BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

1. Bidders must comply with all rules, regulations and statutes relating to purchasing in the State of Texas in addition to the requirements of this form.

2. Pricing must be quoted on a “per unit” basis, extended as indicated. Any trade discounts included must be itemized and deducted from extended prices. Unit Prices shall govern in the event of extension errors. Bidder guarantees product or service offered will meet or exceed specifications included as part of this Invitation for Bid.

3. Bids should be submitted on this form. Each bid that is mailed should be placed in a separate envelope completely and properly identified. Instructions on page 1, top center. Bids must be submitted to the TEXAS A&M DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES on or before the hour and date specified for the bid opening.

4. When sending bids via the U.S. Postal Service, use the address on page 1 of this Invitation for Bid. When using a delivery service or hand delivery, which requires a street address, address is Agronomy Road, College Station, TX 77843.

5. Late bids will not be considered under any circumstances.

6. Bids should be quoted “F.O.B. destination, freight prepaid and allowed”. If quoting freight otherwise, show exact delivery cost and who bears cost if not included in unit price.

7. Bid prices are requested to be firm for TEXAS A&M acceptance within 30 days of bid opening date. "Discount from list" bids are not acceptable unless requested. Cash discount will not be considered in determining the low bid. All cash discounts will be taken if earned.

8. Bids should give SUPPLIER ID Number, full name and address of bidder (enter in the block provided if not shown). Failure to sign bid will disqualify it. Person signing bid should show title or authority to bind his or her firm in a contract. Firm name should appear on each page of a bid, in the block provided in the upper right hand corner. The SUPPLIER ID Number is the taxpayer number assigned and used by the Comptroller of Public Accounts of Texas. Enter this number in the spaces provided on page 1 (upper right) if it is not printed. If this number is not known, complete the following: 1. Enter your Federal Employer Identification Number. 2. Sale owner should also enter Social Security Number.

9. Bid cannot be altered or amended after opening time. Any alterations made before opening time should be initialed by bidder or authorized agent of bidder. No bid can be withdrawn after opening time without approval by the TEXAS A&M DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES based on a written acceptable reason.

10. Purchases made for TEXAS A&M use are exempt from the State Sales tax and Federal Excise tax. Do not include tax in bid. Excise tax Exemption Certificate will be furnished by TEXAS A&M upon request.

11. TEXAS A&M reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of any bid, waive minor technicalities and award the bid to best serve the interests of the State.

12. Consistent and continued tie bidding could cause rejection of bids by TEXAS A&M and/or investigation for antitrust violations.

13. Other preferences as defined in Rule 1 TAC 113.8 (check any that are applicable)
   - Products of persons with mental or physical disabilities
   - Products made of recycled, remanufactured, or environmentally sensitive materials including recycled steel
   - Energy efficient products
   - Rubberized asphalt paving material
   - Recycled motor oil and lubricants
   - Products produced at facilities located on formerly contaminated property
   - Products and services from economically depressed or blighted areas

14. The telephone number for FAX submission of bids is 979-845-3800. This is the only number that will be used for the receipt of bids. TEXAS A&M shall not be responsible for failure of electronic equipment or operator error. Late, illegible, incomplete, or otherwise non-responsive bids will not be considered.

15. Inquiries pertaining to IFBs must include the IFB number and opening date.

SPECIFICATIONS

Any catalogue, brand name or manufacturer's reference used in the Invitation for Bid is descriptive only (not restrictive), and is used to indicate type and quality desired. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered unless otherwise specified. If bidding on other than reference, bid should show manufacturer, brand or trade name, and other description of the product offered. If other than brand(s) specified is offered, illustrations and complete description of product offered are requested to be made part of the bid. If bidder takes an exception to specifications or reference data in his or her bid, bidder will be required to furnish brand names, numbers, etc., as specified in the Invitation for Bid (IFB).

All items shall be new and unused, in first class condition, including containers suitable for shipment and storage, unless otherwise indicated in IFB. Oral agreements for contracts will not be recognized.

All electrical items must meet all applicable OSHA standards and regulations, and bear the appropriate listing from UL, FMRC or NEMA.

Samples, when requested, must be furnished free of expense to TEXAS A&M. If not destroyed in examination, they will be returned to the bidder, upon request, at bidder's expense. Each sample should be marked with bidder's name and address, and TEXAS A&M bid number. Do not enclose in or attach bid to sample.

TEXAS A&M shall not be bound by any oral statement or representation contrary to the written specifications of this IFB.

TIE BIDS

In case of tie bids, the award will be made in accordance with Rule 1 TAC Section 113.6 (b) (3) and 113.6 (Preferences).

DELIVERY

Bid should show number of days required to place material in receiving agency's designated location under normal conditions. Failure to state delivery time obligates SUPPLIER to complete delivery in 14 calendar days. Unreasonably short or long delivery promises may cause bid to be disregarded.

If delay is foreseen, SUPPLIER shall give written notice to TEXAS A&M. TEXAS A&M has the right to extend delivery date if reasons appear valid. Default in promised delivery (without accepted reasons) or failure to meet specifications authorizes TEXAS A&M to purchase supplies elsewhere and charge full increase, if any, in cost and handling to defaulting SUPPLIER.

No substitutions or cancellation permitted without written approval of the TEXAS A&M DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES.

Delivery shall be made during normal working hours only, unless prior approval for late delivery has been obtained from TEXAS A&M.

INSPECTION AND TESTS

All goods will be subject to inspection and test by TEXAS A&M to the extent practicable at all times and places. Authorized TEXAS A&M personnel shall have access to any SUPPLIER'S place of business for the purpose of inspecting merchandise. Tests shall be performed on samples submitted with the bid or on samples taken from regular shipment. In the event products tested fail to meet or exceed all conditions and requirements of the specifications, the cost of the sample used and the cost of the testing shall be borne by the SUPPLIER. Goods which have been delivered and rejected in whole or in part may, at TEXAS A&M's option, be returned to the SUPPLIER or held for disposition at SUPPLIER'S risk and expense. Latent defects may result in revocation of acceptance.

BIDDER AFFIRMATION

Signing this bid with a false statement is a material breach of contract and shall void the submitted bid or any resulting contracts, and the bidder shall be removed from all bid lists. By signature hereon affixed, the bidder hereby certifies that:

1. The bidder has not, given offer, to nor intends 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 the submitted bid.

2. The bidder is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise tax owed the State of Texas.

3. Pursuant to Section 2155.004 Government Code, relating to collection of state and local sales and use taxes, the bidder certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and/or payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

4. Neither the bidder nor the firm, corporation, partnership or institution represented by the bidder, or anyone acting for such firm, corporation or institution has violated the antitrust laws of this State, codified in Section 15.01., et seq., Texas Business and Commerce Code, or the Federal Antitrust Laws, nor communicated directly or indirectly the bid made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business.

5. The bidder has not received compensation for participation in the preparation of the specifications for this IFB.

6. The SUPPLIER shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the State of Texas, all of its officers, agents and employees from and against all claims, actions, suits, demands, proceedings costs, damages, and liabilities, from any acts or omissions of SUPPLIER or any agent, employee, subcontractor, or SUPPLIER of SUPPLIER in the execution or performance of this contract.

7. Bidder agrees that any payments due under this contract will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas.

8. Bidder certifies that they are in compliance with section 669.003 of the Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a State agency. If section 669.003 applies, bidder will complete the following information in order for the bid to be evaluated:

Name of Former Executive:

Name of State Agency:

Date of Separation from State Agency:

Position with Bidder:

Date of Employment with Bidder:


10. Contractor understands that acceptance of funds under this contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Contractor further agrees to cooperate fully with the State Auditor's Office or its successor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. Contractor will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through Contractor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract awards.

CONFLICTING TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Any terms and conditions attached to a bid will not be considered unless the bidder specifically refers to them on the front of this bid form.

WARNING: SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION OF THE BID. (E.G. BIDS WITH THE LAWS OF A STATE OTHER THAN TEXAS, REQUIREMENTS FOR PREPAYMENT, LIMITATIONS ON REMEDIES, ETC.)
10. PATENTS OR COPYRIGHTS - The SUPPLIER agrees to protect TEXAS A&M from claims involving infringement of patents or copyrights.

11. SUPPLIER ASSIGNMENTS - SUPPLIER hereby assigns to purchaser any and all claims for overcharges associated with this contract which arise under the antitrust laws of the United States 15 U.S.C. § 1, et seq. (1973), and which arise under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, TEX. Bus. & Comm. Code Ann. Sec. 15.01, et seq. (1967).

12. PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT
(a) [SUPPLIER] acknowledges that TEXAS A&M University (TEXAS A&M) is obligated to strictly comply with the Public Information Act, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, in responding to any request for public information pertaining to this Agreement, as well as any other disclosure of information required by applicable Texas law.
(b) Upon TEXAS A&M’S written request, [SUPPLIER] will provide specified public information to which it is lawfully entitled or created under this Agreement that is not otherwise excepted from disclosure under chapter 552, Texas Government Code, to TEXAS A&M in a non-proprietary format acceptable to TEXAS A&M. As used in this provision, “public information” has the meaning assigned Section 552.002, Texas Government Code, but only includes information to which TEXAS A&M has a right of access.
(c) [SUPPLIER] acknowledges that TEXAS A&M may be required to post a copy of the fully executed Agreement on its Internet website in compliance with Section 2261.253(a)(1), Texas Government Code.

13. TEXAS FAMILY CODE SECTION 231.006
INELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE STATE GRANTS OR LOANS OR RECEIVE PAYMENT ON STATE CONTRACTS
(a) A child support obligor who is more than six months delinquent in paying child support and a business entity in which the obligor is a sole proprietor, partner, shareholder, or owner with an ownership interest of at least 25 percent is not eligible to:
1. receive payments from state funds under a contract to provide property, materials, or services; or
2. receive a state-funded grant or loan.

(a-1) A child support obligor who is more than six months delinquent in paying child support is not eligible to receive student financial assistance paid directly to the obligor by the controller. This subsection does not apply to an obligor who submits to the comptroller:
1. a sworn affidavit from the obligor or obligee stating that the obligor is current on the child support payments;
2. a written statement from the obligor that he has made a request to the Title IV-D agency to correct the errors in the obligor’s payment record.
(b) A child support obligor or business entity ineligible to receive payments under Subsection (a) or a child support obligor ineligible to receive payments under Subsection (a-1) remains ineligible until:
1. all arrears have been paid;
2. the obligor is in compliance with a written repayment agreement or court order as to any existing delinquency;
3. the court of continuing jurisdiction over the child support order has granted the obligor an exemption from and the comptroller (a) in part of a court-supervised effort to improve earnings and child support payments.
(c) A bid or an application for a contract, grant, or loan paid from state funds must include the name and social security number of the individual or sole proprietor and each partner, shareholder, or owner with an ownership interest of at least 25 percent of the business entity submitting the bid or application.
(d) A contract, bid, or application subject to the requirements of this section must include the following statement:
*Under Section 231.006, Family Code, the SUPPLIER or applicant certifies that the individual or business entity named in this contract, bid, or application is not ineligible to receive state funds under a contract to provide property, materials, or services; or receive a state-funded grant or loan.

14. EXPORT CONTROL - SUPPLIER agrees to comply with all applicable US Export Control laws and regulations to include the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and other applicable laws and regulations. SUPPLIER agrees that it will not provide or make accessible to TEXAS A&M or any export controlled Materials without first informing TEXAS A&M of the export-controlled nature to the Materials and obtaining from TEXAS A&M its written consent to accept such Materials as well as any specific instructions for delivering controlled Materials to TEXAS A&M. SUPPLIER agrees to obtain government approval or export license if required from the appropriate U.S. Government agency and to share that information with TEXAS A&M prior to delivery of such Materials. In the event that any purchased item is export controlled under the U.S. Export Control Regulations, SUPPLIER shall provide TEXAS A&M with the export control classification and failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the respective purchase order or agreement.

15. INFORMATION SECURITY
Pursuant to Title 20, §§200.77 of the Texas Administrative Code, SUPPLIER hereby acknowledges responsibility to comply with all applicable TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY (TEXAS A&M) policies, rules, standards, practices, and agreements, including but not limited to: safety policies, privacy policies, security policies, auditing policies, software licensing policies, acceptable use policies, and non-disclosure as required by TEXAS A&M.

For purposes of this section concerning SUPPLIER Access, Confidential Information is defined as information that must be protected from unauthorized disclosure or public release based on state or federal law or other legally binding agreement and may include but is not limited to the following: personally identifiable information (social security number and/or financial account numbers, student education records); intellectual property (as set forth in Section 51.914 of the Texas Education Code); and medical records. Mission Critical Information is information that is defined by the NIST (ITARs be essential to applicable US export regulations as well as Texas A&M, SUPPLIER agrees to provide TEXAS A&M with the export control classification and failures to do so may result in the cancellation of the respective purchase order or agreement.

16. SUSTAINABILITY
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY is committed to campus sustainability initiatives. Support of these initiatives necessarily includes the purchase of goods and services that minimize the impact on the environment to the greatest extent possible. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY requests SUPPLIER’S assistance in campus sustainability initiatives by informing us in any bid response, or other discussions, of SUPPLIER’S sustainability practices or environmentally sustainable product offerings. For example, alternative products available from SUPPLIER which may be recyclable or reusable, end of life (obsolescence) return of equipment to SUPPLIER, energy-saving devices, return to SUPPLIER or of shipping containers, packaging or like excess materials.

17. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
SUPPLIER must use the dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260 of the Texas Administrative Code to attempt to resolve a dispute arising under this Agreement and is required to provide notice of an agreement to submit to arbitration or mediation in accordance with Chapter 107, Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code. SUPPLIER must submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract to the University Contracts Officer, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY.