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Acknowledgment of Amendments Request for Proposal Strategic Planning and Performance Scorecard Amendment Number Two December 24, 2024

The Office of the State Superintendent, through this **Amendment Number Two**, modifies Request for Proposal issued, December 9, 2024.

 GovWin, this morning, seems to list the proposal twice. We would like to be sure we are responding to the correct request. <u>GovWin #11771868</u> GovWin #11771326

Answer: MDE is not familiar with GovWin. The correct RFP can be accessed here: https://mdek12.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/30/2024/12/rfp.strat_.plan_.2024-12.9.24-FINAL.pdf

- 2. Due to the holidays, we would also like to ask for a two week extension of the question and submission deadlines.
 - a. Questions would be due on Monday, January 6th
 - b. Submission would be on Friday, January 10th.

Answer: Due to the time-sensitive nature of these services, the question and submission deadlines will remain as stated in the RFP.

3. Is it possible to extend the due date for this submission?

Answer: Refer to Question 2 above.

4. How much is the allotted budget for the contract resulting from this RFP?

Answer: There is no budget allotted for the contract resulting from this RFP. MDE recommends proposers submit their most competitive proposal for consideration.

5. I am with **Constant of** and our team is intending to submit a proposal for this solicitation. We created an account in the MAGIC portal yesterday and were curious if we need to ask for access to bid on the event? I am not seeing any available opportunities in the portal right now.

Answer: A bid invitation is not required to respond to any solicitations within the State of Mississippi. To search for available opportunities, including RFX No. 3120003030, please click to follow the link for assistance: <u>index.pdf</u>. If assistance is required, contact MASH help desk at 601-359-1343.

6. We are interested in responding to RFX No. 3120003030 - Strategic Planning and Performance Scorecard for the State Board of Education, and we noticed the requirement for at least five years of business operations.

While our organization has been in operation for 3.5 years, we bring significant and impactful experience in the education sector, including extensive work in **Sector** other states alike **Sector**. We want to confirm if we would still be eligible to submit a proposal based on the depth of our experience and the outcomes we've delivered during this time. Please let me know if there is any flexibility in this requirement or if additional information would help clarify our qualifications.

Answer: Refer to Section 5, Minimum Qualifications. Minimum qualifications are mandatory. Contractor must have at least 5 years' experience in strategic planning and performance management with other educational organizations.

7. For the Stakeholder Surveys/Interviews, we see that the MDE would like the vendor to collect input from key stakeholders including board members, educators, policymakers, students, and community members. Does the MDE have a sense of how many focus groups, and for how long, the Board would like?

Answer: MDE does not know how many groups. That will be discussed and agreed upon by the awarded vendor and MDE.

8. Would it support your consideration of work that may take place beyond the initial engagement for further implementation support? If so, which section would be best to include in – Component 4, Tab 5?

Answer: Yes.

9. To confirm, it is acceptable to provide an electronic copy via MAGIC OR a mailed copy?

Answer: Confirmed. Refer to Section 6.4, Proposal Submission Period.

10. To confirm, what section should the minimum qualifications/company overview be preferred to go in?

Answer: Refer to Section 6.2, Required Format. Minimum qualifications should be contained in Tab 1.

11. To confirm, where should Appendix F and H go – Tab 6?

Answer: Yes.

12. Will presentations be part of the selection process? If so, when would the MDE anticipate presentations and would the presentations be acceptable to take place virtually or must be on-site?

Answer: No.

13. We understand each page must be numbered. Should we include multiple page attachments or samples, would it suffice that these samples are numbered internally within each document as, for example, 11A and 11B?

Answer: Yes.

14. For Appendix I – Cost Data/Budget, how would the MDE prefer the cost breakdown? By each specific deliverable under Section 2.3 (e.g, Project Work Plan, SWOT Analysis and Environmental Scan Report, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, etc.) or phase (first 6 months and second 6 months)?

Answer: The cost breakdown should be by specific deliverable.

15. On page 9, the RFP states that the Offeror must provide evidence and proof that the vendor is in good standing with Mississippi Code Annotated 79-4-15.01 regarding authorization to transact business in Mississippi. Does the MDE require the certificate at the time of the submission or is it acceptable to provide the certificate if awarded the RFP?

Answer: Refer to Section 5, Minimum Qualifications. Minimum qualifications are mandatory. It is the responsibility of the Offeror to submit a complete proposal on or before the submission deadline.

16. Related to Sec 33 in the standard terms and conditions, could MDE limit the scope of indemnification to the gross negligence or intentionally wrongful conduct of Contractor?

Answer: No.

17. Related to Sec 40 in the standard terms and conditions, can MDE agree to exclude indirect and consequential damages, and a cap equal to the amounts paid or payable by MDE to Contractor?

Answer: No.

18. In section 4 of the STC, can the MDE clarify that the Contractor may assign the agreement (in whole but not in part) to any entity that acquires substantially all of the business and assets of Contractor?

Answer: If the company is acquired, the new owner must agree to the STC. A contractor may assign all rights and obligations under a contract to another entity only with the express, written consent of the Agency with whom it has contracted. The Agency shall determine if the assignment is in the Agency's best interest prior to providing consent.

19. Should we be selected to move forward, are we able to submit requests for consideration of language for Sec 21?

Answer: Refer to Section 3, Request for Reconsideration. Any such request shall be filed with the MDE's Office of Procurement, attention Monique Corley, Director and the Director of OPSCR within three business days following the date of the public notice. This date has passed. Offeror's request is dated December 23, 2024.

Amendment Number Two

NOTE: This amendment two is hereby made a part of the Mississippi Department of Education's Request for Proposals/Applications/Qualifications/Invitation for Bid. The Vendor acknowledges receipt of said amendment and is made aware of the changes contained therein. By signing this form, the Offeror accepts the changes as part of the contract requirement.

Authorized Signature

Date

Printed Name