



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

by

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

for

Selection of a Vendor to provide Electronic Eligibility

related to

University Hospitals and Clinics

RFP No. UTH11-00

Submittal Deadline: 3:00PM CST on Friday, December 9, 2011

Issued: November 16, 2011

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: <u>INTRODUCTION</u>	3
SECTION 2: <u>NOTICE TO PROPOSER</u>	5
SECTION 3: <u>SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL</u>	9
SECTION 4: <u>GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS</u>	11
SECTION 5: <u>SPECIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS</u>	20
SECTION 6: <u>PRICING AND DELIVERY SCHEDULE</u>	25

Attachments:

<u>APPENDIX ONE:</u>	PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS.....	27
<u>APPENDIX TWO:</u>	HUB SUBCONTRACTING PLAN	37

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Description of the University

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas ranks among the world's leading academic medical centers, patient-care providers and research institutions. Its faculty members, who are responsible for a broad array of groundbreaking biomedical research advances, are respected for their dedication to teaching. UT Southwestern's physicians provide patients with the highest quality of care throughout the medical center's outpatient clinics and affiliated hospitals.

Part of The University of Texas System, UT Southwestern Medical Center includes three degree-granting institutions: Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School. These three schools train more than 4,200 medical, graduate and allied health students, residents and postdoctoral fellows each year.

As one of the foremost research facilities in the world, UT Southwestern, with its four active Nobel Laureates and 17 members of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, educates scientists whose research advances the frontiers of biomedical research and whose discoveries benefit society; conduct more than 3,500 research projects annually totaling more than \$350 million.

UT Southwestern provides inpatient care to more than 92,000 people and oversees approximately 1.7 million outpatient visits annually. The University's 452-bed hospital, located in the St. Paul and Zale Lipshy buildings, offers patients superior care and outstanding service provided by a highly trained staff. In addition, UT Southwestern operates seven clinic facilities on the campus, housing 22 individual clinics and patient care centers, and offers extensive clinical services through a network of well-respected affiliated hospitals and clinics offering comprehensive diagnostic services and therapies for citizens of the Dallas-Fort Worth area and around the world.

1.2 Background and Special Circumstances:

In order to ensure best possible pricing and product acceptability, the University Hospital Purchasing Department has made the decision to consider proposals for Electronic Eligibility solutions which will have to be closely integrated with UT Southwestern AR/EMR systems

1.3 Objective of this Request for Proposal

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (the "**University**") is soliciting proposals in response to this Request for Proposal for Selection of a Vendor to Provide Electronic Eligibility solutions for University Hospitals and Clinics RFP No. UTH11-0047 (this "**RFP**"), from qualified vendors is to provide a complete integrated solution with the EPIC AR and EMR systems for both Hospital billing and Professional billing systems. The Products and Services, which are more specifically described in **Section 5.4** (Scope of Work) of this RFP, include (1.) Electronic Eligibility to verify demographic and insurance information. (2.) Patient address verification. (3.) Integrate with EPIC. (4.) Patient Payment estimator (5.) Up-front cost and timeline for

implementation (6) Demonstration of a live system with other hospitals in a similar set up (7.)Yearly recurring cost (8) Duration of contract (9.)Cancellation verbiage.(10.) Reporting functionalities both operational and strategic. (11.) Ability to interact directly with payor websites for additional information not available through 271 (12.) Customizing alerts and responses and the ease of interpreting the same.

SECTION 2

NOTICE TO PROPOSER

2.1 Submittal Deadline

University will accept proposals submitted in response to this RFP until **3:00 p.m.**, Central Prevailing Time on **Friday, December 9, 2011** (the “**Submittal Deadline**”).

2.2 University Contact Person

Proposers will direct all questions or concerns in writing regarding this RFP to the following University contact (the “**University Contact**”):

Scott Kendall
Director of Materials Management
UT Southwestern University Hospitals
5909 Harry Hines Blvd. Dallas, Texas 75390-8827
Tel: (214) 645-1109
Fax: (214) 645-1108
Email: Scott.Kendall@utsouthwestern.edu

University specifically instructs all interested parties to restrict all contact and questions regarding this RFP to written communications forwarded to the University Contact. The University Contact must receive all questions or concerns no later than the **close of business day Friday December 2, 2011**. University will have a reasonable amount of time to respond to questions or concerns. It is University's intent to respond to all appropriate questions and concerns; however, University reserves the right to decline to respond to any question or concern.

2.3 Criteria for Selection

The successful Proposer, if any, selected by University in accordance with the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP will be the Proposer that submits a proposal in response to this RFP on or before the Submittal Deadline that is the most advantageous to University. The successful Proposer is referred to as the “**Contractor**.”

Proposer is encouraged to propose terms and conditions offering the maximum benefit to University in terms of (1) services to University, (2) total overall cost to University, and (3) project management expertise. Proposers should describe all educational, state and local government discounts, as well as any other applicable discounts that may be available to University in a contract for the Services.

An evaluation team from University will evaluate proposals. The evaluation of proposals and the selection of the Contractor will be based on the information provided by Proposer in its proposal. University may give consideration to additional information if University deems such information relevant.

The criteria to be considered by University in evaluating proposals and selecting the Contractor will be those factors listed below:

- 2.3.1 the cost of goods and services;
- 2.3.2 the reputation of the Proposer and of the Proposer's goods or services;
- 2.3.3 the quality of the Proposer's goods or services;
- 2.3.4 the extent to which the goods or services meet the University's needs;
- 2.3.5 the Proposer's past relationship with the University;
- 2.3.6 the impact on the ability of the University to comply with laws and rules relating to historically underutilized businesses and to the procurement of goods and services from persons with disabilities and
- 2.3.7 the total long-term cost to the University of acquiring the Proposer's goods or services
- 2.3.8 The Proposer selected will be the respondent whose proposal, as presented in the response to this request, is the most advantageous to the University. The University personnel will evaluate proposals and selection of the supplier for this award will be based on, but not limited to, the following factors:
 - GPO compliance
 - Response time
 - Ability to provide a full line of products as specified by the University
 - Service

The most important criterion will be the projected capability of the vendor to provide timely and accurate products based on the specifications provided by the departments. Minimum required performance specifications, to be guaranteed by the Proposer, are also outlined in this RFP. .

2.4 Key Events Schedule

Issuance of RFP	November 16, 2011
Deadline for Questions/Concerns	December 2, 2011, Close of Business Day (ref. Section 2.2 of this RFP)
Submittal Deadline	December 9, 2011 3:00PM Central Prevailing Time (ref. Section 2.1 of this RFP)

2.5 Historically Underutilized Businesses

- 2.5.1 All agencies of the State of Texas are required to make a good faith effort to assist historically underutilized businesses (each a “**HUB**”) in receiving contract awards. The goal of the HUB program is to promote full and equal business opportunity for all businesses in contracting with state agencies. Pursuant to the HUB program, if under the terms of any agreement or contractual arrangement resulting from this RFP, the Contractor subcontracts any of the Services, then the Contractor must make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs certified by the Texas Building and Procurement Commission. Proposals that fail to comply with the requirements contained in this Section 2.5 will constitute a material failure to comply with advertised specifications and will be rejected by the University as non-responsive. Additionally, compliance with good faith effort guidelines is a condition precedent to awarding any agreement or contractual arrangement resulting from this RFP. Proposer acknowledges that, if selected by University, its obligation to make a good faith effort to utilize HUBs when subcontracting any of the Services will continue throughout the term of all agreements and contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP. Furthermore, any

subcontracting of the Services by the Proposer is subject to review by the University to ensure compliance with the HUB program.

2.5.2 The University has reviewed this RFP in accordance with Chapter 1, *Texas Administrative Code*, Section 111.14, and has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under this RFP.

2.5.3 A HUB Subcontracting Plan (“**HSP**”) is required as part of Proposer’s proposal. The HSP will be developed and administered in accordance with University’s Policy on Utilization of Historically Underutilized Businesses attached as **APPENDIX TWO** and incorporated for all purposes.

*Each Proposer must complete and return the HSP in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP, including **APPENDIX TWO**. Proposers that fail to do so will be considered non-responsive to this RFP in accordance with Section 2161.252, Government Code.*

The Contractor will not be permitted to change its HSP unless: (1) the Contractor completes a newly modified version of the HSP in accordance with the terms of **APPENDIX TWO** that sets forth all changes requested by the Contractor, (2) the Contractor provides the University with such a modified version of the HSP, (3) the University approves the modified HSP in writing, and (4) all agreements or contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP are amended in writing by the University and the Contractor to conform to the modified HSP.

2.5.4 Proposer must submit one (1) original of the HSP to the University at the same time it submits its proposal to the University (ref. **Section 3.2** of this RFP.) The original of the HSP must be submitted under separate cover and in a separate envelope (the “**HSP Envelope**”). Proposer must ensure that the top outside surface of its HSP Envelope clearly shows and makes visible:

2.5.4.1 the RFP No. (ref. **Section 1.3** of this RFP) and the Submittal Deadline (ref. **Section 2.1** of this RFP), both located in the lower left hand corner of the top surface of the envelope,

2.5.4.2 the name and the return address of the Proposer, and

2.5.4.3 the phrase “HUB Subcontracting Plan”.

Any proposal submitted in response to this RFP that is not accompanied by a separate HSP Envelope meeting the above requirements will be rejected by the University and returned to the Proposer unopened as that proposal will be considered non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications. Furthermore, the University will open a Proposer’s HSP Envelope prior to opening the proposal submitted by the Proposer, in order to ensure that the Proposer has submitted the number of completed and signed originals of the Proposer’s HSP that are required by this RFP. A Proposer’s failure to submit the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will result in the University’s rejection of the proposal submitted by that Proposer as non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications; such a proposal will be returned to the Proposer unopened. (Ref. **Section 1.5** of **Appendix One** to this RFP.) **Note:** The requirement that

Proposer provide two originals of the HSP under this **Section 2.5.4** is separate from and does not affect Proposer's obligation to provide the University with the number of copies of its proposal as specified in **Section 3.1** of this RFP.

2.6 Pre-Proposal Conference

There will be no pre-proposal conference for the RFP. All questions submitted by interested Parties will be answered and given to all vendors.

SECTION 3

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

3.1 Number of Copies

Proposer must submit a total of three (3) complete and identical copies, one of which must be electronic, of its *entire* proposal. An *original* signature by an authorized officer of Proposer must appear on the Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**) of at least one (1) copy of the submitted proposal. The copy of the Proposer's proposal bearing an original signature should contain the mark "original" on the front cover of the proposal.

3.2 Submission

Proposals must be received by University on or before the Submittal Deadline (ref. **Section 2.1** of this RFP) and should be delivered to:

Donnie McLaughlin, Strategic Value Analysis Coordinator
Attention: Purchasing Department-SPUH
5909 Harry Hines Blvd.
Dallas, TX. 75390

3.3 Proposal Validity Period

Each proposal must state that it will remain valid for University's acceptance for a minimum of ninety (90) days after the Submittal Deadline, to allow time for evaluation, selection, and any unforeseen delays.

3.4 Terms and Conditions

3.4.1 Proposer must comply with the requirements and specifications contained in this RFP, the Terms and Conditions (ref. **Section 4** of this RFP), the Notice to Proposer (ref. **Section 2** of this RFP), Proposal Requirements (ref. **APPENDIX ONE**) and the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP). If there is a conflict among the provisions in this RFP, the provision requiring Proposer to supply the better quality or greater quantity of services will prevail, or if such conflict does not involve quality or quantity, then interpretation will be in the following order of precedence:

3.4.1.1. Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP);

3.4.1.2. Terms and Conditions (ref. **Section 4** of this RFP);

3.4.1.3. Proposal Requirements (ref. **APPENDIX ONE**);

3.4.1.4. Notice to Proposers (ref. **Section 2** of this RFP).

3.5 Submittal Checklist

Proposer is instructed to complete, sign, and return the following documents as a part of its proposal. If Proposer fails to return each of the following items with its proposal, then University may reject the proposal:

- 3.5.1 Signed and Completed Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**)
- 3.5.2 Signed and Completed Pricing and Delivery Schedule (ref. **Section 6** of this RFP)
- 3.5.3 Responses to Proposer's General Questionnaire (ref. **Section 3** of **APPENDIX ONE**)
- 3.5.4 Responses to questions and requests for information in the Specifications and Additional Questions Section (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP)
- 3.5.5 Signed and completed originals of the HUB Subcontracting Plan (ref. **Section 2.5** of this RFP and **APPENDIX TWO**).

SECTION 4

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.1 General

The terms and conditions contained in this **Section 4** or, in the sole discretion of University, terms and conditions substantially similar to these terms and conditions, will be included in any contract or agreement that results from this RFP (ref. **Section 1.4** of **APPENDIX ONE**).

As indicated in **Section 2.3** of this RFP, the successful Proposer is referred to as the “**Contractor**.”

4.2 Family Code Child Support Certification

Pursuant to Section 231.006, *Family Code*, Contractor certifies that it is not ineligible to receive the award of or payments under this Agreement and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

4.3 Eligibility Certification

Pursuant to Section 2155.004, *Government Code*, Contractor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Agreement has not received compensation for participation in the preparation of the Request for Proposal related to this Agreement and is not ineligible to receive the award of or payments under this Agreement; and acknowledges that this Agreement may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

4.4 Tax Certification

If Contractor is a taxable entity as defined by Chapter 171, Texas Tax Code (“Chapter 171”), then Contractor certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any taxes due under Chapter 171, or that Contractor is exempt from the payment of those taxes, or that Contractor is an out-of-state taxable entity that is not subject to those taxes, whichever is applicable.

4.5 Payment of Debt or Delinquency to the State

Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, *Government Code*, Contractor agrees that any payments owing to Contractor under this Agreement may be applied directly toward any debt or delinquency that Contractor owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when it arises, until such debt or delinquency is paid in full.

4.6 Products and Materials Produced in Texas

If Contractor will provide services under this Agreement, Contractor covenants and agrees that in accordance with Section 2155.4441, *Government Code*, in performing its duties and obligations under this Agreement, the Contractor shall purchase products and materials produced in Texas when such products and materials are available at a price and delivery time comparable to products and materials produced outside of Texas.

4.7 Notices

Except as otherwise provided in this Section, all notices, consents, approvals, demands, requests or other communications provided for or permitted to be given under any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given or served when delivered by hand delivery or when deposited in the U.S. mail by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

If to University: UT Southwestern University Hospitals
5909 Harry Hines Blvd
Dallas, TX 75390-9226
Attention: Scott Kendall
Fax: 214-645-1108
Email: scott.kendall@utsouthwestern.edu

If to Contractor: _____
Street Address: _____

Attention: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____

or such other person or address as may be given in writing by either party to the other in accordance with the aforesaid.

4.8 State Auditor's Office

Contractor understands that acceptance of funds under this Agreement constitutes acceptance of the authority of the Texas State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency (collectively, "**Auditor**"), to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds pursuant to Sections 51.9335(c), 73.115(c) and 74.008(c), *Education Code*. Contractor agrees to cooperate with the Auditor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including without limitation providing all records requested. Contractor will include this provision in all contracts with permitted subcontractors.

4.9 Venue; Governing Law

Dallas County, Texas, shall be the proper place of venue for suit on or in respect of this Agreement. This Agreement and all of the rights and obligations of the parties hereto and all of the terms and conditions hereof shall be construed, interpreted and applied in accordance with and governed by and enforced under the laws of the State of Texas.

4.10 Breach of Contract Claims

4.10.1 To the extent that Chapter 2260, *Government Code*, as it may be amended from time to time ("**Chapter 2260**"), is applicable to this Agreement and is not preempted by other applicable law, the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 will be used, as further described herein, by University and Contractor to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by Contractor:

- 4.10.1.1 Contractor's claims for breach of this Agreement that the parties cannot resolve pursuant to other provisions of this Agreement or in the ordinary course of business will be submitted to the negotiation process provided in subchapter B of Chapter 2260. To initiate the process, Contractor will submit written notice, as required by subchapter B of Chapter 2260, to University in accordance with the notice provisions in this Agreement. Contractor's notice will specifically state that the provisions of subchapter B of Chapter 2260 are being invoked, the date and nature of the event giving rise to the claim, the specific contract provision that University allegedly breached, the amount of damages Contractor seeks, and the method used to calculate the damages. Compliance by Contractor with subchapter B of Chapter 2260 is a required prerequisite to Contractor's filing of a contested case proceeding under subchapter C of Chapter 2260. The Chief Business Officer of University, or the other officer of University as may be designated from time to time by University by written notice thereof to Contractor in accordance with the notice provisions in this Agreement, will examine Contractor's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with Contractor in an effort to resolve the claims.
- 4.10.1.2 If the parties are unable to resolve their disputes under Section 4.11.1.1, the contested case process provided in subchapter C of Chapter 2260 is Contractor's sole and exclusive process for seeking a remedy for any and all of Contractor's claims for breach of this Agreement by University.
- 4.10.1.3 Compliance with the contested case process provided in subchapter C of Chapter 2260 is a required prerequisite to seeking consent to sue from the Legislature under Chapter 107, *Civil Practices and Remedies Code*. The parties hereto specifically agree that (i) neither the execution of this Agreement by University nor any other conduct, action or inaction of any representative of University relating to this Agreement constitutes or is intended to constitute a waiver of University's or the state's sovereign immunity to suit and (ii) University has not waived its right to seek redress in the courts.
- 4.10.2 The submission, processing and resolution of Contractor's claim is governed by the published rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, as currently effective, thereafter enacted or subsequently amended.
- 4.10.3 University and Contractor agree that any periods set forth in this Agreement for notice and cure of defaults are not waived
- 4.11 Compliance with Law. Contractor is aware of, is fully informed about, and in full compliance with its obligations under existing applicable law and regulations, including but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 USC 2000(D)), Executive Order 11246, as amended (41 CFR 60-1 and 60-2), Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974, as amended (41 CFR 60-250), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (41 CFR 60-741), Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 USC 6101 et seq.), Non-segregated Facilities (41 CFR 60-1), Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Provision, Section 952, Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, Sections 6, 7, and 12, as amended, Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, and Utilization of Small Business Concerns and Small Business Concerns Owned and Controlled by Socially and Economically

Disadvantaged Individuals (PL 96-507), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12101 et seq.), the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and all laws and regulations and executive orders as are applicable.

4.12 University's Right to Audit

At any time during the term of this Agreement and for a period of four (4) years thereafter University or a duly authorized audit representative of University, or the State of Texas, at its expense and at reasonable times, reserves the right to audit Contractor's records and books relevant to all services provided under this Agreement. In the event such an audit by University reveals any errors/overpayments by University, Contractor shall refund University the full amount of such overpayments within thirty (30) days of such audit findings, or University, at its option, reserves the right to deduct such amounts owing University from any payments due Contractor.

4.13 Access to Documents

To the extent applicable to this Agreement, in accordance with Section 1861(v)(I)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) as amended, and the provisions of 42 CFR Section 420.300, et seq., Contractor agrees to allow, during and for a period of not less than four (4) years after the Agreement term, access to this Agreement and its books, documents, and records; and contracts between Contractor and its subcontractors or related organizations, including books, documents and records relating to same, by the Comptroller General of the United States, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and their duly authorized representatives.

4.14 Insurance

4.14.1 Contractor, consistent with its status as an independent contractor, will carry at least the following insurance in the form, with the companies and in the amounts (unless otherwise specified) as University may require:

4.14.1.1 Workers' Compensation Insurance with statutory limits, and Employer's Liability Insurance with limit of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident or disease. Policies must include All States Endorsement and a waiver of all rights of subrogation and other rights against the University;

4.14.1.2 Commercial General Liability insurance, including Blanket Contractual Liability, Broad Form Property Damage, Personal and Advertising Injury, Completed Operations/Products Liability, Medical Expenses, Interest of Employees as additional insured's and Broad Form General Liability Endorsements, for at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence on an occurrence basis;

4.14.1.3 Commercial Automobile Liability insurance covering all owned, non-owned or hired automobiles to be used by Contractor, with coverage for at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) Combined Single Limit Bodily Injury and Property Damage;

4.14.2 Contractor will deliver to University:

4.14.2.1 Evidence satisfactory to University in its sole discretion, evidencing the existence of all the insurance promptly after the execution and delivery hereof and prior to the performance or continued performance of any services to be performed by Contractor hereunder from or after the date of this Agreement; and

4.14.2.2 Additional evidence, satisfactory to University in its sole discretion, of the continued existence of all required insurance not less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of any required insurance. If, however, Contractor fails to pay any of the renewal premiums for the expiring policies, University will have the right to make the payments and set-off the amount thereof against the next payment coming due to Contractor under this Agreement.

Such insurance policies, with the exception of Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability, will name and the evidence will reflect University as an Additional Insured and will provide that the policies will not be canceled until after thirty (30) days' unconditional written notice to University, giving University the right to pay the premium to maintain coverage, in which event Section 11.2.2 will apply.

4.14.3 The insurance policies required in this Agreement will be kept in force for the periods specified below:

4.14.3.1 Commercial General Liability Insurance, and

4.14.3.2 Workers' Compensation Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance will be kept in force until the Services have been fully performed and accepted by University in writing.

4.15 Indemnification

4.15.1 TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, CONTRACTOR WILL AND DOES HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, AND HOLD HARMLESS UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE AFFILIATED ENTERPRISES, REGENTS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES AND AGENTS (COLLECTIVELY "**INDEMNITEES**") FROM AND AGAINST ALL DAMAGES, LOSSES, LIENS, CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS, JUDGMENTS, EXPENSES (INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES), AND OTHER CLAIMS OF ANY NATURE, KIND, OR DESCRIPTION (COLLECTIVELY "**CLAIMS**") BY ANY PERSON OR ENTITY, ARISING OUT OF, CAUSED BY, OR RESULTING FROM CONTRACTOR'S PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT AND THAT ARE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY ANY NEGLIGENT ACT, NEGLIGENT OMISSION OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF CONTRACTOR, ANYONE DIRECTLY EMPLOYED BY CONTRACTOR OR ANYONE FOR WHOSE ACTS CONTRACTOR MAY BE LIABLE. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WILL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO ELIMINATE OR REDUCE ANY OTHER INDEMNIFICATION OR RIGHT WHICH ANY INDEMNITEE HAS BY LAW OR EQUITY.

4.15.2 IN ADDITION, CONTRACTOR WILL AND DOES HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, PROTECT, DEFEND WITH COUNSEL APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY, AND HOLD HARMLESS INDEMNITEES FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS ARISING FROM INFRINGEMENT OR ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENT, COPYRIGHT, TRADEMARK OR OTHER

PROPRIETARY INTEREST ARISING BY OR OUT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES OR THE PROVISION OF GOODS BY CONTRACTOR, OR THE USE BY INDEMNITEES, AT THE DIRECTION OF CONTRACTOR, OF ANY ARTICLE OR MATERIAL; PROVIDED, THAT, UPON BECOMING AWARE OF A SUIT OR THREAT OF SUIT FOR INFRINGEMENT, UNIVERSITY WILL PROMPTLY NOTIFY CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT. IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, UNIVERSITY AGREES TO REASONABLY COOPERATE WITH CONTRACTOR. ALL PARTIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.

4.16 Publicity

Contractor agrees that it shall not publicize this Agreement or disclose, confirm or deny any details thereof to third parties or use any photographs or video recordings of University's employees or use University's name in connection with any sales promotion or publicity event without the prior express written approval of University.

4.17 Assignment of Overcharge Claims

Contractor hereby assigns to University any and all claims for overcharges associated with the Contract arising under the antitrust laws of the United States, 15 U.S.C.A., Sec. 1 et seq., or arising under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, *Business and Commerce Code*, Sec. 15.01, et seq.

4.18 Observance of University Rules and Regulations

Contractor agrees that at all times its employees, agents and permitted subcontractors (if any) will observe and comply with all regulations of the facilities, including but not limited to, no smoking, parking and security regulations.

4.19 Assignment and Subcontracting

Except as specifically provided in any Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan ("HSP") attached as **Exhibit TWO** to this Agreement and incorporated for all purposes, neither Contractor's interest in this Agreement, its duties and obligations under this Agreement nor fees due to Contractor under this Agreement may be subcontracted, assigned, delegated or otherwise transferred to a third party, in whole or in part, and any attempt to do so will (1) not be binding on University; and (2) be a breach of this Agreement for which Contractor will be subject to any remedial actions provided by Texas law, including Chapter 2161, *Government Code*, and 1 Texas Administrative Code ("**TAC**") Section 111.14. University may report nonperformance under this Agreement to the Texas Building and Procurement Commission ("**TBPC**") in accordance with 1 TAC Chapter 113, Subchapter F, Vendor Performance and Debarment Program. The benefits and burdens of this Agreement are, however, assignable by University.

4.20 Historically Underutilized Business Subcontracting Plan

If an HSP is attached to this Agreement, Contractor agrees to use good faith efforts to subcontract the Services in accordance with the HSP. Contractor agrees to maintain business records documenting its compliance with the HSP and to submit a monthly compliance report to University in the format required by the TBPC. Submission of compliance reports will be required as a condition for payment under this Agreement. If University determines that Contractor has failed to subcontract as set out in the HSP, University will notify Contractor of any deficiencies and give Contractor an opportunity to submit documentation and explain why the failure to comply with the HSP should not be attributed to a lack of good faith effort by Contractor. If University determines that Contractor failed to implement the HSP in good faith,

University, in addition to any other remedies, may report nonperformance to the TBPC in accordance with 1 TAC Chapter 113, Subchapter F, Vendor Performance and Debarment Program. University may also revoke this Agreement for breach and make a claim against the Contractor.

4.21 Payment

University agrees to pay fees due under this Agreement in accordance with the Texas Prompt Payment Act ("**Act**"), Chapter 2251, *Government Code*. Pursuant to the Act, payment shall be deemed late on the 31st day after the later of: 1) the date the performance of the Services under this Agreement are completed, or 2) the date University receives an invoice for the Services. University will be responsible for interest on overdue payments equal to the sum of: 1) one percent, plus 2) the prime rate as published in the Wall Street Journal on the first day of July of the preceding fiscal year (University's fiscal year begins September 1) that does not fall on a Saturday or Sunday.

4.22 Limitations

The parties to this Agreement are aware that there are constitutional and statutory limitations on the authority of the University (a state agency) to enter into certain terms and conditions of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, those terms and conditions relating to disclaimers and limitations of warranties; disclaimers and limitations of liability for damages; waivers, disclaimers and limitations of legal rights, remedies, requirements and processes; limitations of periods to bring legal action; granting control of litigation or settlement to another party; liability for acts or omissions of third parties; payment of attorneys' fees; dispute resolution; indemnities; and confidentiality (collectively, the "**Limitations**"), and terms and conditions related to the Limitations shall not be binding on University except to the extent authorized by the laws and Constitution of the State of Texas.

4.23 Affirmative Action

Contractor agrees that a written copy of Contractor's Civil Rights "Affirmative Action Compliance Program" will be provided simultaneously with this Agreement and incorporated for all purposes, or if Contractor is not required to have such a written program, the reason Contractor is not subject to such requirement will be provided in writing.

4.24 OSHA Compliance

Contractor represents and warrants that all articles and services furnished under this Agreement meet or exceed the safety standards established and promulgated under the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Law (Public Law 91-598) and its regulations in effect or proposed as of the date of this Agreement.

4.25 Certifications of Nonsegregated Facilities and Equal Employment Opportunities Compliance

Contractor certifies that, except for restrooms and wash rooms and one (1) or more lactation rooms each of which is segregated on the basis of sex: (1) it does not maintain or provide for its employees any segregated facilities at any of its establishments and that it does not permit its employees to perform their services at any location under its control where segregated facilities are maintained; (2) it will not maintain or provide for its employees any segregated facilities at any of its establishments; and (3) it will not permit its employees to perform their services at any location under its control where segregated facilities are maintained. Contractor agrees that a breach of this certification is a violation of the Equal Opportunity clause in this Agreement. The term "segregated facilities" means any waiting rooms, work area, rest rooms and wash rooms, entertainment areas, transportation, or housing facilities provided for employees which are segregated by explicit directive or are in fact segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, because of habit, local custom, or otherwise. Contractor further agrees that, except where it has contracts prior to the award with subcontractors exceeding \$10,000.00 which are not exempt from the provisions of the Equal Opportunity clause, Contractor will retain such certifications for each one of its subcontractors in Contractor's files, and that it will forward the following notice to all proposed subcontractors (except where the proposed subcontractors have submitted identical certifications for specific time periods):

NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTORS OF REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATIONS OF NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES - A Certification on Nonsegregated Facilities must be submitted prior to the award of any subcontract exceeding \$10,000.00 which is not exempt from the provisions of the Equal Opportunity clause. The certification may be submitted either for each subcontract or for all subcontracts during a period (i.e. quarterly, semiannually, or annually).

Contractor understands that the penalty for making false statements regarding the subject matters of this Section is prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

4.26 Premises Rules

If this Agreement requires Contractor's presence on University's premises or in University's facilities, Contractor agrees to cause its representatives, agents, employees and permitted subcontractors (if any) to become aware of, fully informed about, and in full compliance with all applicable University rules and policies, including, without limitation, those relative to personal health, security, environmental quality, safety, fire prevention, noise, smoking, and access restrictions.

4.27 Debarment

Contractor confirms that neither Contractor nor its Principals are suspended, debarred, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the award of contracts from United States ("U.S.") federal government procurement or nonprocurement programs, or are listed in the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs issued by the U.S. General Services Administration. "**Principals**" means officers, directors, owners, partners, and persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g. general manager, plant manager, head of a subsidiary, division or business segment, and similar positions). Contractor shall provide immediate written notification to University if, at any time prior to award, Contractor learns that this certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when University executes this Agreement. If it is later determined that

Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to the other remedies available to University, University may terminate this Agreement for default by Contractor.

4.28 Office of Inspector General Certification

Contractor acknowledges that University is prohibited by federal regulations from allowing any employee, subcontractor, or agent of Contractor to work on site at University's premises or facilities if that individual is not eligible to work on federal healthcare programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, or other similar federal programs. Therefore, Contractor shall not assign any employee, subcontractor or agent that appears on the List of Excluded Individuals issued by the United States Office of the Inspector General ("**OIG**") to work on site at University's premises or facilities. Contractor shall perform an OIG sanctions check quarterly on each of its employees, subcontractors and agents during the time such employees, subcontractors and agents are assigned to work on site at University's premises or facilities. Contractor acknowledges that University will require immediate removal of any employee, subcontractor or agent of Contractor assigned to work at University's premises or facilities if such employee, subcontractor or agent is found to be on the OIG's List of Excluded Individuals. The OIG's List of Excluded Individuals may be accessed through the following Internet website: <http://www.dhhs.gov/progorg/oig/cumsan/index.htm>.

4.29 Access by Individuals with Disabilities. Contractor represents and warrants ("**EIR Accessibility Warranty**") that the electronic and information resources and all associated information, documentation, and support that it provides to University under this Agreement (collectively, the "**EIRs**") comply with the applicable requirements set forth in Title 1 TAC Chapter 213 and Title 1 TAC Section 206.70 (as authorized by Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, *Texas Government Code*). To the extent Contractor becomes aware that the EIRs, or any portion of the EIRs, do not comply with the EIR Accessibility Warranty, then Contractor represents and warrants that it will, at no cost to University, either (1) perform all necessary remediation to make the EIRs satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty or (2) replace the EIRs with new EIRs that satisfy the EIR Accessibility Warranty. In the event that Contractor is unable to do so, then University may terminate this Agreement and Contractor will refund to University all amounts University has paid under this Agreement within thirty (30) days after the termination date.

SECTION 5

SPECIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

5.1 General

ALL RESPONSES TO QUESTION MUST BE ANSWERED IN THE FOLLOWING FORMAT:

RESTATE QUESTION – FOLLOWED BY VENDOR WRITTEN RESPONSE

ANY QUESTION ANSWERED WITH “REFER TO ATTACHMENT “X” Will BE CONSIDERED NON RESPONSIVE.

The minimum requirements and the specifications for the Products and Services, as well as certain requests for information to be provided by Proposer as part of its proposal, are set forth below. As indicated in **Section 2.3** of this RFP, the successful Proposer is referred to as the “**Contractor.**”

The basic components of the Electronic eligibility requirements are described in Section 5.2.1, and general considerations are described in Section 5.2.2, below. . If minimum requirements are given, the response should indicate that these requirements are met (and the extent to which they are exceeded), or that the vendor specification does not meet the minimum requirement (and the extent to which it does not). Any further explanations or data should be referenced and submitted as an additional part of the proposal.

5.2. Components and Specifications for the Electronic Eligibility

5.2.1.1. Products and Services

- Products must be quoted as a purchase and rental cost. Any upfront cost, processing fees or cost/transaction and/or bulk costs should be clearly defined.

5.3 Additional Questions and Requirements Specific to this RFP

Proposer must submit the following information as part of Proposer’s proposal:

- 5.3.1 The Proposer must respond to each requirement of section 5.2 on a detailed, item-by-item basis that clearly indicates whether the proposed products and services meets or fails to meet the expectations of the University Hospital System. Failure to make an item-by-item response, detailing in what way the Proposer's product meets or fails to meet the requirement, will be regarded as indicating that the proposed product or service fails to meet that specification.
- 5.3.2 The proposal shall be prepared with line item pricing so that the University may understand the contribution of each item to the total cost and may accept or reject individual items. Daily and monthly rates are also requested.
- 5.3.3 The Proposer is urged to suggest options not requested in this RFP but which the Proposer feels would add value to this system.
- 5.3.4 The University is a member of the Premier group purchasing organization and is eligible to receive pricing discounts made available to those members. Indicate if

the pricing being proposed is discounted according to a contract with Premier or if another discount schedule is used.

5.4 Scope of Work

Contractor will provide the following products and services to University Hospitals and Clinics:

5.4.1	Ability to verify demographic, insurance, information and be able to identify cover ages for all major commercial and governmental payers.(Please provide a full listing of payers you access for eligibility information. Be state specific (i.e. BCBS of Texas, etc.).
5.4.2	Ability to display payer responses within EPIC in an easy-to-read format and provide quick access to key decision-influencing elements in an easy and quick manner
5.4.3	Allow for initiation of accounts into a EPIC WQ based on payor responses to the electronic eligibility verification from EPIC with standard and custom alert messages
5.4.4	Automated eligibility assessment, enrollment and reporting for Medicaid, hospital financial assistance and other government assistance program
5.4.5	Ability to verify via real time and via Batch jobs
5.4.6	Ability to estimate patient payments accurately.
5.4.7	Support EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) interface for inquiry into patient's pre-authorization status and eligibility from insurance provider's system or third-party network.
5.4.8	Have direct connections with most of the payors and response time should be 30 seconds
5.4.9	Allow for patient address verification
5.4.10	Allow to identify potential eligibility at point of service for Medicaid, Financial Assistance, and other benefit programs(Presumptive Charity)
5.4.11	Ability to match self-pay patients against Medicaid and Managed Medicaid databases for eligibility
5.4.12	Ability to scrub payors web site for additional data that can be returned along with the 271 data
5.4.13	Integration with at least three (3) EPIC Academic Medical Center clients and provide references for each of these clients.
5.4.14	Ability to demonstrate the integrated workflow in (For example the ability to work the accounts based on the responses from payors in EPIC through a WQ to resolve the eligibility issues)

5.4.15	Ability to arrange a site visit with an existing EPIC client to verify the functionalities
5.4.16	Total Implementation cost
5.4.17	Yearly recurring cost
5.4.18	Ability to provide detailed management control reports in standard and customized formats. . All reports shall have an export utility function that enables an interface with MS Office applications. An example of such a report would be 'Eligibility Transactions' by Payor/By Department within the hospital or clinic, Alerts by Payor, or Eligibility Verification Trends over time))
5.4.16	HIPAA 5010 compliant
5.4.17	Please provide the following about your company with respect to your product line offerings: • How many years providing insurance verification products and other pre-encounter products? • What date was your company established? • What form of ownership (e.g. corporation, private) exists for your company? • Does your company have a parent company? • If so, what is it and how long has this relationship existed? • What were your company's gross and net revenues during the last three years? • How many people in total are employed by your company? • Approximately, how many employees are dedicated to support, implementation, and development? • How many customers have implemented your full tool suite? • How many NEW customers acquired your product last year? In the year before? • How many organizations are currently operational with your products that use EPIC as their HIS? List clients. • Is your company involved now in any litigation with a customer or other entity? Within the past 3 years? If yes, briefly describe. • Who are your product partners?
5.4.18	Provide computer hardware information and capabilities. • Provide guidelines for determining hardware requirements based upon concurrent usage. • What client operating systems are supported? Specify maintenance level requirements. • What are the client hardware requirements for RAM? (Please provide the minimum and recommended requirements.) • What are the client requirements for local disk? (Please provide the minimum and recommended requirements) • How much local disk space do the application modules consume?

	• What are the client hardware requirements for the processor? (Please provide the minimum and recommended requirements) • Does the application support web browser access? If so, what are the minimum supported browser versions? What application functionality is supported via web client? • What are the network transport protocol requirements? • If the solution is web browser-based, are there any custom plug-ins, controls etc. downloaded to the browser? Will they be signed? How are updates to these components pushed out? • What peripherals are required? • What networking protocols are supported? • Specify version levels or configuration requirements. • What network topologies are supported? • What systems management software packages does the system interface with? • Describe the application's specific print requirements. • Describe the application's ability to integrate with a Microsoft Outlook based e-mail system. • Does the application support an Intranet (Browser thin client) application model? • Please describe any typical interfaces used by your software and the vendors. • What are your product's processor requirements? (Please provide minimum and recommended requirements) • What are the server RAM requirements?(Please provide minimum and recommended requirements) • Is a dedicated file server required?
5.4.19	Describe Service Level Criteria and Performance Measures along with penalties for non- adherence to defined measures. • What system performance monitoring and optimization tools are included? • If moved to a newer version, what effort is required to migrate? Do you provide a tool or scripts to move to a newer release of the application and/or the database? • What server hardware platforms are supported for application and database services? (e.g., Intel and or RISC) • What server operating systems are supported? Version and Maintenance level? • Please discuss recommended configurations of servers handling applications, communications, local data storage, etc. • Please discuss the recommended procedures for performing system backups and disaster recovery. • Do you provide a help desk with 1-800 (toll free) line and On-line help? • Is there a charge for the support call? Is there a limit after install that this

line is available?

- Are there e-mail questions as part of support? What is the turnaround time to respond? Do you guarantee 1 business day response time to e-mail questions?
- Is email support a routine part of after sale support or only available for short time (what time frame) after install?
- Do you provide a service level-based problem management procedure and provide normal response times for different levels of problems?
- Do you have a clearly defined escalation procedure? (Describe your problem escalation procedures).
- Do you assign a member of your staff to be designated as the primary contact, technical service lead, and lead account executive for your team?
- Is telephone support time included in the support fees or do you charge on a percall or hourly basis?
- Do you have a guaranteed response time for answering customer problem calls? If yes, what is it?
- How and when are known software problems (e.g. bugs, errors) resolved? Do you publish a list of known problems?
- Will you guarantee that software problems acknowledged by your company will be corrected within a specific time period? If yes, what period?
- Do you agree to a warranty period to begin after installation, conversion training, and testing has been completed.
- How are software installation fees billed (e.g. fixed amount, line item, hourly)?
- How are monthly support fees billed (e.g. fixed amount, variable, hourly)?
- Is travel time to our site billable? If so, at what rate? Briefly explain policy.
- Will your company assume prime responsibility for all aspects of hardware and software implementation?
- What documentation (i.e. user, operations, technical) is supplied with your system? How often is documentation updated?
- Is documentation printed, on CD, or on-line? Briefly describe.
- Can users customize on-line help screens and other documentation?
- Describe any specialized post-live support that is provided outside of the normal support.
- Does your company provide custom programming support if required? If so, at what rate?
- What is maximum delivery time for custom programming jobs? Will you guarantee the delivery time in the contract?
- Is support available on weekends and all holidays?

SECTION 6

PRICING AND DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Proposal of: _____
(Proposer Company Name)

To: The University of Texas at _____

Ref.: _____ related to the _____

RFP No.: _____

Having carefully examined all the specifications and requirements of this RFP and any attachments thereto, the undersigned proposes to furnish the _____ products and services required pursuant to the above-referenced Request for Proposal upon the terms quoted below.

6.1 Pricing for Offered

6.2 Delivery Schedule of Events and Time Periods

6.3 University's Payment Terms

University's standard payment terms for equipment are "Net 30 days." Proposer agrees that University will be entitled to withhold 10 percent (10%) of the total payment due under the Agreement until after University's acceptance of the final work product. Indicate below the prompt payment discount that Proposer will provide to University:

Prompt Payment Discount: _____% _____ days/net 30 days

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: _____

By: _____
(Authorized Signature for Proposer)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX ONE
PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION.....28

SECTION 2: EXECUTION OF OFFER31

SECTION 3: PROPOSER’S GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE.....34

SECTION 4: ADDENDA CHECKLIST36

SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION**1.1 Purpose**

University is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from Proposers having suitable qualifications and experience providing services in accordance with the terms, conditions and requirements set forth in this RFP. This RFP provides sufficient information for interested parties to prepare and submit proposals for consideration by University.

By submitting a proposal, Proposer certifies that it understands this RFP and has full knowledge of the scope, nature, quality, and quantity of the services to be performed, the detailed requirements of the services to be provided, and the conditions under which such services are to be performed. Proposer also certifies that it understands that all costs relating to preparing a response to this RFP will be the sole responsibility of the Proposer.

PROPOSER IS CAUTIONED TO READ THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS RFP CAREFULLY AND TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE RESPONSE TO ALL REQUIREMENTS AND QUESTIONS AS DIRECTED.

1.2 Inquiries and Interpretations

University may in its sole discretion respond in writing to written inquiries concerning this RFP and mail its response as an Addendum to all parties recorded by University as having received a copy of this RFP. Only University's responses that are made by formal written Addenda will be binding on University. Any verbal responses, written interpretations or clarifications other than Addenda to this RFP will be without legal effect. All Addenda issued by University prior to the Submittal Deadline will be and are hereby incorporated as a part of this RFP for all purposes.

Proposers are required to acknowledge receipt of each Addendum as specified in this Section. The Proposer must acknowledge all Addenda by completing, signing and returning the Addenda Checklist (ref. **Section 4 of APPENDIX ONE**). The Addenda Checklist must be received by University prior to the Submittal Deadline and should accompany the Proposer's proposal.

Any interested party that receives this RFP by means other than directly from University is responsible for notifying University that it has received an RFP package, and should provide its name, address, telephone number and FAX number to University, so that if University issues Addenda to this RFP or provides written answers to questions, that information can be provided to such party.

1.3 Public Information

Proposer is hereby notified that University strictly adheres to all statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General with respect to disclosure of public information.

University may seek to protect from disclosure all information submitted in response to this RFP until such time as a final agreement is executed.

Upon execution of a final agreement, University will consider all information, documentation, and other materials requested to be submitted in response to this RFP, to be of a non-confidential and non-proprietary nature and, therefore, subject to public disclosure under the *Texas Public Information Act (Government Code, Chapter 552.001, et seq.)*. Proposer will be advised of a request for public information that implicates their materials and will have the opportunity to raise any objections to disclosure to the Texas Attorney General. Certain information may be protected from release under Sections 552.101, 552.110, 552.113, and 552.131, *Government Code*.

1.4 Type of Agreement

The Contractor, if any, will be required to enter into a contract with University in a form that (i) includes terms and conditions substantially similar to the terms and conditions set forth in **Section 4** of this RFP, and (ii) is otherwise acceptable to University in all respects (the "Agreement").

1.5 Proposal Evaluation Process

University will select the Contractor by using the competitive sealed proposal process described in this Section. University will open the HSP Envelope submitted by a Proposer prior to opening the Proposer's proposal in order to ensure that the Proposer has submitted the number of completed and signed originals of the Proposer's HUB Subcontracting Plan (also called the HSP) that are required by this RFP (ref. **Section 2.5.4** of the RFP.) All proposals submitted by the Submittal Deadline accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will be opened publicly to identify the name of each Proposer submitting a proposal. Any proposals that are not submitted by the Submittal Date or that are not accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP will be rejected by the University as non-responsive due to material failure to comply with advertised specifications. After the opening of the proposals and upon completion of the initial review and evaluation of the proposals, University may invite one or more selected Proposers to participate in oral presentations. University will use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid public disclosure of the contents of a proposal prior to selection of the Contractor.

University may make the selection of the Contractor on the basis of the proposals initially submitted, without discussion, clarification or modification. In the alternative, University may make the selection of the Contractor on the basis of

negotiation with any of the Proposers. In conducting such negotiations, University will avoid disclosing the contents of competing proposals.

At University's sole option and discretion, University may discuss and negotiate all elements of the proposals submitted by selected Proposers within a specified competitive range. For purposes of negotiation, University may establish, after an initial review of the proposals, a competitive range of acceptable or potentially acceptable proposals composed of the highest rated proposal(s). In that event, University will defer further action on proposals not included within the competitive range pending the selection of the Contractor; provided, however, University reserves the right to include additional proposals in the competitive range if deemed to be in the best interests of University.

After submission of a proposal but before final selection of the Contractor is made, University may permit a Proposer to revise its proposal in order to obtain the Proposer's best and final offer. In that event, representations made by Proposer in its revised proposal, including price and fee quotes, will be binding on Proposer. University will provide each Proposer within the competitive range with an equal opportunity for discussion and revision of its proposal. University is not obligated to select the Proposer offering the most attractive economic terms if that Proposer is not the most advantageous to University overall, as determined by University.

University reserves the right to (a) enter into an agreement for all or any portion of the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP with one or more Proposers, (b) reject any and all proposals and re-solicit proposals, or (c) reject any and all proposals and temporarily or permanently abandon this selection process, if deemed to be in the best interests of University. Proposer is hereby notified that University will maintain in its files concerning this RFP a written record of the basis upon which a selection, if any, is made by University.

1.6 Proposer's Acceptance of Evaluation Methodology

By submitting a proposal, Proposer acknowledges (1) Proposer's acceptance of [a] the Proposal Evaluation Process (ref. **Section 1.5** of **APPENDIX ONE**), [b] the Criteria for Selection (ref. **2.3** of this RFP), [c] the Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP), [d] the terms and conditions set forth in **Section 4** of this RFP, and [e] all other requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP; and (2) Proposer's recognition that some subjective judgments must be made by University during this RFP process.

1.7 Solicitation for Proposal and Proposal Preparation Costs

Proposer understands and agrees that (1) this RFP is a solicitation for proposals and University has made no representation written or oral that one or more agreements with University will be awarded under this RFP; (2) University issues this RFP predicated on University's anticipated requirements for the Services, and University has made no representation, written or oral, that any particular scope of services will actually be required by University; and (3) Proposer will bear, as its sole risk and responsibility, any cost that arises from Proposer's preparation of a proposal in response to this RFP.

1.8 Proposal Requirements and General Instructions

- 1.8.1 Proposer should carefully read the information contained herein and submit a complete proposal in response to all requirements and questions as directed.
- 1.8.2 Proposals and any other information submitted by Proposer in response to this RFP will become the property of University.
- 1.8.3 University will not provide compensation to Proposer for any expenses incurred by the Proposer for proposal preparation or for demonstrations or oral presentations that may be made by Proposer, unless otherwise expressly agreed in writing. Proposer submits its proposal at its own risk and expense.
- 1.8.4 Proposals that (i) are qualified with conditional clauses; (ii) alter, modify, or revise this RFP in any way; or (iii) contain irregularities of any kind, are subject to disqualification by University, at University's sole discretion.
- 1.8.5 Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of Proposer's ability to meet the requirements and specifications of this RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness, clarity of content, and responsiveness to the requirements and specifications of this RFP.
- 1.8.6 University makes no warranty or guarantee that an award will be made as a result of this RFP. University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities, procedural requirements, or minor technical inconsistencies, and delete any requirement or specification from this RFP when deemed to be in University's best interest. University reserves the right to seek clarification from any Proposer concerning any item contained in its proposal prior to final selection. Such clarification may be provided by telephone conference or personal meeting with or writing to University, at University's sole discretion. Representations made by Proposer within its proposal will be binding on Proposer.
- 1.8.7 Any proposal that fails to comply with the requirements contained in this RFP may be rejected by University, in University's sole discretion.

1.9 Preparation and Submittal Instructions

- 1.9.1 Specifications and Additional Questions

Proposals must include responses to the questions in Specifications and Additional Questions (ref. **Section 5** of this RFP). Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer should explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

1.9.2 Execution of Offer

Proposer must complete, sign and return the attached Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**) as part of its proposal. The Execution of Offer must be signed by a representative of Proposer duly authorized to bind the Proposer to its proposal. Any proposal received without a completed and signed Execution of Offer may be rejected by University, in its sole discretion.

1.9.3 Pricing and Delivery Schedule

Proposer must complete and return the Pricing and Delivery Schedule (ref. **Section 6** of this RFP), as part of its proposal. In the Pricing and Delivery Schedule, the Proposer should describe in detail (a) the total fees for the entire scope of the Services; and (b) the method by which the fees are calculated. The fees must inclusive of all associated costs for delivery, labor, insurance, taxes, overhead, and profit.

University will not recognize or accept any charges or fees to perform the Services that are not specifically stated in the Pricing and Delivery Schedule.

In the Pricing and Delivery Schedule, Proposer should describe each significant phase in the process of providing the Services to University, and the time period within which Proposer proposes to be able to complete each such phase.

1.9.4 Proposer's General Questionnaire

Proposals must include responses to the questions in Proposer's General Questionnaire (ref. **Section 3** of **APPENDIX ONE**). Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer should explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

1.9.5 Addenda Checklist

Proposer should acknowledge all Addenda to this RFP (if any) by completing, signing and returning the Addenda Checklist (ref. **Section 4** of **APPENDIX ONE**) as part of its proposal. Any proposal received without a completed and signed Addenda Checklist may be rejected by University, in its sole discretion.

1.9.6 Submission

Proposer should submit all proposal materials enclosed in a sealed envelope, box, or container. The RFP No. (ref. **Section 1.3** of this RFP) and the Submittal Deadline (ref. **Section 2.1** of this RFP) should be clearly shown in the lower left-hand corner on the top surface of the container. In addition, the name and the return address of the Proposer should be clearly visible.

Proposer must also submit the number of originals of the HUB Subcontracting Plan (also called the HSP) as required by this RFP (ref. **Section 2.5** of the RFP.)

Upon Proposer's request and at Proposer's expense, University will return to a Proposer its proposal received after the Submittal Deadline if the proposal is properly identified. University will not under any circumstances consider a proposal that is received after the Submittal Deadline or which is not accompanied by the number of completed and signed originals of the HSP that are required by this RFP.

University will not accept proposals submitted by telephone, proposals submitted by Facsimile ("FAX") transmission, or proposals submitted by electronic transmission (i.e., e-mail) in response to this RFP.

Except as otherwise provided in this RFP, no proposal may be changed, amended, or modified after it has been submitted to University. However, a proposal may be withdrawn and resubmitted at any time prior to the Submittal Deadline. No proposal may be withdrawn after the Submittal Deadline without University's consent, which will be based on Proposer's submittal of a written explanation and documentation evidencing a reason acceptable to University, in University's sole discretion.

By signing the Execution of Offer (ref. **Section 2** of **APPENDIX ONE**) and submitting a proposal, Proposer certifies that any terms, conditions, or documents attached to or referenced in its proposal are applicable to this procurement only to the extent that they (a) do not conflict with the laws of the State of Texas or this RFP and (b) do not place any requirements on University that are not set forth in this RFP or in the Appendices to this RFP. Proposer further certifies that the submission of a proposal is Proposer's good faith intent to enter into an agreement with University as specified herein and that such intent is not contingent upon University's acceptance or execution of any terms, conditions, or other documents attached to or referenced in Proposer's proposal.

SECTION 2

EXECUTION OF OFFER

THIS EXECUTION OF OFFER MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH PROPOSER'S PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO COMPLETE, SIGN AND RETURN THIS EXECUTION OF OFFER WITH THE PROPOSER'S PROPOSAL MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF THE PROPOSAL.

- 2.1** By signature hereon, Proposer represents and warrants the following:
- 2.1.1 Proposer acknowledges and agrees that (1) this RFP is a solicitation for a proposal and is not a contract or an offer to contract; (2) the submission of a proposal by Proposer in response to this RFP will not create a contract between University and Proposer; (3) University has made no representation or warranty, written or oral, that one or more contracts with University will be awarded under this RFP; and (4) Proposer will bear, as its sole risk and responsibility, any cost arising from Proposer's preparation of a response to this RFP.
 - 2.1.2 Proposer is a reputable company that is lawfully and regularly engaged in providing the Services.
 - 2.1.3 Proposer has the necessary experience, knowledge, abilities, skills, and resources to perform the Services.
 - 2.1.4 Proposer is aware of, is fully informed about, and is in full compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and ordinances.
 - 2.1.5 Proposer understands (i) the requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP and (ii) the terms and conditions set forth in Section 4 of this RFP, under which Proposer will be required to operate.
 - 2.1.6 If selected by University, Proposer will not delegate any of its duties or responsibilities under this RFP or the Agreement to any sub-contractor, except as expressly provided in the Agreement.
 - 2.1.7 If selected by University, Proposer will maintain any insurance coverage as required by the Agreement during the term thereof.
 - 2.1.8 All statements, information and representations prepared and submitted in response to this RFP are current, complete, true and accurate. Proposer acknowledges that University will rely on such statements, information and representations in selecting the Contractor. If selected by University, Proposer will notify University immediately of any material change in any matters with regard to which Proposer has made a statement or representation or provided information.
 - 2.1.9 Proposer will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless University, The University of Texas System, the State of Texas, and all of their regents, officers, agents and employees, from and against all claims, actions, suits, demands, costs (including, but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees), damages, and liabilities, arising out of, connected with, or resulting from any negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of Proposer or any agent, employee, subcontractor, or supplier of Proposer in the execution or performance of any contract or agreement resulting from this RFP.
 - 2.1.10 Pursuant to Sections 2107.008 and 2252.903, *Government Code*, any payments owing to Proposer under any contract or agreement resulting from this RFP may be applied directly to any debt or delinquency that Proposer owes the State of Texas or any agency of the State of Texas regardless of when it arises, until such debt or delinquency is paid in full.
- 2.2** By signature hereon, Proposer offers and agrees to furnish the Services to University and comply with all terms, conditions, requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP.
- 2.3** By signature hereon, Proposer affirms that it has not given or offered to give, nor does Proposer intend to give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor or service to a public servant in connection with its submitted proposal. Failure to sign this Execution of Offer, or signing with a false statement, may void the submitted proposal or any resulting contracts, and the Proposer may be removed from all proposal lists at University.
- 2.4** By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that it is not currently delinquent in the payment of any taxes due under Chapter 171, *Tax Code*, or that Proposer is exempt from the payment of those taxes, or that Proposer is an out-of-state taxable entity that is not subject to those taxes, whichever is applicable. A false certification will be deemed a material breach of any resulting contract or agreement and, at University's option, may result in termination of any resulting contract or agreement.
- 2.5** By signature hereon, Proposer hereby certifies that neither Proposer nor any firm, corporation, partnership or institution represented by Proposer, or anyone acting for such firm, corporation or institution, has violated the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, codified in Section 15.01, et seq., *Business and Commerce Code*, or the Federal antitrust laws, nor communicated directly or indirectly the proposal made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business.

- 2.6** By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that the individual signing this document and the documents made a part of this RFP, is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of Proposer and to bind Proposer under any agreements and other contractual arrangements that may result from the submission of Proposer's proposal.
- 2.7** By signature hereon, Proposer certifies as follows:
- "Under Section 231.006, *Family Code*, relating to child support, Proposer certifies that the individual or business entity named in the Proposer's proposal is not ineligible to receive the specified contract award and acknowledges that any agreements or other contractual arrangements resulting from this RFP may be terminated if this certification is inaccurate."
- 2.8** By signature hereon, Proposer certifies that (i) no relationship, whether by blood, marriage, business association, capital funding agreement or by any other such kinship or connection exists between the owner of any Proposer that is a sole proprietorship, the officers or directors of any Proposer that is a corporation, the partners of any Proposer that is a partnership, the joint ventures of any Proposer that is a joint venture or the members or managers of any Proposer that is a limited liability company, on one hand, and an employee of any component of The University of Texas System, on the other hand, other than the relationships which have been previously disclosed to University in writing and (ii) Proposer has not been an employee of any component institution of The University of Texas System within the immediate twelve (12) months prior to the Submittal Deadline. All disclosures by Proposer in connection with this certification will be subject to administrative review and approval before University enters into a contract or agreement with Proposer.
- 2.9** By signature hereon, Proposer affirms that no compensation has been received for its participation in the preparation of the requirements or specifications for this RFP, in accordance with Section 2155.004, *Government Code*.
- 2.10** By signature hereon, Proposer certifies its compliance with all federal laws and regulations pertaining to Equal Employment Opportunities and Affirmative Action.
- 2.11** By signature hereon, Proposer represents and warrants that all products and services offered to University in response to this RFP meet or exceed the safety standards established and promulgated under the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Law (Public Law 91-596) and the *Texas Hazard Communication Act*, Chapter 502, *Health and Safety Code*, and all related regulations in effect or proposed as of the date of this RFP.
- 2.12** Proposer will and has disclosed, as part of its proposal, any exceptions to the certifications stated in this Execution of Offer. All such disclosures will be subject to administrative review and approval prior to the time University makes an award or enters into any contract or agreement with Proposer.
- 2.13** **Proposer should complete the following information:**
- If Proposer is a Corporation, then State of Incorporation: _____
- If Proposer is a Corporation then Proposer's Corporate Charter Number: _____
- RFP No.: _____

NOTICE: WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED ON REQUEST TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS COLLECT ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS. UNDER SECTIONS 552.021 AND 552.023, *GOVERNMENT CODE*, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW SUCH INFORMATION. UNDER SECTION 559.004, *GOVERNMENT CODE*, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS THAT IS INCORRECT.

Submitted and Certified By:

(Proposer Institution's Name)

(Signature of Duly Authorized Representative)

(Printed Name/Title)

(Date Signed)

(Proposer's Street Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

(Telephone Number)

(FAX Number)

SECTION 3

PROPOSER'S GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTICE: WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED ON REQUEST TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS COLLECT ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS. UNDER SECTIONS 552.021 AND 552.023, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE AND REVIEW SUCH INFORMATION. UNDER SECTION 559.004, GOVERNMENT CODE, INDIVIDUALS ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INDIVIDUALS THAT IS INCORRECT.

Proposals must include responses to the questions contained in this Proposer's General Questionnaire. Proposer should reference the item number and repeat the question in its response. In cases where a question does not apply or if unable to respond, Proposer should refer to the item number, repeat the question, and indicate N/A (Not Applicable) or N/R (No Response), as appropriate. Proposer will explain the reason when responding N/A or N/R.

3.1 Proposer Profile

3.1.1 Legal name of Proposer company:

Address of principal place of business:

Address of office that would be providing service under the Agreement:

Number of years in Business: _____

State of incorporation: _____

Number of Employees: _____

Annual Revenues Volume: _____

Name of Parent Corporation, if any _____

NOTE: If Proposer is a subsidiary, University prefers to enter into a contract or agreement with the Parent Corporation or to receive assurances of performance from the Parent Corporation.

3.1.2 State whether Proposer will provide a copy of its financial statements for the past two (2) years, if requested by University.

3.1.3 Proposer will provide a financial rating of the Proposer entity and any related documentation (such as a Dunn and Bradstreet analysis) that indicates the financial stability of Proposer.

3.1.4 Is Proposer currently for sale or involved in any transaction to expand or to become acquired by another business entity? If yes, Proposer will explain the expected impact, both in organizational and directional terms.

3.1.5 Proposer will provide any details of all past or pending litigation or claims filed against Proposer that would affect its performance under the Agreement with University (if any).

3.1.6 Is Proposer currently in default on any loan agreement or financing agreement with any bank, financial institution, or other entity? If yes, Proposer will specify the pertinent date(s), details, circumstances, and describe the current prospects for resolution.

3.1.7 Proposer will provide a customer reference list of no less than three (3) organizations with which Proposer currently has contracts and/or to which Proposer has previously provided services (within the past five (5) years) of a type and scope similar to those required by University's RFP. Proposer will include in its customer reference list the customer's company name, contact person, telephone number, project description, length of business relationship, and background of services provided by Proposer.

- 3.1.8 Does any relationship exist (whether by family kinship, business association, capital funding agreement, or any other such relationship) between Proposer and any employee of University? If yes, Proposer will explain.
- 3.1.9 Proposer will provide the name and Social Security Number for each person having at least 25% ownership interest in Proposer. This disclosure is mandatory pursuant to Section 231.006, *Family Code*, and will be used for the purpose of determining whether an owner of Proposer with an ownership interest of at least 25% is more than 30 days delinquent in paying child support. Further disclosure of this information is governed by the *Texas Public Information Act*, Chapter 552, *Government Code*, and other applicable law.

3.2 Approach to Project Services

- 3.2.1 Proposer will provide a statement of the Proposer's service approach and will describe any unique benefits to University from doing business with Proposer. Proposer will briefly describe its approach for each of the required services identified in **Section 5.4** Scope of Work of this RFP.
- 3.2.2 Proposer will provide an estimate of the earliest starting date for services following execution of the Agreement.
- 3.2.3 Proposer will submit a work plan with key dates and milestones. The work plan should include:
 - 3.2.3.1 Identification of tasks to be performed;
 - 3.2.3.2 Time frames to perform the identified tasks;
 - 3.2.3.3 Project management methodology;
 - 3.2.3.4 Implementation strategy; and
 - 3.2.3.5 The expected time frame in which the services would be implemented.
- 3.2.4 Proposer will describe the types of reports or other written documents Proposer will provide (if any) and the frequency of reporting, if more frequent than required in the RFP. Proposer will include samples of reports and documents if appropriate.

3.3 General Requirements

- 3.3.1 Proposer will provide summary resumes for its proposed key personnel who will be providing services under the Agreement with University, including their specific experiences with similar service projects, and number of years of employment with Proposer.
- 3.3.2 Proposer will describe any difficulties it anticipates in performing its duties under the Agreement with University and how Proposer plans to manage these difficulties. Proposer will describe the assistance it will require from University.

3.4 Service Support

Proposer will describe its service support philosophy, how is it implemented, and how Proposer measures its success in maintaining this philosophy.

3.5 Quality Assurance

Proposer will describe its quality assurance program, its quality requirements, and how they are measured.

3.6 Miscellaneous

- 3.6.1 Proposer will provide a list of any additional services or benefits not otherwise identified in this RFP that Proposer would propose to provide to University. Additional services or benefits must be directly related to the goods and services solicited under this RFP.
- 3.6.2 Proposer will provide details describing any unique or special services or benefits offered or advantages to be gained by University from doing business with Proposer. Additional services or benefits must be directly related to the goods and services solicited under this RFP.
- 3.6.3 Does Proposer have a contingency plan or disaster recovery plan in the event of a disaster? If so, then Proposer will provide a copy of the plan.

SECTION 4

ADDENDA CHECKLIST

Proposal of: _____
(Proposer Company Name)

To: The University of Texas _____

Ref.: _____ Services related to the _____

RFP No.: _____

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned Proposer hereby acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda to the captioned RFP (initial if applicable).

No. 1 _____ No. 2 _____ No. 3 _____

Respectfully submitted,

Proposer: _____

By: _____
(Authorized Signature for Proposer)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



HUB SUBCONTRACTING PLAN (HSP)

In accordance with Gov't Code §2161.252, the contracting agency has determined that subcontracting opportunities are probable under this contract. Therefore, respondents, including State of Texas certified Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), must complete and submit a State of Texas HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) with their solicitation response.

NOTE: Responses that do not include a completed HSP shall be rejected pursuant to Gov't Code §2161.252(b).

The HUB Program promotes equal business opportunities for economically disadvantaged persons to contract with the State of Texas in accordance with the goals specified in the State of Texas Disparity Study. The HUB goals defined in 1 TAC §111.13 are: **11.9 percent for heavy construction other than building contracts, 26.1 percent for all building construction, including general contractors and operative builders contracts, 57.2 percent for all special trade construction contracts, 20 percent for professional services contracts, 33 percent for all other services contracts, and 12.6 percent for commodities contracts.**

- - Agency Special Instructions/Additional Requirements - -

SECTION 1 - RESPONDENT AND SOLICITATION INFORMATION

- a. Respondent (Company) Name: _____ State of Texas VID #: _____
Point of Contact: _____ Phone #: _____
- b. Is your company a State of Texas certified HUB? ☐ - Yes ☐ - No
- c. Solicitation #: _____

SECTION 2 - SUBCONTRACTING INTENTIONS

After having divided the contract work into reasonable lots or portions to the extent consistent with prudent industry practices, the respondent must determine what portion(s) of work, including goods or services, will be subcontracted. Note: In accordance with 1 TAC §111.12., a "Subcontractor" means a person who contracts with a vendor to work, to supply commodities, or contribute toward completing work for a governmental entity. Check the appropriate box that identifies your subcontracting intentions:

- ☐ - Yes, I will be subcontracting portion(s) of the contract.
(If Yes, in the spaces provided below, list the portions of work you will be subcontracting, and go to page 2.)
- ☐ - No, I will not be subcontracting any portion of the contract, and will be fulfilling the entire contract with my own resources.
(If No, complete SECTION 9 and 10.)

Line Item # - Subcontracting Opportunity Description	Line Item # - Subcontracting Opportunity Description
(#1) -	(#6) -
(#2) -	(#7) -
(#3) -	(#8) -
(#4) -	(#9) -
(#5) -	(#10) -

*If you have more than twenty subcontracting opportunities, a continuation page is available at http://www.tbpc.state.tx.us/communities/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/hsp_sep06_cont1.doc.

HSP Rev. 12/06

Enter your company's name here: _____ Solicitation #: _____

IMPORTANT: You must complete a copy of this page for each of the subcontracting opportunities you listed in SECTION 2. You may photocopy this page or download copies at http://www.tbpc.state.tx.us/communities/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/hsp_sep06_cont2.doc.

SECTION 3 - SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

Enter the line item number and description of the subcontracting opportunity you listed in SECTION 2.

Line Item # _____ Description: _____

SECTION 4 - MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM

If respondent is participating as a Mentor in a State of Texas Mentor Protégé Program, submitting their Protégé (Protégé must be a State of Texas certified HUB) as a subcontractor to perform the portion of work (subcontracting opportunity) listed in SECTION 3, constitutes a good faith effort towards that specific portion of work. Will you be subcontracting the portion of work listed in SECTION 3 to your Protégé?

☐ - Yes (If Yes, complete SECTION 8 and 10.) ☐ - No / Not Applicable (If No or Not Applicable, go to SECTION 5.)

SECTION 5 - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS ONLY

This section applies to Professional Services Contracts only. All other contracts go to SECTION 6.

Does your HSP contain subcontracting of 20% or more with HUB(s)?

☐ - Yes (If Yes, complete SECTION 8 and 10.) ☐ - No / Not Applicable (If No or Not Applicable, go to SECTION 6.)

In accordance with Gov't Code §2254.004, "Professional Services" means services: (A) within the scope of the practice, as defined by state law of accounting; architecture; landscape architecture; land surveying; medicine; optometry; professional engineering; real estate appraising; or professional nursing; or (B) provided in connection with the professional employment or practice of a person who is licensed or registered as a certified public accountant; an architect; a landscape architect; a land surveyor; a physician, including a surgeon; an optometrist; a professional engineer; a state certified or state licensed real estate appraiser; or a registered nurse.

SECTION 6 - NOTIFICATION OF SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

Complying with a, b and c of this section constitutes Good Faith Effort towards the portion of work listed in SECTION 3. After performing the requirements of this section, complete SECTION 7, 8 and 10.

- Provide written notification of the subcontracting opportunity listed in SECTION 3 to **three (3)** or more HUBs. Use the State of Texas' Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL), found at <http://www2.tbpc.state.tx.us/cmb/cmbhub.html>, and its HUB Directory, found at <http://www2.tbpc.state.tx.us/cmb/hubonly.html>, to identify available HUBs. **Note:** Attach supporting documentation (letters, phone logs, fax transmittals, electronic mail, etc.) demonstrating evidence of the good faith effort performed.
- Provide written notification of the subcontracting opportunity listed in SECTION 3 to a minority or women trade organization or development center to assist in identifying potential HUBs by disseminating the subcontracting opportunity to their members/participants. A list of trade organizations and development centers may be accessed at <http://www.tbpc.state.tx.us/hub/minoritywomenbuslinks.html>. **Note:** Attach supporting documentation (letters, phone logs, fax transmittals, electronic mail, etc.) demonstrating evidence of the good faith effort performed.
- Written notifications should include the scope of the work, information regarding the location to review plans and specifications, bonding and insurance requirements, required qualifications, and identify a contact person. Unless the contracting agency has specified a different time period, you must allow the HUBs no less than five (5) working days from their receipt of notice to respond, and provide notice of your subcontracting opportunity to a minority or women trade organization or development center no less than five (5) working days prior to the submission of your response to the contracting agency.

SECTION 7 - HUB FIRMS CONTACTED FOR SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

List **three (3)** State of Texas certified HUBs you notified regarding the portion of work (subcontracting opportunity) listed in SECTION 3. Specify the vendor ID number, date you provided notice, and if you received a response. **Note:** Attach supporting documentation (letters, phone logs, fax transmittals, electronic mail, etc.) demonstrating evidence of the good faith effort performed.

Company Name	VID #	Notice Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Was Response Received?
_____	_____	____/____/____	☐ - Yes ☐ - No
_____	_____	____/____/____	☐ - Yes ☐ - No
_____	_____	____/____/____	☐ - Yes ☐ - No

SECTION 8 - SUBCONTRACTOR SELECTION

List the subcontractor(s) you selected to perform the portion of work (subcontracting opportunity) listed in SECTION 3. Also, specify the expected percentage of work to be subcontracted, the approximate dollar value of the work to be subcontracted, and indicate if the company is a Texas certified HUB.

Company Name	VID #	Expected % of Contract	Approximate Dollar Amount	Texas Certified HUB?
_____	_____	%	\$	☐ - Yes ☐ - No*
_____	_____	%	\$	☐ - Yes ☐ - No*

*If the subcontractor(s) you selected is not a Texas certified HUB, provide written justification of your selection process below:

Enter your company's name here: _____

Solicitation #: _____

SECTION 9 - SELF PERFORMANCE JUSTIFICATION

(If you responded "No" to SECTION 2, you must complete SECTION 9 and 10.)

Does your response/proposal contain an explanation demonstrating how your company will fulfill the entire contract with its own resources?

- ☐ - **Yes** If Yes, in the space provided below, list the specific page/section of your proposal which identifies how your company will perform the entire contract with its own equipment, supplies, materials and/or employees.
- ☐ - **No** If No, in the space provided below, explain how your company will perform the entire contract with its own equipment, supplies, materials, and/or employees.

SECTION 10 - AFFIRMATION

As evidenced by my signature below, I affirm that I am an authorized representative of the respondent listed in SECTION 1, and that the information and supporting documentation submitted with the HSP are true and correct. Respondent understands and agrees that, if awarded any portion of the solicitation:

- The respondent must submit monthly compliance reports (Prime Contractor Progress Assessment Report – PAR) to the contracting agency, verifying their compliance with the HSP, including the use/expenditures they have made to subcontractors. (The PAR is available at <http://www.tbpc.state.tx.us/communities/procurement/prog/hub/hub-forms/progressassessmentrpt>).
- The respondent must seek approval from the contracting agency prior to making any modifications to their HSP. If the HSP is modified without the contracting agency's prior approval, respondent may be subject to debarment pursuant to Gov't Code §2161.253(d).
- The respondent must, upon request, allow the contracting agency to perform on-site reviews of the company's headquarters and/or work-site where services are to be performed and must provide documents regarding staff and other resources.

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Date

HSP Rev. 12/06