

## **RULES OF PROCUREMENT**

To facilitate the procurement of requests for proposal, various rules have been established. They are described in the following paragraphs.

### **Point of Contact**

The request for proposals Issuing Officer is the sole point of contact from the date of release of this request of proposals until the selection of the successful respondent. Respondents wishing to submit questions and requests for clarification should e-mail or fax all such correspondence to the Issuing Officer, as outlined in the anticipated procurement Timetable (Section 10.3).

### **Written Questions Concerning the Request for Proposals**

Written questions must be submitted to the Issuing Officer. The closing date and time for receipt of questions will be as outlined in the RFP document under the Anticipated Timeline. All questions must be marked "Questions: and the proposal number indicated on the email. Each question should reference the paragraph number. The questions will be answered in written form and e-mailed to all organizations that received a copy of the Request for Proposal.

### **Requests for Proposals Amendments**

The University reserves the right to amend the request for proposals prior to the date for proposal submission. Amendments, addenda and clarifications will be sent to all organizations requesting copies of the request for proposals.

### **Cost of Preparing Proposals**

Costs for preparing the proposals are solely the responsibility of the respondents. The State of Arkansas will provide no reimbursements for such costs. Any costs associated with any oral presentations to the University will be the responsibility of the respondent and may not be billed to the University.

### **Disposition of Proposals**

All proposals become the public property of the State of Arkansas and will be a matter of public record subject to the provisions of Act 482 of 1979, as amended by Act 600 of 1981 and Acts 517 and 760 of 1983, Arkansas Procurement Law. If the proposal includes material, which is considered by the respondent to be proprietary or confidential under Arkansas law, the respondent shall designate the material. The successful proposal will be incorporated into the resulting contract and will be a matter of public record subject to the provisions of ACA, Sections 25-19-101 ET seq. The State of Arkansas shall have the right to use all ideas, or adaptations of those ideas, contained in any proposal received in response to this request for proposals. Selection or rejection of the proposal will not affect this right.

## **Proposal Amendments and Rules of Withdrawal**

Prior to the proposal due date, a submitted proposal may be withdrawn by submitting a written request for its withdrawal to the University, signed by the respondent. Unless requested by the University, the University will not accept any amendments, revisions, or alterations to the request for proposals after the proposal due date.

## **Acceptance of Proposals**

The State reserves the right to request necessary amendments, reject any or all proposals received, or cancel this request for proposals according to the best interest of the State. Where the University may waive minor irregularities, such waiver shall in no way modify the request for proposal requirements or excuse the respondent from full compliance with the request for proposal specifications and other contract requirements if the respondent is awarded the contract.

## **Evaluation of Proposals**

Proposals will be evaluated in three (3) phases. The first phase will determine if the mandatory requirements of this request for proposals have been agreed to and/or met. Failure to comply will deem a proposal non-responsive. The University may reject any proposal that is incomplete. However, the University may waive minor irregularities. The Director of Procurement completes this phase.

The University of Central Arkansas will base phase one on evaluation of the Technical/Business proposal by an impartial evaluation committee. Points will be awarded to each proposal based on a comparative formula of relative weights as described in this request for proposals.

The second phase will be the opening and calculation of the cost proposal by the Director of Procurement and reviewed by the evaluation committee appointed by the University of Central Arkansas.

The contract will be awarded to the respondent who receives the top score for the presentation and interview criteria in Phase III.

## **Award Notice**

The notice of intended contract award will be sent to all respondents, by email.

## **Protest of Award**

Within fourteen (14) days after the date that the proposer knew or should have known of the cause giving rise to protest, the prospective offeror must file a formal written notice of that protest with the Vice President of Finance. Failure to do so shall constitute a waiver of any rights to administrative decision under ACA Section 19-11-244. Further details on protesting awards may be obtained by contacting the issuing Officer.