

DIVISION OF FINANCE**Procurement Services****REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL****Strategic Planning Consultant Services for Texas A&M Health
RFP 20-0019****PROPOSAL MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE:****2:00 p.m. CST on Thursday, April 30, 2020****MAIL PROPOSAL TO:**

Texas A&M University
Procurement Services
P. O. Box 30013
College Station, TX 77842-3013

HAND DELIVER AND/OR EXPRESS MAIL TO:

Texas A&M University
Procurement Services
Purchasing & Stores Building
330 Agronomy Road
1477 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-1477

Show RFP Number, Opening Date and Time on Return Envelope

NOTE: PROPOSAL must be time stamped at the **Texas A&M University Department of Procurement Services** before the hour and date specified for receipt of proposal.

Sealed proposals will be received until the date and time established for receipt.

REFER INQUIRIES TO:

Susan King
Buyer III
Texas A&M University
Procurement Services
email: sa-king@tamu.edu

PO Box 30013
College Station, TX 77842-3013
Phone 979-845-4570
Fax 979-845-3800

NAEP
National Association of
Educational Procurement

Purchasing & Stores Building
Agronomy Road
1477 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-1477

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SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Texas A&M Health is requesting proposals from interested, respected and experienced strategic planning consulting firms who understand clinical academics, health and medical research, and the future of academic clinical enterprise structures and operations, to provide enterprise-wide strategic planning and facilitation services for a comprehensive health science center with a large geographic spread.

By submitting responses, each respondent certifies that it understands this RFP and has full knowledge of the scope, nature, quality, and quantity of the work to be performed, the detailed requirements of the services to be provided, and the conditions under which the services are to be performed. Each respondent also certifies that it understands that all costs relating to preparing and responding to this RFP will be the sole responsibility of the Respondent.

RESPONDENTS ARE 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 Brief History and Current Organization

The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) has become one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation. Texas A&M University (TAMU), the flagship institution, was founded in 1876 as a land-grant college under the Morrill Act. Universities that operate under the Morrill Act's provision have a three-fold mission: teaching, research and service teaching and research at the highest levels, and service applied at the grass roots to benefit the public good.

One of the leading Tier 1 research universities in the nation with over \$950 million in research expenditures, recent accolades for Texas A&M University include being ranked #3 in the nation for National Science Foundation funding, a #11 ranking in *Washington Monthly* for social mobility, research and service, and #24 for top public schools in the nation with *U.S. News and World Report*.

In 2013, Texas A&M University Health Science Center (Texas A&M Health) became a part of TAMU, creating an opportunity to connect and encourage collaboration in life sciences across the campus. Texas A&M Health is a \$386 million revenue enterprise focused on inter professional education under one umbrella. A key differentiator for Texas A&M Health is the ability to foster collaboration between researchers and practitioners in all the life sciences, both on our flagship campus and across our health discipline schools: dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, public health and the biomedical sciences. We have approximately 379 employed and 2,479 affiliated clinical faculty across Texas A&M Health who help contribute toward this aim.

Our values shape our code of conduct, and we strive to create an environment of excellence, integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect and selfless service. Our ambition is to be a trusted leader, educator, and innovator in value-based care, customer experience and affordability.

We seek to train health care professionals in team-based approaches starting on day one of their educational experience, making them ready to serve diverse populations, create new approaches to health care delivery in a more responsive manner while bringing down the total cost of care. Specifically, we aim to grow our collective impact and become a role model for academic health care learning centers throughout the nation.

Our vision for the future is to develop a nimble attitude that allows us to keep up with a rapidly evolving health care landscape while embracing our land-grant mission. Our diverse campus locations and community outreach programs span the entire state, providing connectivity to, and potential impact in, every Texas county.

1.3 Scope of Work

Texas A&M Health is requesting proposals from interested, respected and experienced strategic planning consulting firms who understand clinical academics, health and medical research, and the future of academic clinical enterprise structures and operations, to provide enterprise-wide strategic planning and facilitation services for a comprehensive health science center with a large geographic spread.

We want to go “all in” on becoming a leading academic medical center in Texas and a health science center of the future in order to:

- Create a comprehensive health science center strategy that differentiates Texas A&M Health based on our strengths and institutional mission.
- Train adaptive thinkers who are comfortable and committed to operating in teams for health care delivery.
- Create innovative solutions to tough health_care challenges of the future, with a recognition of the changing nature of health care.
- Develop a robust and sustainable inter professional clinical enterprise which takes advantage of market locations, institutional strengths and weaknesses, and the changing nature of the health care market.
- Improve overall academic rankings.
- Elevate focused research growth that is integrated across all the colleges of the Texas A&M Health.
- Become a leader in precision medicine.
- Capitalize on an expanded Houston presence.
- Create access for underserved populations.
- Revolutionize rural and population health, and military health.
- Develop unique partnerships across academia, health systems, insurers and beyond.

Texas A&M Health is seeking a strategic consulting partner to address the following project objectives:

- The consultant will develop and implement a strategic planning process that promotes inclusivity and engagement across a geographically dispersed institution.
- The consultant will work with Texas A&M Health to:
 - Develop and finalize the strategic planning process
 - Validate Texas A&M Health’s objectives for this project
 - Outline consultant and Texas A&M Health roles and responsibilities
 - Manage the strategic planning process
- The consultant will develop a work plan to guide project activities, communications and management.
- The consultant will address the need to keep key stakeholders such as Texas A&M Health leadership and deans, as well as “front line” stakeholders including students, staff and faculty, informed at multiple checkpoints along the way with opportunity for feedback.
- The consultant will drive alignment of mission, vision and priorities for Texas A&M Health that collectively aligns with Texas A&M University.
- The consultant will identify and articulate strategic themes that identify what a future health science center should deliver on and how to implement that delivery.
- The consultant will define a differentiation strategy that will set Texas A&M Health apart across Texas, and nationally.
- The consultant will identify financial requirements for achieving the defined goals.
- The consultant will define an actionable implementation plan for achieving defined goals.

1.4 Term of Agreement

Once executed by the parties, this agreement will be in effect for a period of one (1) year, with the option to renew for an additional one (1) year, if mutually agreed upon by both parties. All terms and conditions shall remain the same. If the renewal options are exercised, all pricing shall be negotiated and approved by both parties.

1.5 Award

Any agreement resulting from this RFP will be awarded all or none. No multiple awards will be made.

1.6 Schedule of Events

The review and approval of RFPs is a multi-step process that requires variable amounts of time.

Responders are advised that the projected “Formal Execution of Agreement” date as listed in the “Tentative Timetable” may require extension.

Tentative Timetable

Deadline for Questions	April 17, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m. CST
Posting/e-mailing Addendum and Responses to Inquires.....	April 24, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m. CST
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals	April 30, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m. CST
Evaluation of Proposals Completed.....	May- June 2020
Formal Execution of Agreement (Projected).....	June 2020

SECTION 2 REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Technical Proposal

Provide a detailed proposal on how you propose to provide strategic planning services to support Texas A&M Health based on your understanding of the current environment and the scope of work described in Section 1.3, response shall clearly detail:

2.1.1 Requirements:

- Cover letter introducing the consultant and individual who will be the primary contact person.
- Description of the consultant's organization and staff qualifications, along with the types of engagements the consultant is experienced in.
- Specific qualifications consultant has regarding experience in academic medical center strategic planning services, including work product of institutions doing similar work as Texas A&M Health. Include a description of 2-3 projects of similar scope, magnitude and complexity to the work described.
- Proposed statement of work, project approach and plan to accomplish the work. Describe in detail the consultant's project approach and methodology in planning for, managing and implementing a project of this size and scope. Key elements include:
 - Institution and project understanding
 - Project team, roles and responsibilities
 - Project process, methodology and deliverables
 - Project activities and management
 - Project structure and implementation
- A detailed timeline for completion of each phase and the total project. Texas A&M Health is interested in pursuing this strategic plan in as expeditious a manner as possible.
- A pricing narrative with a proposed fee structure for the project including any incidental or travel fee estimates.

2.2 References

Respondents shall provide a list of at least three (3) references of persons, higher education clients are preferred, that have conducted business with proposer within the last two (2) years. References shall include Company Name, Contact Person, Company Address, Telephone & Fax Number and Email Address. Texas A&M University reserves the right to contact these references to verify the proposer's ability to perform these services. A negative reference may be grounds for the disqualification of your proposal.

SECTION 3
GENERAL INFORMATION**3.1 Submittal Deadline and Location**

- 3.1.1** All responses must be received by Texas A&M no later than **Thursday, April 30, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m. CST**
3.1.2 Responses are to be submitted to:

U. S. POSTAL SERVICE:

Texas A&M University
Procurement Services
P. O. Box 30013
College Station, TX 77842-3013

**HAND DELIVER AND/OR
EXPRESS MAIL TO:**

Texas A&M University
Procurement Services
330 Agronomy Road
College Station, TX 77843-1477

Late responses properly identified will be returned to Respondent unopened. Late responses will not be considered under any circumstances.

3.2 Submittal Instructions

- 3.2.1** Proposals including Execution of Office (Section 6) must be signed by Respondent's company official authorized to commit such proposals. Failure to sign the Execution of Offer may be basis for proposal disqualification.

- 3.2.2 One (1) hard copy original and one (1) virus free USB Drive** of the complete proposal response is required.

All electronic copies must either be in **Microsoft Office software or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF)**. All image files must be in one of the following formats: .jpg, .gif, .bmp, or .tif. We prefer image files to already be inserted as part of a document such as a PDF. Individual image files on the USB must be clearly named and referenced in your proposal response

NOTE: The original signature on ONE (1) hard copy will serve as the official signature of record for all USB drive copies.

Please create a text file in your root directory titled "table of contents.txt" that contains a brief explanation of the files and their layout found on the disc.

- 3.2.3** An unreadable electronic copy due to incorrect format may reflect negatively on your proposal. If your company is unable to provide an electronic copy in the requested format, then submit two (2) hard copies (1 original and one (1) hard copy)
- 3.2.4** Proposal package (box/carton) must indicate on the lower left-hand corner the submitter's company name, the proposal opening date, and RFP number.
- 3.2.5** Telephone and/or facsimile (Fax) responses to this RFP are not acceptable.

3.3 Texas A&M Contacts

All questions must be sent by email to:

Susan King
Buyer III
sa-king@tamu.edu

Texas A&M specifically requests that Respondents restrict all contact and questions regarding this RFP to the above named individuals. **Deadline for questions is Friday, April 17, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m. CST.**

3.4 Inquiries and Interpretations

Responses to inquiries which directly affect an interpretation or change to this RFP will be issued in writing by addendum (amendment) and e-mailed, faxed or mailed to all parties recorded by Texas A&M as having received a copy of the RFP. All such addenda issued by Texas A&M prior to the time that proposals are received shall be considered part of the RFP, and the Respondent shall consider and acknowledge receipt of such in their proposal.

Only those Texas A&M replied to inquiries which are made by formal written addenda shall be binding. Oral and other interpretations or clarification will be without legal effect.

3.5 Electronic State Business Daily Website

It is the responsibility of interested vendors to regularly check the ESBD for any possible addenda to this project. The RFP is inclusive of all addenda issued.

<http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/>

3.6 Open Records

Texas A&M considers all information, documentation and other materials requested to be submitted in response to this solicitation to be of a non-confidential and/or non-proprietary nature and therefore shall be subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act (Texas Government code, Chapter 552) after an agreement is awarded.

Respondents are hereby notified that Texas A&M strictly adheres to all Statutes, court decisions and the opinions of the Texas Attorney General regarding the disclosure of RFP information.

3.7 Terms and Conditions

The Terms and Conditions (ref. Section 4) shall govern any Agreement issued as a result of this solicitation RFP.

Additional or attached terms and conditions which are determined to be unacceptable to Texas A&M may result in the disqualification of your proposal. Examples include, but are not limited to, liability for payment of taxes, subjugation to the laws of another State, and limitations on remedies.

3.8 Proposal Components

The following documents are to be returned as part of your proposal submittal:

- ✓ Signed Execution of Offer (See Section 6)
- ✓ References (See Section 2.2)
- ✓ Technical Proposal (See Section 2)
- ✓ Certificate of Insurance (See Section 2)
- ✓ Respondent's Questionnaire (See Section 7)
- ✓ **One (1) original copies and one (1) virus free USB Drive copy (See Section 3.2.2)**

SECTION 4

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.1 General

These General Terms and Conditions shall be made a part of and govern any Agreement/Purchase Orders resulting from this Request for Proposal.

Each response should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward and concise description of Respondent's ability to meet the requirements of this RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness, clarity of content and responsiveness to the offer requirements.

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers, to waive informalities and technicalities, to accept the offer considered most advantageous and award based on "Best Value". Additionally, all respondents are hereby notified that Texas A&M shall consider all factors it believes to be relevant in the determination of the "Best Value" including, but not limited to: past experience, references, proposal, and price. Texas A&M's decision is final.

Responses are to be valid for a minimum of 180 days from the submittal deadline date to allow time for evaluation, selection, and any unforeseen delays.

4.2 Final Review and Approval

Failure to comply with the requirements contained in this Request for Proposal may result in the rejection of the proposal.

The vendor agrees to protect the State from claims involving infringement of patents or copyrights.

The vendor hereby assigns to purchaser, any and all claims for overcharges associated with any contract resulting from this RFP which arise under the antitrust laws of the United States 15 U.S.C.A. Section 1, et seq. (1973) and which arise under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Texas Business and Commercial Code Ann. Sec. 15.01, et seq. (1967).

Questions should be directed to the Texas A&M Purchasing official identified in Section 3.3 of this Request for Proposal.

Proposals and any other information submitted by Respondent in response to this Request for Proposal shall become the property of Texas A&M.

Texas A&M will not provide compensation to Respondents for any expenses incurred by the Respondent(s) for proposal preparation, product evaluations or demonstrations that may be made, unless otherwise expressly indicated.

Proposals which are qualified with conditional clauses, alterations, items not called for in the RFP documents, or irregularities of any kind are subject to disqualification by Texas A&M at its option.

4.3 Definitions

Whenever the following terms are used in these General Terms and Conditions or in other documents the intent and meaning shall be interpreted as follows:

RFP shall mean Request for Proposal.

Proposal shall mean Respondents offer

Texas A&M shall mean Texas A&M University and other system parts.

Respondent shall mean the individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity responding to this RFP.

Vendor shall mean the individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity awarded an agreement for labor or for equipment & supplies under this RFP in accordance with the terms, conditions, and requirements herein.

Agreement shall mean an agreement, documented by written instrument, between Texas A&M and the successful respondent to provide products/services as requested to Texas A&M in College Station, Texas.

4.4 Time of Performance

Time is of the essence in the rendering of services. Seller agrees to perform all obligations and render services set forth per this proposal.

4.5 Default

In the event that the Vendor fails to carry out or comply with any of the terms and conditions of the agreement with Texas A&M, Texas A&M may notify the Vendor of such failure or default in writing and demand that the failure or default be remedied within ten (10) days; and in the event that the Seller fails to remedy such failure or default within the ten (10) day period, Texas A&M shall have the right to cancel the agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice.

The cancellation of the Agreement, under any circumstances whatsoever, shall not effect or relieve Vendor from any obligation or liability that may have been incurred or will be incurred pursuant to the agreement and such cancellation by Texas A&M shall not limit any other right or remedy available to Texas A&M at law or in equity.

4.6 Termination**4.6.1. For Convenience:**

The agreement may be terminated, without penalty, by Texas A&M without cause by giving thirty (30) days written notice of such termination to the seller.

4.6.2. In no event shall such termination by Texas A&M as provided for under this Section give rise to any liability on the part of Texas A&M including, but not limited to, claims of Vendor for compensation for anticipated profits, unabsorbed overhead, or interest on borrowing. Texas A&M's sole obligation hereunder is to pay Vendor for products and/or services ordered and received prior to the date of termination.**4.7 Agreement Amendments**

No modification or amendment to the agreement shall become valid unless in writing and signed by both parties. All correspondence regarding modifications or amendments to the agreement must be forwarded to the Texas A&M Purchasing Department for prior review and approval. Only the contract administrator within Strategic Sourcing & Purchasing Services or his/her designee will be authorized to sign changes or amendments.

4.8 Independent Vendor Status

Vendor agrees that Vendor and Vendor's employees and agents have no employer-employee relationship with Texas A&M. Texas A&M shall not be responsible for the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) payments, federal or state unemployment taxes, income tax withholding, Workers Compensation Insurance payments, or any other insurance payments, nor will Texas A&M furnish any medical or retirement benefits or any paid vacation or sick leave.

4.9 Right to Audit

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

4.10 Sales and Use Tax

Texas A&M, as an agency of the State of Texas, qualifies for exemption from State and Local Sales and Use Taxes pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Limited Sales, Excise, and Use Tax Act. The Seller may claim exemption from payment of applicable State taxes by complying with such procedures as may be prescribed by the State Comptroller of Public Accounts.

4.11 Observance of Texas A&M Rules and Regulations

Vendor agrees that at all times its employees will observe and comply with all regulations of the University, including but not limited to parking and security regulations.

4.12 Non-Disclosure

Vendor and Texas A&M acknowledge that they or their employees may, in the performance of the resultant agreement come into the possession of proprietary or confidential information owned by or in the possession of the other. Neither party shall use any such information for its own benefit or make such information available to any person, firm, corporation, or other organizations, whether or not directly or indirectly affiliated with Seller or Texas A&M unless required by law.

4.13 Publicity

Vendor 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 Texas A&M's name in connection with any sales promotion or publicity event without the prior express written approval of Texas A&M.

4.14 Severability

If one or more provisions of the resultant agreement, or the application of any provision to any party or circumstance, is held invalid, unenforceable, or illegal in any respect, the remainder of the agreement and the application of the provision to other parties or circumstances shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

4.15 Non-Waiver of Defaults

Any failure of Texas A&M at any time, to enforce or require the strict keeping and performance of any of the terms and conditions of this agreement shall not constitute a waiver of such terms, conditions, or rights, and shall not affect or impair same, or the right of Texas A&M at any time to avail itself of same.

4.16 Governing Law

This agreement shall be construed and governed by the laws of the State of Texas.

4.17 Intellectual Property

Pursuant to the Agreement, the University will license specified uses of certain of its intellectual property and assets during the Term of the Agreement, as contemplated herein. However, Texas A&M shall, in all cases, retain exclusive ownership of any and all such intellectual property and assets, including any and all derivative property and assets developed during the Term of the Agreement. The Proposer shall acknowledge Texas A&M's ownership of its intellectual property in the Agreement and shall agree to assign any and all such intellectual property to Texas A&M at the expiration or termination of the Agreement, if requested by Texas A&M.

4.18 Not Eligible for Rehire

[PROVIDER] is responsible to ensure that employees participating in work for [MEMBER] have not been designated by

The Texas A&M University System ("TAMUS") as Not Eligible for Rehire as defined in TAMUS Policy 33.02, Section

4. Non-conformance to this requirement may be grounds for termination of this Agreement or any resultant agreement.

4.19 Public Information.

[PROVIDER] acknowledges that [MEMBER] 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. Upon [MEMBER]'s written request, [PROVIDER] will promptly provide specified contracting information exchanged or created under any resultant agreement for or on behalf of [MEMBER]. [PROVIDER] acknowledges that [MEMBER] 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*. The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, *Texas Government Code*, may apply to this Agreement and [PROVIDER] agrees that this Agreement can be terminated if [PROVIDER] knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

4.19 Prohibition on Contracts Related to Persons Involved in Human Trafficking.

A state agency may not accept a bid or award a contract, including a contract for which purchasing authority is delegated to a state agency, that includes proposed financial participation by a person who, during the five-year period **preceding** the date of the bid or award, has been convicted of any offense related to the direct support or promotion of human trafficking. A bid or award subject to the requirements of this section must include the following statement: "Under Section 2155.0061, Government Code, the vendor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate."

SECTION 5

CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Texas Public Information Act

All information, documentation and other material submitted by Respondent under this proposal is subject to public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act (Texas Government Code, Chapter 552). Respondent is hereby notified that Texas A&M strictly adheres to this statute and the interpretations thereof rendered by the Courts and Texas Attorney General. Respondent shall be deemed to have knowledge of this law and how to protect the legitimate interests of the contractor.

5.2 Insurance Requirements

5.2.1. The successful vendor will be required per the indicated requirements (Appendix A) to provide proof of insurance prior to beginning any work on the campus of Texas A&M University. The vendor will be held strictly liable for any damages to Texas A&M University property occurring during any installation.

5.2.2. Vendor shall not commence work until all the insurance specified hereunder has been obtained and certificates of such insurance have been filed with and accepted by Texas A&M University. Insurance coverage shall provide for a thirty day notice of cancellation or material change to the policy coverage and/or limits and the certificate of insurance enforce must include a notice that the policy or policies do contain these provision. Acceptance of insurance certificates by Texas A&M University shall not relieve or decrease the liability of the vendor. Unless otherwise specified, the vendor shall provide and maintain, until the work included in this Request for Proposal is completed an accepted by Texas A&M University.

5.2.3. Certificates of Insurance must be delivered or mailed to:

Texas A&M University
Procurement Services
Attn: Susan King
P.O. Box 30013
College Station, TX 77842-3013.

5.3 Indemnification

Vendor agrees to indemnify and hold the State of Texas, the Board of Regents of Texas A&M University System, Texas A&M, their officers, employees, and agents (the Indemnified Parties) harmless from and indemnify each against any and all liabilities, actions, damages, suits, proceedings, judgments, and costs (excluding attorney's fees) for claims resulting from the acts or omissions of Seller or the acts or omissions of others under Seller's supervision and control.

5.4 Other Benefits

It is understood and agreed that no benefits, payments or considerations received by vendor for the performance of services associated with and pertinent to the resultant agreement shall accrue, directly or indirectly, to any employees, elected or appointed officers or representatives, or any other person identified as agents of, or who are by definition an employee of the State.

5.7 Alternative Dispute Resolution

The dispute resolution process provided in Chapter 2260, Texas Government Code, and the related rules adopted by the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Chapter 2260, shall be used by Owner and Company to attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by Company that cannot be resolved in the ordinary course of business. Company shall submit written notice of a claim of breach of contract under this Chapter to the University Contracts Officer, Texas A&M University, who shall examine Company's claim and any counterclaim and negotiate with Company in an effort to resolve the claim.

SECTION 6

EXECUTION OF OFFER**RFP 20-0019 Strategic Planning Consultant Services**

In compliance with this RFP, and subject to all the conditions herein, the undersigned offers and agrees to furnish any or all commodities or services at the prices quoted.

6.1 Proposer Affirmation

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

- 6.1.1. The proposer has not given, offered to give, 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 proposal.
- 6.1.2. The proposer is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise tax owed the State of Texas.
- 6.1.3. Pursuant to Section 2155.004 Government Code, relating to collection of state and local sales and use taxes, the proposer certifies that the individual or business entity named in this proposal 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.
- 6.1.4. Neither the proposer nor the firm, corporation, partnership or institution represented by the proposer, 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 proposal made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business.
- 6.1.5. The proposer has not received compensation for participation in the preparation of the specifications for this Invitation for Proposal.
- 6.1.6. The proposer 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 proposer or any agent, employee, sub-Contractor, or proposer of proposer in the execution or performance of this purchase order.
- 6.1.7. Proposer 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.
- 6.1.8. Proposer 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, proposer will complete the following information in order for the proposal to be evaluated:

Name of Former Executive: _____

Name of State Agency: _____

Date of Separation from State Agency: _____

Position with Proposer: _____

Date of Employment with Proposer: _____

- 6.1.9. Proposer agrees to comply with Government Code 2155.4441, pertaining to service contract use of products produced in the State of Texas.

6.2 Texas Family Code Section 231.006**Ineligibility to Receive State Grants or Loans, or Receive Proposals or Payments on State Contracts.**

- 6.2.1. A child support obligor who is more than 30 days 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:
 - 6.2.1.1. receive payments from state funds under a contract to provide property, materials, or services: or
 - 6.2.1.2. receive a state-funded grant or loan.
- 6.2.2. A child support obligor or business entity ineligible to receive payments under Subsection (a) remains ineligible until:
 - 6.2.2.1. all arrearages have been paid; or
 - 6.2.2.2. the obligor is in compliance with a written repayment agreement or court order as to any existing delinquency.
- 6.2.3. Pursuant to Section 231.006 (c), Family Code, proposal should include name and Social Security number of each person with at least 25% ownership of the business entity submitting the proposal. Proposers that have pre-registered this information on the GSC Centralized Master Proposers List have satisfied this requirement. If not pre-registered, attach name & social security number for each person. Otherwise this information must be provided prior to contract award.
- 6.2.4. "Pursuant to Section 231.006, Family Code, re: child support, the proposer certifies that the individual or business entity named in this proposal is not ineligible to receive the specified payment and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate."
- 6.2.5. If a state agency determines that an individual or business entity holding a state contract is ineligible to receive payment under Section (a) the contract may be terminated.
- 6.2.6. If the certificate required under Subsection (d) is shown to be false, the vendor is liable to the state for attorney's fees, the costs necessary to complete the contract, including the cost of advertising and awarding a second contract, and any other damages provided by law or contract.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 20, Sec. 1, eff. April 20, 1995. Amended by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 751, Sec. 82, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

EXECUTION OF OFFER

(continued)

6.3 Substitute W-9

Texas A&M University requires all companies and individuals (not employees or students) to have a Substitute W-9 form on file. This form is needed for IRS compliance.

Step 1: You can obtain the Substitute W-9 form from the Texas A&M University Financial Management Services website at: <https://fmo.tamu.edu/media/395081/substitutew9.pdf>

Step 2: Vendor must fill out the form completely and mail the original to:

Texas A&M University
Financial Management Services
Accounts Payable
6000 TAMU
College Station, TX. 77843-6000

6.4 Direct Deposit

All vendors are encouraged to sign up for direct deposit. The direct deposit form is located at: <https://fmo.tamu.edu/media/395081/substitutew9.pdf>

6.5 Signature

Proposal should give Payee Identification Number (PIN) (Formerly Vendor ID), full firm name and address of proposer (enter in block provided if not shown). Failure to manually sign proposal will disqualify it. The person signing the proposal should show title or authority to bind his/her firm in contract. The Payee Identification Number is the taxpayer number assigned and used by the Comptroller of Public Accounts of Texas. Enter this number in the spaces provided on the Execution of Offer.

This offer consists of pages number (1) through

Payee Identification Number (PIN): _____

Sole Owner should also enter social security No.: _____

Proposer/Company: _____

Signature (INK): _____

Name (Typed/Printed): _____

Title: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Fax No.: _____

E-mail: _____

Other preferences as defined in TAC Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20, Subchapter C Rule 20.38 (check any that are applicable)

- ☐ Supplies, materials, equipment, or services produced in TX/ offered by TX bidders
- ☐ Agricultural products produced or grown in TX
- ☐ Agricultural products and services offered by TX bidders
- ☐ USA produced supplies, materials, or equipment
- ☐ 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

THIS SHEET MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED, AND RETURNED WITH RESPONDENT'S PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO SIGN AND RETURN THIS SHEET WILL RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR PROPOSAL.

SECTION 7
RESPONDENT'S QUESTIONNAIRE/COMPANY EXPERIENCE

The Respondent recognizes that in selecting a supplier, Texas A&M will rely, in part, on the answers provided in response to this Section 7. Accordingly, Respondent warrants to the best of its knowledge that all responses are true, correct and complete. Texas A&M reserves the right to contact each and every reference listed below and shall be free from any liability to respondent for conducting such inquiry.

7.1 Company Profile

a. Number of Years in Business: _____

Type of Operation: Individual_____ Partnership_____ Corporation_____ Government_____

Number of Employees: _____(*company wide*)

Number of Employees: _____(*servicing location*)

Annual Sales Volume: _____(company wide)

Annual Sales Volume: _____(servicing location)

b. Provide any details of all past or pending litigation or claims filed against your company that would negatively impact your company's performance under an agreement with Texas A&M.

c. Is your company currently in default on any loan agreement or financing agreement with any bank, financial institution, or other entity. If yes, specify date(s), details, circumstances, and prospects for resolution.

SECTION 8

PRICING

8.1 Pricing

Respondent shall provide a breakdown of all cost associated with providing the requested services.

SECTION 9 EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR AWARD

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR AWARD

9.1 Evaluation Information

Texas A&M University will utilize an evaluation team for the evaluation of this RFP. Texas A&M University will evaluate and make the award on the proposal that is determined to be the “Best Value” to the State based on, but not limited to the criteria listed above.

All proposals must be complete and convey all of the information requested to be considered responsive. If the proposal fails to conform to the essential requirements of the RFP, Texas A&M alone will determine whether the variance is significant enough to consider the proposal susceptible to being made acceptable and therefore a candidate for further consideration, or not susceptible to being made acceptable and therefore not considered for award.

By submitting a proposal, Respondent acknowledges and accepts [a] the evaluation process, [b] the evaluation factors listed in the RFP Questionnaire, [c] the scope of this engagement (**Section 1**), [d] the terms and conditions of the Agreement (**Section 4**), [e] all other requirements and specifications set forth in this RFP, and [e] that some subjective judgments must be made by the University during this RFP process.

Should Texas A&M be unable to agree on final Agreement terms and conditions with the highest ranked proposer, a Texas A&M representative(s) will then negotiate with the second-ranked proposer or reissue the same or modified version of this RFP.

Texas A&M University reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

9.2 Demonstration/Presentation

During evaluation, Texas A&M may request an on-site demonstration/presentation of proposer(s). The team may consider the demonstration/presentation in the evaluation criteria. The purpose of the on-site demonstration/presentations is for clarification or to amplify the materials presented in any part of your submission. However, vendors are cautioned that the evaluators are not required to request clarification; therefore, all submissions should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the offer.

9.3 Evaluation Criteria and Weights

Each proposal shall be evaluated on the ability to meet the university’s minimum requirements in Section 2 and to provide the best value to the University. Proposal shall be evaluated by assigning points to each of the items below. The maximum number of points that can be assigned to each item being evaluated are as follows:

Evaluation Criteria	Possible Points
Technical Proposal (implementation plan, planning tools, resumes)	45
Pricing	30
References / Past Performance	25
TOTAL POINTS	100

SECTION 10
NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned, duly authorized to represent the persons, firms and corporations joining and participating in the submission of the foregoing Proposal (such persons, firms and corporations hereinafter being referred to as the "RESPONDENT"), being duly sworn, on his or her oath, states that to the best of his or her belief and knowledge no person, firm or corporation, nor any person duly representing the same joining and participating in the submission of the foregoing Proposal, has directly or indirectly entered into any agreement or arrangement with any other RESPONDENTS, or with any official of TEXAS A&M or any employee thereof, or any person, firm or corporation under contract with TEXAS A&M whereby the RESPONDENT, in order to induce acceptance of the foregoing Proposal by said TEXAS A&M, has paid or is to pay to any other RESPONDENT or to any of the aforementioned persons anything of value whatever, and that the RESPONDENT has not, directly or indirectly entered into any arrangement or agreement with any other RESPONDENT or RESPONDENTS which tends to or does lessen or destroy free competition in the letting of the contract sought for by the foregoing Proposal.

The RESPONDENT hereby certifies that neither it, its officers, partners, owners, providers, representatives, employees and parties in interest, including the affiant, have in any way colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any other RESPONDENT, potential RESPONDENT, firm or person, in connection with this solicitation, to submit a collusive or sham bid, to refrain from bidding, to manipulate or ascertain the price(s) of other RESPONDENTS or potential RESPONDENTS, or to obtain through any unlawful act an advantage over other RESPONDENTS or TEXAS A&M.

The prices submitted herein have been arrived at in an entirely independent and lawful manner by the RESPONDENT without consultation with other RESPONDENTS or potential RESPONDENTS or foreknowledge of the prices to be submitted in response to this solicitation by other RESPONDENTS or potential RESPONDENTS on the part of the RESPONDENT, its officers, partners, owners, providers, representatives, employees or parties in interest, including the affiant.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The undersigned RESPONDENT and each person signing on behalf of the RESPONDENT certifies, and in the case of a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of their knowledge and belief, no member of TEXAS A&M, nor any employee, or person, whose salary is payable in whole or in part by TEXAS A&M, has a direct or indirect financial interest in the award of this Proposal, or in the services to which this Proposal relates, or in any of the profits, real or potential, thereof, except as noted otherwise herein.

Signature _____

Respondent Name _____

Date _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
_____ day of _____, 2014.

Notary Public in and for the County of _____, State of

_____. My commission expires: _____

AFFIDAVIT MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED, AND RETURNED WITH RESPONDENT'S PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO SIGN AND RETURN THIS SHEET MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR PROPOSAL.

Appendix A – Insurance Requirements

[Vendor] shall obtain and maintain, for the duration of this Agreement or longer, the minimum insurance coverage set forth below. With the exception of Professional Liability (E&O), all coverage shall be written on an occurrence basis. All coverage shall be underwritten by companies authorized to do business in the State of Texas or eligible surplus lines insurers operating in accordance with the Texas Insurance Code and have a financial strength rating of A- or better and a financial strength rating of VII or better as measured by A.M. Best Company or otherwise acceptable to Texas A&M University. By requiring such minimum insurance, the Owner shall not be deemed or construed to have assessed the risk that may be applicable to [Vendor] under this Agreement. [Vendor] shall assess its own risks and if it deems appropriate and/or prudent, maintain higher limits and/or broader coverage. [Vendor] is not relieved of any liability or other obligations assumed pursuant to this Agreement by reason of its failure to obtain or maintain insurance in sufficient amounts, duration, or types. No policy will be canceled without unconditional written notice to Texas A&M University at least ten days before the effective date of the cancellation.

Insurance:

<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Limit</u>
A. <u>Worker's Compensation</u>	
Statutory Benefits (Coverage A)	Statutory
Employers Liability (Coverage B)	\$1,000,000 Each Accident
	\$1,000,000 Disease/Employee
	\$1,000,000 Disease/Policy Limit

Workers' Compensation policy must include under Item 3.A. on the information page of the workers' compensation policy the state in which work is to be performed for Texas A&M University. Workers' compensation insurance is required, and no "alternative" forms of insurance will be permitted

B. Automobile Liability

Business Auto Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned or hired automobiles, with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 Single Limit of liability per accident for Bodily Injury and Property Damage;

C. Commercial General Liability

Each Occurrence Limit	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate Limit	\$2,000,000
Products / Completed Operations	\$1,000,000
Personal / Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000
Damage to rented Premises	\$300,000
Medical Payments	\$5,000

The required commercial general liability policy will be issued on a form that insures [Vendor's] or its subcontractors' liability for bodily injury (including death), property damage, personal and advertising injury assumed under the terms of this Agreement.

Additional Endorsements

The Auto and Commercial General Liability Policies shall name the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents for and on behalf of The Texas A&M University System and the Texas A&M University as additional insured's.

D. [Vendor] will deliver to Texas A&M University:

Evidence of insurance on a Texas Department of Insurance approved certificate form verifying the existence and actual limits of all insurance after the execution and delivery of this Agreement and prior to the performance of any services by [Vendor] under this Agreement. Additional evidence of insurance will be provided on a Texas Department of Insurance approved certificate form verifying the continued existence of all required insurance no later than thirty (30) days after each annual insurance policy renewal.

All insurance policies, with the exception of worker's compensation and employer's liability will be endorsed and name The Board of Regents for and on behalf of The Texas A&M University System, The Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M University as Additional Insured up to the actual liability limits of the policies maintained by [Vendor]. Commercial General Liability and Business Auto Liability will be endorsed to provide primary and non-contributory coverage. The Commercial General Liability Additional Insured endorsement will include on-going and completed operations and will be submitted with the Certificates of Insurance.

All insurance policies will be endorsed to provide a waiver of subrogation in favor of The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, The Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M University. No policy will be canceled without unconditional written notice to Texas A&M University at least ten days before the effective date of the cancellation. All insurance policies will be endorsed to require the insurance carrier providing coverage to send notice to Texas A&M University ten (10) days prior to the effective date of cancellation, material change, or non-renewal relating to any insurance policy required in this section.

Any deductible or self-insured retention must be declared to and approved by Texas A&M University prior to the performance of any services by [Vendor] under this Agreement. [Vendor] is responsible to pay any deductible or self-insured retention for any loss. All deductibles and self-insured retentions will be shown on the Certificates of Insurance.

Certificates of Insurance and Additional Insured Endorsements as required by this Agreement will be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the following Texas A&M University contact:

Name: Susan King

Address: PO Box 30013
College Station, Texas 77842-3013

Email Address: sa-king@tamu.edu

The insurance coverage required by this Agreement will be kept in force until all services have been fully performed and accepted by Texas A&M University in writing.

