
- 1.2 The stated requirements appearing elsewhere in this solicitation shall become a part of the terms and conditions of any resulting contract. Any deviations there from must be specifically defined. If accepted by the University, the deviations shall become part of the contract, but such deviations must not be in conflict with the basic nature of this solicitation.

Note: Bidders shall not submit their standard terms and conditions or purchase order terms as exceptions to or modification of the terms and conditions of this solicitation. Each exception to or modification of a University term and condition shall be individually listed by the bidder. Failure to follow this instruction may result in the determination that a bid submission is non-responsive to a solicitation and the rejection of that bid.

- 1.3 The issuance of a University Purchase Order (P#) or a signed Contract document is required to constitute a contract between the successful Bidder and the University which shall bind the successful Bidder to furnish and deliver the commodities ordered at the prices, terms and conditions quoted and in accordance with the specifications of this Solicitation as well as the terms and conditions of the University's Purchase Order or Contract. No shipments are to be made to The University of Alabama without the issuance of a Purchase Order (P#). (Bidders are not to accept or ship items against a requisition number "R" #.)
- 1.4 Any questions concerning these specifications should be directed to the Buyer listed on the signature page.
- 1.5 No department, school or office at the University has the authority to solicit or receive official Solicitations nor authorize Solicitation or Contract changes other than the Purchasing Department. All solicitations are issued under the direct supervision of the Associate Director for Purchasing and in complete accordance with the State of Alabama Bid Law, Section 41-16-20 and University policies and procedures.
- 1.6 The terms and conditions included in this Solicitation along with any addenda, any University contract and/or University purchase order(s) issued referencing this Solicitation, the University's General Terms and Conditions, Instructions to Bidders shall constitute the entire and exclusive Contract between the University and the successful Bidder.

2.0 QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

Due to the importance of maintaining a safe University environment, it is imperative that the successful bidder meet certain qualifications that will guarantee The University of Alabama the successful Bidder is qualified to furnish and deliver products, equipment and services or furnish, deliver, install, service and/or repair equipment whichever is applicable as required in this Solicitation. In order for Bidders to qualify, the following requirements must be fulfilled:

- 2.1 The Bidder must provide, in writing, a statement that the Bidder has been regularly engaged in business for a minimum three (3) years engaging in furnishing, delivering, servicing, repairing and installing, equipment, goods, or services required in this Solicitation. In lieu of the minimum number of years in business, a performance bond may be submitted in the amount of one hundred (100 %) per cent of the contract price. This bond will be used to secure the completion of the project should the successful Bidder default for any reason. Failure to comply with this requirement may eliminate your bid response from consideration.

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- 2.2 Each bidder required to provide a bond, shall submit a letter from a bonding agent licensed to do business in the State of Alabama stating that if the bidding company is the successful bidder, said bonding agent will furnish a 100% performance and payment bond covering and including products and service for the duration of the contract period. Said bond shall be subject to the approval and acceptance of The University of Alabama. The bond must be furnished to the University Purchasing Department within forty-eight (48) hours after receipt of the purchase order. The premium of the bond shall be paid by the successful bidder. Failure to provide the bond letter or bond will eliminate your bid from consideration in the bid award.

3.0 REFERENCES

References must include at least three (3) other universities, institutions or businesses, which the bidder has successfully provided products, services or installation of equipment similar to those required in this Solicitation in terms of manufacturer, size, features, service or type of installation. The references must include company name, address, project/delivery date, contact name, phone number, and email address.

4.0 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Specify all terms and conditions of the warranties associated with your products with your bid response.

5.0 PRICE QUOTATION

- 5.1 **IMPORTANT:** It is required that the PRICE QUOTATION SHEET(S) furnished with this Request for Price Quotation be completed and submitted with your proposal. DO NOT send generated price lists as your bid. Failure to comply with this request may eliminate your bid from consideration in the bid award.
- 5.2 All prices shall be quoted furnish and install (if applicable) FOB The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 prepay and allowed. Unit prices quoted must include any and all shipping and handling charges. Any freight claims will be the responsibility of the Bidder. The successful Bidder must transport at the time of set-up, the equipment and supplies necessary for this installation to campus. No direct shipments will be accepted.
- 5.3 It is the Bidder's responsibility to verify any information, measurements and obtain any clarifications prior to submitting the bid response. The University is not liable for any errors or misinterpretations made by the Bidder in response to this Solicitation.
- 5.4 The successful Bidder under the specifications required in this Solicitation shall furnish at its expense all equipment, labor, tools, supplies, transportation, insurance and other expenses necessary to fully perform any phase of the requirements of this Solicitation.
- 5.5 Quote prices firm for a period of ninety (90) days following the bid opening date unless otherwise stated in the Special Conditions. Bids that do not guarantee pricing firm for this period may be eliminated. Failure to quote the term for which your prices will remain firm may eliminate your bid from consideration.
- 5.6 The quoted price must include but not be limited to all cables, wires, connectors, etc. to make a complete functioning unit unless specifically stated in the special conditions.
- 5.7 Include with your bid response complete details of your company's Return Merchandise policy, including, but not limited to, amount of any restocking fee required, procedures, limitations, contact person and phone number. While the University does not enter into any purchase with the intent to return items ordered, we do require this information be included with your bid response. Failure to include this information may be grounds for elimination of your bid from consideration.

6.0 DELIVERY, INSTALLATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1 Proposed delivery dates shall be stated in number of calendar days after receipt of order.
- 6.2 All items must be delivered directly to the University by the successful Bidder and placed according to the instructions supplied by the University.

7.0 INSURANCE

- 7.1 See [General Terms and Conditions](#) for general Insurance Requirements, Additional Insurance requirements may be listed in the Special Conditions Section.
- 7.2 The successful Bidder shall provide the University Purchasing Department a certificate of insurance listing the required types of insurance and minimum liabilities specified in the [General Terms and Conditions](#) unless otherwise modified in the Special Conditions.
- 7.3 The certificate must be received by The University of Alabama Purchasing Department within three (3) days of request. Failure to comply with this request may eliminate your bid from consideration in the bid award.
- 7.4 The University reserves the right to terminate any resulting contract, if the Bidder fails to keep these policies in force for the above amounts or for the duration of the contract period.
- 7.5 The umbrella policy must be listed on the insurance certificate with an explanation of the coverage.

8.0 RESTRICTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS WITH UNIVERSITY STAFF

From the issue date of this Solicitation until a Contractor is selected and a contract award is made, Bidders are not allowed to communicate about the subject of the IFB with any University administrator faculty, staff, or members of the Board of Trustees except:

- The Purchasing Department representative, any University Purchasing Official representing the University administration, or others authorized in writing by the Purchasing Office and
- University Representatives during Bidder presentations.

If violation of this provision occurs, the University reserves the right to reject the Bidder's response to this Solicitation.

9.0 SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- 9.1 The University of Alabama is requesting sealed bids to establish a contract upon date of award to Furnish and Deliver Mulch and Pine Bark Nuggets as per attached general and technical specifications or equal.
- 9.2 Supplies will be ordered on an "as needed" basis as requirements arise during the contract period. The University of Alabama does not guarantee any specific quantity will be purchased during the contract period.
- 9.3 Delivery is needed one (1) week or less after receipt of order and in emergencies twenty-four (24) hours.
- 9.4 The successful vendor will be required to unload products at the site specified by The University of Alabama Grounds Department. All Products must be Palletized, Wrapped, and Unloaded with the Vendors Forklift.
- 9.5 Vendor must notify The University of Alabama Grounds Department to confirm specific delivery location before unloading products. Failure to notify The University of Alabama Grounds Department could result in vendor paying the expense of relocating product to correct location by UA employees.
- 9.6 Pricing for this contract must be firm for an initial twelve-month (12) period upon date of award. However, upon mutual agreement between the successful vendor and The University of Alabama, this contract may be renewed up to four (4) additional (12) twelve-month periods with a negotiable price increase in years two (2) through five (5) to meet the challenge of providing pricing for long periods of time. The University of Alabama will consider price adjustment clauses necessary to assure the most aggressive pricing structure. Adjustments can be made no more than once per year.

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10.0 QUOTE SHEET

SCOPE: The University of Alabama is requesting sealed bids to establish a contract upon date of award to **Furnish and Deliver Mulch and Pine Bark Nuggets** as per attached general and technical specifications or equal.

NOTE: The unit cost of each item quoted must include all surcharges, fuel charges, shipping and handling charges. Do not list these as a separate charge when quoting or invoicing. Quote prices delivered and unloaded to The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.

NOTE: Any alternates must meet or exceed all the specifications of the items specified in the bid. This includes but not limited to: the physical, safety, and warranty specifications.

NOTE: The successful vendor will be required to unload products at the site specified by The University of Alabama Grounds Department. All Products must be Palletized, Wrapped, and Unloaded with the Vendors Forklift.

SECTION 1: MULCH:

SHREADED PINE MULCH

- Composition = Hardwood or Pine Bark
- Maximum Particle Size = 5/8 to 1 1/2 Square inches
- Color = Rich Dark Brown
- Free of Chromate Copper Arsenate (CCA) and other preservatives

Delivered & Unloaded Price \$ _____/Yd

Delivered & Unloaded Price \$ _____/Truckload

How many Yards are in your truckload price? _____

SECTION 2: BARK NUGGETS:

PINE BARK MINI NUGGETS

- Composition = Pine Bark
- Maximum Particle Size = 1-2 1/2 Square inches
- Color = Rich Reddish – Brown
- Free of Chromate Copper Arsenate (CCA) and other preservatives

Delivered & Unloaded Price \$ _____/Bag

Delivered & Unloaded Price \$ _____/Pallet

How many Yards are in your truckload price? _____

SECTION 3: WARRANTY INFORMATION:

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SECTION 4: REBATE:

The University of Alabama requests an annual rebate check based on order dollars placed. The rebate should be received 30 days after the first year (12 month) anniversary date of the award of contract. The rebate process will repeat each year while the vendor is under contract with The University of Alabama.

Will your company offer an annual rebate? YES _____ NO _____

If yes what percent of order dollars placed is the Rebate Offer: _____%?

Please explain your rebate criteria: _____

SECTION 5: UNANTICIPATED ITEMS

This section allows for the purchase of unanticipated items to be purchased under this contract. Please quote your firm percentage mark-up above your cost that will apply for the duration of this contract. Please note when a University department contacts you for a quote for items that fall under this section your quote must show your cost, the percentage of mark-up you quoted below and then the extended price the University will be expected to pay.

Cost Plus _____% Mark-up

Can you meet the expected delivery of one (1) week or less after receipt of order? Yes _____ No _____

If no, what is your expected delivery? _____

Can you meet an unanticipated emergency delivery within twenty-four (24) hours? Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate if you can accept ACH payments (direct deposit): YES _____ NO _____



DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. Contract/Purchase Order No. _____
2. Name of Contract/Grantee: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____
Fax: _____
3. Nature of Contract/Grant: _____

4. Does the contractor/grantee have any relationships with any employee or official of the University, or a family member of such employee or official, that will enable such employee or official, or his/her family member, to benefit from this contract? If so, please state the names, relationships, and nature of the benefit.

(For employees of the University, family members include spouse and dependents. For members of the Board of Trustees (officials), family members include spouse, dependents, adult children and their spouses, parents, in-laws, siblings and their spouses.)

This Disclosure Form will be available for public inspection upon request.

The above information is true and accurate, to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Authorized Agent of Contractor/Grantee

Date: _____

RETURN FORM TO: The University of Alabama
Purchasing Dept.
Box 870130
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0130
Ph: (205) 348-5230
Fax: (205) 348-8706
www.purchasing.ua.edu