



**Maryland Teachers & State Employees
Supplemental Retirement Plans
(MSRP)**



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

SOLICITATION NO. G50R7400001

Issue Date: March 13, 2017

Investment and Defined Contribution Plan Consulting Services

NOTICE

A Prospective Offeror that has received this document from the MSRP Board of Trustees' website <http://MSRP.Maryland.gov>, <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bso/>, or a source other than the Procurement Officer, and that wishes to assure receipt of any changes or additional materials related to this RFP should immediately contact the Procurement Officer and provide the Prospective Offeror's name and mailing address so that addenda to the RFP or other communications can be sent to the Prospective Offeror.

Minority Business Enterprises Are Encouraged to Respond to this Solicitation

**STATE OF MARYLAND
NOTICE TO VENDORS**

To help us improve the quality of State solicitations, and to make our procurement process more responsive and business friendly, take a few minutes and provide comments and suggestions regarding this solicitation. Please return your comments with your response. If you have chosen not to respond to this solicitation, please email or fax this completed form to the attention of the Procurement Officer: Mr. Richard A. Arthur, at email address richard.arthur@maryland.gov or to fax number 410-659-0349. (See Key Information Sheet below for contact information).

**Title: Investment and Defined Contribution Plan Consulting Services
Solicitation No: G50R7400001**

1. If you have chosen not to respond to this solicitation, please indicate the reason(s) below:

- Other commitments preclude our participation at this time.
- The subject of the solicitation is not something we ordinarily provide.
- We are inexperienced in the work/commodities required.
- Specifications are unclear, too restrictive, etc. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- The scope of work is beyond our present capacity.
- Doing business with the State of Maryland is simply too complicated. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- We cannot be competitive. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- Time allotted for completion of the Proposal is insufficient.
- Start-up time is insufficient.
- Bonding/Insurance requirements are restrictive. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- Proposal requirements (other than specifications) are unreasonable or too risky. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- MBE or VSBE requirements. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- Prior State of Maryland contract experience was unprofitable or otherwise unsatisfactory. (Explain in REMARKS section.)
- Payment schedule too slow.
- Other: _____

2. If you have submitted a response to this solicitation, but wish to offer suggestions or express concerns, please use the REMARKS section below. (Attach additional pages as needed.)

REMARKS:

Vendor Name: _____ Date: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

STATE OF MARYLAND
Board of Trustees,
Maryland Teachers & State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans
(MSRP)
RFP KEY INFORMATION SUMMARY SHEET

Request for Proposals: Services: Investment and Defined Contribution Plan Consulting Services

Solicitation Number: G50R7400001

RFP Issue Date: March 13, 2017

RFP Issuing Office: Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans (MSRP)

Procurement & MBE Liaison Officer: Richard A. Arthur, Director of Technology & Operations
Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21202
Phone: 410-767-0457 Fax: 410-659-0349
e-mail: Richard.Arthur@maryland.gov

Contract Monitor: Michael T. Halpin, Executive Director
Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21202
Phone: 410-767-8733 Fax: 410-659-0349
e-mail: Michael.Halpin@maryland.gov

Proposals are to be sent to: Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans (MSRP)
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Attention: Mr. Richard A. Arthur

Pre-Proposal Conference: March 30, 2017 at 1:00 PM Local Time
Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans (MSRP)
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Proposal Due (Closing) Date and Time: April 27, 2017 at 1:00 PM Local Time

MBE Subcontracting Goal: 5 %

VSBE Subcontracting Goal: None

Contract Type: Firm fixed price

Contract Duration: Five (5) Years

SBR Designation: No

Federal Funding: No

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ATTACHMENT P – STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY

ATTACHMENT Q – QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE
(EXCERPTS)

ATTACHMENT R – BIENNIAL REVIEW OF INVESTMENT STRUCTURE (EXCERPTS)

SECTION 1 – MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

1 Offeror Minimum Qualifications

The Offeror must provide proof with its Proposal that the following Minimum Qualifications have been met:

1.1 The Offeror shall possess experience in performing consulting and advising services as described in RFP Section 2.3, in the public and private environment for large pension plans, preferably defined contribution plans with at least **two (2)** plans of the following types: 457(b), 401(k), 401(a), and 403(b). These minimum two engagements must have been with plans with assets of not less than **\$500,000,000**.

As proof of meeting this minimum requirement, the Offeror shall include a **listing of such engagements over the past five years** with its Proposal. Such listing shall include the following:

- data on plan size;
- number of participants covered by plan;
- other pertinent data such as
 - number of investment options,
 - number of participants in payout, and
 - frequency of asset transfers permitted,
- contact information for each plan.

The Proposal shall also **highlight these two comparable plans exceeding \$500,000,000, and** the Offeror should document its research capabilities to provide the level of services requested in this RFP.

1.2 The Offeror must be an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). As proof of meeting this requirement, the Offeror shall provide with its Proposal a copy of its most recent Form ADV Part 1, as filed with the SEC.

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SECTION 2 – CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS: SCOPE OF WORK

2.1 Summary Statement

- 2.1.1 The Board of Trustees, Maryland Teachers & State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans (“MSRP”) is issuing this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to provide investment advisory and defined contribution plan consulting services to the MSRP Board of Trustees especially as related to the four plans under their authority and supervision.
- 2.1.2 It is the Board’s intention to obtain services, as specified in this RFP, from a Contract between the selected Offeror and the State. The anticipated duration of services to be provided under this Contract is five (5) years.
- 2.1.3 The Board intends to make a single award as a result of this RFP. See RFP Section 4.9 for more Contract award information.
- 2.1.4 An Offeror, either directly or through its subcontractor(s), must be able to provide all services and meet all of the requirements requested in this solicitation and the successful Offeror (the Contractor) shall remain responsible for Contract performance regardless of subcontractor participation in the work.

2.2 Background and Purpose

- 2.2.1 Purpose - The Board is issuing this solicitation for the purposes of procuring investment and defined contribution plan consulting services to the Board of Trustees for the Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans.
- 2.2.2 Background - The MSRP Board is an independent Agency created under Title 35 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article of the Maryland Code. Access to Title 35 is provided on the Maryland General Assembly website (<http://mlis.state.md.us>). The Board has general oversight authority and responsibility for certain tax-favored defined contribution plans for State employees: the 457(b) Plan; the 401(k) Plan; the 403(b) Plan; and the 401(a) Match Plan (each a “Plan” and collectively, the “Plans”). The Board has appointed an executive director and a staff of twelve employees. The Board does not directly administer the Plans. Its executive director and staff supervise the administrators, advisors and accountants hired by the Board and provide general education to State employees with respect to the benefits of participation in the Plans.
- 2.2.3 Existing Advisors and Administrator - The Board has a contract with Segal Marco Advisors, Inc. (f/k/a Segal Advisors, Inc.) (“Segal”) for general pension consulting and investment advisory services. Segal has performed such services for the Board since 2011 and during a prior contract period. The Board has contracted for such services since mid-1985.

The Board also has a separate contract with Galliard Capital Management investment management services with respect to the investment contract pool (“ICP”). Galliard has managed the ICP since 2014, and other investment management firms have performed similar contractual services with respect to the ICP since 2001. The ICP is the single investment option with the greatest assets in the Plans and is, therefore, a priority investment for review and advice to the Board.

Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Inc. (“NRS”) provides general record keeping, overall administration and preparation of both participant and plan financial statements pursuant to an administrator’s agreement with the Board. NRS is a division of Nationwide Financial Services, Inc., and is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio

with regional offices around the country, including an office in Hunt Valley, Maryland. NRS's contract with the Board expires on December 31, 2017.

Lastly, the Board has a contract with SB & Company LLC to audit and issue opinions on the financial statements of the Plans and to assist with the preparation of a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report ("CAFR"). Excerpts of the audited financial statements for 2014 and 2015 are included as Attachment J and financial statements from prior years are available on our website (<http://MSRP.maryland.gov>) under "Agency Information" and contained in the CAFRs listed thereunder.

2.3 Scope of Work - Requirements

- 2.3.1 *Summary* – The Contractor shall provide investment and defined contribution plan consulting services to the Board, especially as related to the four defined contribution plans under its authority and supervision: currently the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan; the 401(k) Savings and Investment Plan; the 403(b) Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plan; and the 401(a) Match Plan, including both pre-tax and Roth contributions in the 457(b) Plan and the 401(k) Plan, with the expectation to add individual retirement accounts in the future. The Contractor must document and update an annually approved Statement of Investment Policy (the "Investment Policy"). The Contractor must complete a quarterly investment performance report within 45 days of quarter end and present this quarterly investment performance report at the next Board meeting. The Contractor is required to attend all Board meetings and all meetings for the Investment Committee and to prepare for and coordinate an annual Board planning meeting, research and provide advice and recommendation with respect to four (4) investment searches per year, provide advice and recommendations with respect to proposal evaluations for both a stable value manager search and a plan administrator search, and provide advice and assistance with respect to participant communications. Finally, this Contractor will be required to deliver a biennial report of an in-depth evaluation of investment options, Plan features, managed account services and general Plan operations.
- 2.3.2 *Defined Contribution Plan Consulting* – The Contractor shall provide general ongoing professional, consulting and technical services as may from time to time be needed during Plan operations, including: (a) industry related analysis of current events with potential impact on the plans and participants; (b) research and recommendations and evaluation of new investment vehicles, options and strategies; (c) ongoing general review of Plan administration so as to be able to advise the Board on a continual basis of the general stability of its arrangements and the performance thereof as compared to the standards of the trade; (d) comment and drafting assistance for participant communication materials including specifically an investment analysis and commentary section for each CAFR; (e) comment and drafting assistance on such plan amendments or request for determination letters/rulings as may from time to time be necessary or appropriate; (f) recommendations on tax, securities and other regulatory requirements necessary for the Plans to continue their tax favored status; and (g) provide analysis and opinion of financial institutions over and above standard rating services (such as Moody's, Standard & Poors, etc.). Consulting and technical services enumerated above are to be provided on an as needed basis. Attendance at all Board meetings and Investment Committee meetings is required. The current Board meeting schedule includes five (5) meetings per year, and the Investment Committee generally meets the same day as each Board meeting. The Board Chairperson may call additional, special meetings as needed. The RFP Sections 3.2.3-3.2.6 describe the deliverables required of the Contractor.
- 2.3.3 *MSRP Statement of Investment Policy* – The Contractor shall update and maintain the Investment Policy to reflect the applied criteria for the categorization, selection and de-selection of mutual funds and/or other applicable investment options, services and products, watch list procedures and steps for removing and replacing investment options. (See **Attachment P**).

- 2.3.4 *Quarterly MSRP Investment Performance Reports* – The Contractor shall provide quarterly reports of the investment performance of the Plans’ fixed, mutual fund and money market investment options, including any additional investment options. These quarterly investment performance reports must be completed within 45 days of the quarter end and must include at a minimum the scope of information included in the quarterly report excerpts attached to this RFP as **Attachment Q**, or must be other periodic analytical reports of performance that would provide a substantially similar report.
- 2.3.5 *MSRP Biennial Report* – The Contractor shall provide a biennial report which shall include an in-depth and comprehensive evaluation of approved investment options and products, as well as possible candidates for addition, removal, or substitution in the plans, a review of managed account services and a sample of recommended investment allocations for participants, and a consideration of plan features and functions. (See **Attachment R**.)
- 2.3.6 *Consulting Commitment of Sufficient Resources* – General consulting hours are expected to range approximately 150 hours per year. This is guidance to the Offeror, not a threshold or limit to cap professional assistance. The offered, multiyear agreement requires the Offeror to commit appropriate expertise for the necessary time to complete the contracted services. Support to the Board’s annual planning meeting in preparations, moderating, as necessary, and summarizing results must be included.
- 2.3.7 *Reports Itemized* – The Contractor shall provide the following reports to the Board, as explained above:
- 2.3.7.1 Quarterly Investment Performance Reports on the Plans’ authorized and funded investment options due within 45 days of fiscal quarter end with an electronic file copy and 18 printed copies.
- 2.3.7.2 Search Reports as needed (up to 4 per year) evaluating new or replacement investment option/product candidates recommended for Investment Committee or Board, as appropriate, consideration, due two weeks before the scheduled Investment Committee or Board meeting, as appropriate.
- 2.3.7.3 MSRP Statement of Investment Policy is to be updated at least annually and submitted for Board ratification, due two weeks before the first Board meeting of the year.
- 2.3.7.4 Investment Analysis and Commentary for inclusion in the CAFR to be prepared and submitted for MSRP review by mid-April of each year as directed by the MSRP Director of Finance.
- 2.3.7.5 Biennial Review of the Plans to be presented to the last Board meeting of the year, on odd-numbered years, due two weeks before the scheduled Board meeting, with an electronic file copy and 18 printed copies.
- 2.3.7.6 Stable Value Manager Proposal evaluations and Plan Administrator Proposal evaluations pursuant to each five-year schedule of solicitations.
- 2.3.7.7 Other timely reports, advisories or alerts as necessary to inform the Board of events, trends, regulation changes and issues of significant import.
- 2.3.7.8 The Contractor and each of its MBE subcontractors shall provide as designated the following MBE Reports:
- 2.3.7.8.1 Contractor shall provide MBE Report Attachment D-3, the Contractor’s Monthly by the 10th of the following month to the Procurement & MBE Liaison Officer.
- 2.3.7.8.2 Each MBE subcontractor shall provide MBE Report Attachment D-4, the MBE Subcontractor’s monthly by the 10th of the following month to the Procurement & MBE Liaison Officer.
- 2.3.8 *Meetings* – The Contractor shall be expected to attend the following meetings as explained above: quarterly Board meetings, additional Board meetings (typically once or twice per year), and Investment Committee meetings (typically held five (5) times per year).

SECTION 3 – CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Insurance Requirements

- 3.1.1 The Contractor shall maintain Commercial General Liability Insurance to cover losses resulting from, or arising out of, Contractor action or inaction in the performance of the Contract by the Contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors, with a minimum limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate.
- 3.1.2 The Contractor shall maintain Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability insurance with minimum limits of \$5,000,000 per claim and annual aggregate.
- 3.1.3 Within five (5) Business Days of recommendation for Contract award, and before any work begins, the Contractor shall provide the Procurement Officer with current certificates of insurance, and update such certificates periodically, but no less than annually in multi-year contracts, as directed by the Contract Monitor. Such copy of the Contractor's current certificate of insurance shall contain at minimum the following:
- a. Commercial General Liability as required in Section 3.1.1.
 - b. Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability as required in Section 3.1.2.

3.2 Security Requirements

3.2.1 Employee Identification

- 3.2.1.1 Each person who is an employee or agent of the Contractor or subcontractor shall display his or her company ID badge at all times while on State premises. Upon request of authorized State personnel, each such employee or agent shall provide additional photo identification.
- 3.2.1.2 At all times at any facility, the Contractor's personnel shall cooperate with State site requirements that include but are not limited to being prepared to be escorted at all times, providing information for badge issuance, and wearing the badge in a visible location at all times.

3.3 Problem Escalation Procedure

- 3.3.1 The Contractor must provide and maintain a Problem Escalation Procedure (PEP) for both routine and emergency situations. The PEP must state how the Contractor will address problem situations as they occur during the performance of the Contract, especially problems that are not resolved to the satisfaction of the State within appropriate timeframes.
- The Contractor shall provide contact information to the Contract Monitor, as well as to other State personnel as directed should the Contract Monitor not be available.
- 3.3.2 The Contractor must provide the PEP no later than ten (10) Business Days after Contract Commencement. The PEP, including any revisions thereto, must also be provided within ten (10) Business Days after the start of each Contract year and within ten (10) Business Days after any change in circumstance which changes the PEP. The PEP shall detail how problems with work under the Contract will be escalated in order to resolve any issues in a timely manner. The PEP shall include:

- a. The process for establishing the existence of a problem;
- b. Names, titles, and contact information for progressively higher levels of personnel in the Contractor's organization who would become involved in resolving a problem;
- c. For each individual listed in the Contractor's PEP, the maximum amount of time a problem will remain unresolved with that individual before the problem escalates to the next contact person listed in the Contractor's PEP;
- d. Expedited escalation procedures and any circumstances that would trigger expedited them;
- e. The method of providing feedback on resolution progress, including the frequency of feedback to be provided to the State;
- f. Contact information for persons responsible for resolving issues after normal business hours (e.g., evenings, weekends, holidays, etc.) and on an emergency basis; and
- g. A process for updating and notifying the Contract Monitor of any changes to the PEP.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any rights of the Contract Monitor or the State which may be allowed by the Contract or applicable law.

3.4 Invoicing

3.4.1 General

3.4.1.1 All invoices for services shall be signed by the Contractor and submitted to the Contract Monitor. All invoices shall include the following information:

- (1) Contractor name and address;
- (2) Remittance address;
- (3) Federal taxpayer identification number (or if sole proprietorship, the individual's social security number);
- (4) Invoice period (i.e. time period during which services covered by invoice were performed);
- (5) Invoice date;
- (6) Invoice number;
- (7) State assigned Contract number;
- (8) State assigned (Blanket) Purchase Order number(s);
- (9) Goods or services provided; and
- (10) Amount due.

Invoices submitted without the required information cannot be processed for payment until the Contractor provides the required information.

3.4.1.2 The Board reserves the right to reduce or withhold Contract payment in the event the Contractor does not provide the Board with all required deliverables within the time frame specified in the Contract or otherwise materially breaches the terms and conditions of the Contract until such time as the Contractor brings itself into full compliance with the Contract. Also see the "Living Wage" provision of the Contract, if applicable, which allows for withholding of payment under certain circumstances. Any action on the part of the Board, or dispute of action by the Contractor, shall be in accordance with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article §§ 15-215 through 15-223 and with COMAR 21.10.04.

3.4.2 Invoice Submission Schedule

The Contractor shall submit invoices by the 15th of the month following the month in which services were performed.

3.5 SOC 2 Type 2 Audit Report

A SOC 2 Type 2 Report is not a Contractor requirement for this Contract.

3.6 MBE Reports

This solicitation includes a 5% MBE Goal. See Section 4.26. The Contractor and its MBE subcontractors shall provide the following MBE Monthly Reports based upon the commitment to the goal:

- (1) **Attachment D-4A**, the MBE Participation Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report by the 10th of the month following the reporting period to the Contract Monitor and the MBE Liaison Officer;
- (2) **Attachment D-4B** (*if applicable*), the MBE Prime Contractor Report by the 10th of the month following the reporting period to the Contract Monitor and the MBE Liaison Officer; and
- (3) **Attachment D-5**, the MBE Participation Subcontractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report by the 10th of the month following the reporting period to the Contract Monitor and the MBE Liaison Officer.

3.7 VSBE Reports

This solicitation does not include a VSBE Goal.

3.8 Substitution of Personnel

3.8.1 **Continuous Performance of Key Personnel.** Unless substitution is approved per paragraphs 3.8.2-3.8.4 of this section, Key Personnel shall be the same personnel proposed in the Contractor's Technical Proposal, which will be incorporated into the Contract by reference. Such identified Key Personnel shall perform continuously for the duration of the Contract, or such lesser duration as specified in the Technical Proposal. Key Personnel may not be removed by the Contractor from working under this Contract, as described in the RFP or the Contractor's Technical Proposal, without the prior written approval of the Contract Monitor.

If the Contract is task order based, the provisions of this section apply to Key Personnel identified in each task order proposal and agreement.

3.8.2 **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

Extraordinary Personal Circumstance – Any circumstance in an individual's personal life that reasonably requires immediate and continuous attention for more than fifteen (15) days and precludes the individual from performing his/her job duties under this Contract. Examples of such circumstances may include, but are not limited to: a sudden leave of absence to care for a family member who is injured, sick, or incapacitated; the death of a family member, including the need to attend to the estate or other affairs of the deceased or his/her dependents; substantial damage to, or destruction of, the individual's home that causes a major disruption in the individual's normal living circumstances; criminal or civil proceedings against the individual or a family member; jury duty; and military service call-up.

Incapacitating – Any health circumstance that substantially impairs the ability of an individual to perform the job duties described for that individual's position in the RFP or the Contractor's Technical Proposal.

Sudden – When the Contractor has less than thirty (30) days’ prior notice of a circumstance beyond its control that will require the replacement of any Key Personnel working under the Contract.

3.8.3 **Key Personnel General Substitution Provisions.** The following provisions apply to all of the circumstances of staff substitution described in paragraph 3.8.4 of this section.

1. The Contractor shall demonstrate to the Contract Monitor’s satisfaction that the proposed substitute Key Personnel have qualifications at least equal to those of the Key Personnel for whom the replacement is requested.
2. The Contractor shall provide the Contract Monitor with a substitution request that shall include:
 - A detailed explanation of the reason(s) for the substitution request;
 - The resume of the proposed substitute personnel, signed by the substituting individual and his/her formal supervisor;
 - The official resume of the current personnel for comparison purposes; and
 - Any evidence of any required credentials.
3. The Contract Monitor may request additional information concerning the proposed substitution. In addition, the Contract Monitor and/or other appropriate State personnel involved with the Contract may interview the proposed substitute personnel prior to deciding whether to approve the substitution request.
4. The Contract Monitor will notify the Contractor in writing of: (i) the acceptance or denial, or (ii) contingent or temporary approval for a specified time limit, of the requested substitution. The Contract Monitor will not unreasonably withhold approval of a requested Key Personnel replacement.

3.8.4 **Replacement Circumstances**

3.8.4.1 **Voluntary Key Personnel Replacement.** To voluntarily replace any Key Personnel, the Contractor shall submit substitution request as described in paragraph 3.8.3 of this section to the Contract Monitor at least fifteen (15) days prior to the intended date of change. Except in a circumstance described in paragraph 3.10.4 (2) of this clause, a substitution may not occur unless and until the Contract Monitor approves the substitution in writing.

3.8.4.2 **Key Personnel Replacement Due to Vacancy.** The Contractor shall replace Key Personnel whenever a vacancy occurs due to the sudden termination, resignation, leave of absence due to an Extraordinary Personal Circumstance, Incapacitating injury, illness or physical condition, or death of such personnel. (A termination or resignation with thirty (30) days or more advance notice shall be treated as a Voluntary Key Personnel Replacement as per Section 3.8.4.1 of this section.).

Under any of the circumstances set forth in this paragraph 3.8.4.2, the Contractor shall identify a suitable replacement and provide the same information or items required under paragraph 3.8.3 of this section within fifteen (15) days of the actual vacancy occurrence or from when the Contractor first knew or should have known that the vacancy would be occurring, whichever is earlier.

3.8.4.3 **Key Personnel Replacement Due to an Indeterminate Absence.** If any Key Personnel has been absent from his/her job for a period of ten (10) days due to injury, illness, or other physical condition, leave of absence under a family medical leave, or an Extraordinary Personal Circumstance and it is not known or reasonably anticipated that the individual will be returning to work within the next twenty (20) days to fully resume all job duties, before the 25th day of continuous absence, the Contractor shall identify a suitable replacement and provide the same information or items to the Contract Monitor as required under paragraph 3.8.3 of this section.

However, if such person is available to return to work and fully perform all job duties before a replacement has been authorized by the Contract Monitor, at the option and sole discretion of the Contract Monitor, the original personnel may continue to work under the Contract, or the replacement personnel will be authorized to replace the original personnel, notwithstanding the original personnel's ability to return.

3.8.4.4 Directed Personnel Replacement.

3.8.4.4.1 The Contract Monitor may direct the Contractor to replace any personnel who are perceived as being unqualified, non-productive, unable to fully perform the job duties due to full or partial Incapacity or Extraordinary Personal Circumstance, disruptive, or known, or reasonably believed, to have committed a major infraction(s) of law, agency, or Contract requirements. Normally, a directed personnel replacement will occur only after prior notification of problems with requested remediation, as described in paragraph 3.8.4.4.2. If after such remediation the Contract Monitor determines that the personnel performance has not improved to the level necessary to continue under the Contract, if at all possible at least fifteen (15) days notification of a directed replacement will be provided. However, if the Contract Monitor deems it necessary and in the State's best interests to remove the personnel with less than fifteen (15) days' notice, the Contract Monitor can direct the removal in a timeframe of less than fifteen (15) days, including immediate removal.

In circumstances of directed removal, the Contractor shall, in accordance with paragraph 3.10.3 of this section, provide a suitable replacement for approval within fifteen (15) days of the notification of the need for removal, or the actual removal, whichever occurs first.

3.8.4.4.2 If deemed appropriate in the discretion of the Contract Monitor, the Contract Monitor shall give written notice of any personnel performance issues to the Contractor, describing the problem and delineating the remediation requirement(s). The Contractor shall provide a written Remediation Plan within ten (10) days of the date of the notice and shall implement the Remediation Plan immediately upon written acceptance by the Contract Monitor. If the Contract Monitor rejects the Remediation Plan, the Contractor shall revise and resubmit the plan to the Contract Monitor within five (5) days, or in the timeframe set forth by the Contract Monitor in writing.

Should performance issues persist despite the approved Remediation Plan, the Contract Monitor will give written notice of the continuing performance issues and either request a new Remediation Plan within a specified time limit or direct the substitution of personnel whose performance is at issue with a qualified substitute, including requiring the immediate removal of the Key Personnel at issue.

Replacement or substitution of personnel under this section shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, the State's remedies under the Contract or which otherwise may be available at law or in equity.

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SECTION 4 – PROCUREMENT INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Pre-Proposal Conference

A Pre-Proposal Conference (the “Conference”) will be held at the date, time, and location indicated on the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet.

All prospective Offerors are encouraged to attend in order to facilitate better preparation of their Proposals.

The Conference will be summarized. As promptly as is feasible after the Conference, a summary of the Conference and all questions and answers known at that time will be distributed to all prospective Offerors known to have received a copy of this RFP. This summary, as well as the questions and answers, will also be posted on eMaryland Marketplace. See RFP Section 4.2.

In order to assure adequate seating and other accommodations at the Conference, please e-mail or fax the Pre-Proposal Conference Response Form (**Attachment A**) to the attention of the Procurement Officer at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Conference date. In addition, if there is a need for sign language interpretation and/or other special accommodations due to a disability, please notify the Procurement Officer at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Conference date. The Board will make a reasonable effort to provide such special accommodation.

4.2 eMaryland Marketplace

Each Offeror is requested to indicate its eMaryland Marketplace (eMM) vendor number in the Transmittal Letter (cover letter) submitted at the time of its Proposal submission to this RFP.

eMM is an electronic commerce system administered by the Maryland Department of General Services. In addition to using the MSRP Board website (<http://MSRP.maryland.gov>) and possibly other means for transmitting the RFP and associated materials, solicitation and summary of the Conference, Offeror questions, and Procurement Officer’s responses, addenda, and other solicitation-related information will be provided via eMM.

In order to receive a contract award, a vendor must be registered on eMM. Registration is free. Go to <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bsol/login.jsp>, click on “Register” to begin the process, and then follow the prompts.

4.3 Questions

Written questions from prospective Offerors will be accepted by the Procurement Officer prior to the Conference. If possible and appropriate, such questions will be answered at the Conference. (No substantive question will be answered prior to the Conference.) Questions to the Procurement Officer shall be submitted via e-mail to the Procurement Officer’s e-mail address indicated on the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet. Please identify in the subject line the Solicitation Number and Title. Questions, both oral and written, will also be accepted from prospective Offerors attending the Conference. If possible and appropriate, these questions will be answered at the Conference.

Questions will also be accepted subsequent to the Conference and should be submitted to the Procurement Officer via email in a timely manner prior to the Proposal due date. Questions are requested to be submitted at least five (5) days prior to the Proposal due date. The Procurement Officer, based on the availability of time to research and communicate an answer, shall decide whether an answer can be given before the Proposal due date. Time permitting, answers to all substantive questions that have not previously been answered, and are not clearly specific only to the requestor, will be distributed to all vendors that are known to have received a copy of the RFP in sufficient time for the answer to be taken into consideration in the Proposal.

4.4 Procurement Method

This Contract will be awarded in accordance with the Competitive Sealed Proposals method under COMAR 21.05.03.

4.5 Proposals Due (Closing) Date and Time

Proposals, in the number and form set forth in RFP Section 5.2 “Proposals” must be received by the Procurement Officer at the Procurement Officer’s address no later than the Proposal Due date and time indicated on the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet in order to be considered.

Requests for extension of this time or date will not be granted. Offerors mailing Proposals should allow sufficient mail delivery time to ensure timely receipt by the Procurement Officer. Except as provided in COMAR 21.05.03.02.F and 21.05.02.10, Proposals received after the due date and time listed in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet will not be considered.

Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by written notice received by the Procurement Officer before the time and date set forth in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet for receipt of Proposals.

Proposals may not be submitted by e-mail or facsimile. Proposals will not be opened publicly.

Vendors not responding to this solicitation are requested to submit the “Notice to Vendors” form, which includes company information and the reason for not responding (e.g., too busy, cannot meet mandatory requirements, etc.). This form is located in the RFP immediately following the Title Page (page ii).

4.6 Multiple or Alternate Proposals

Multiple and/or alternate Proposals will not be accepted.

4.7 Economy of Preparation

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically and provide a straightforward and concise description of the Offeror’s Proposal to meet the requirements of this RFP.

4.8 Public Information Act Notice

An Offeror should give specific attention to the clear identification of those portions of its Proposal that it considers confidential and/or proprietary commercial information or trade secrets, and provide justification why such materials, upon request, should not be disclosed by the State under the Public Information Act, Md. Code Ann., General Provisions Article, Title 4. (Also, see RFP Section 5.4.2.2 “Claim of Confidentiality”). This confidential and/or proprietary information should be identified by page and section number and placed after the Title Page and before the Table of Contents in the Technical Proposal and if applicable, separately in the Financial Proposal.

Offerors are advised that, upon request for this information from a third party, the Procurement Officer is required to make an independent determination whether the information must be disclosed.

4.9 Award Basis

The Contract shall be awarded to the responsible Offeror submitting the Proposal that has been determined to be the most advantageous to the State, considering price and evaluation factors set forth in this RFP (see COMAR 21.05.03.03F), for providing the goods and services as specified in this RFP. See RFP Section 6 for further award information.

4.10 Oral Presentation

Offerors may be required to make oral presentations to State representatives. Offerors must confirm in writing any substantive oral clarification of or change in their Proposals made in the course of discussions. Any such written clarifications or changes then become part of the Offeror's Proposal and are binding if the Contract is awarded. The Procurement Officer will notify Offerors of the time and place of oral presentations.

4.11 Duration of Proposal

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP are irrevocable for 120 days following the closing date for submission of Proposals or best and final offers (see Section 6.5.2.5) if requested. This period may be extended at the Procurement Officer's request only with the Offeror's written agreement.

4.12 Revisions to the RFP

If it becomes necessary to revise this RFP before the due date for Proposals, the Board shall endeavor to provide addenda to all prospective Offerors that were sent this RFP or are otherwise known by the Procurement Officer to have obtained this RFP. In addition, addenda to the RFP will be posted on the Board's procurement web page and through eMM. It remains the responsibility of all prospective Offerors to check all applicable websites for any addenda issued prior to the submission of Proposals. Addenda made after the due date for Proposals will be sent only to those Offerors that submitted timely Proposals and that remain under award consideration as of the issuance date of the addenda.

Acknowledgment of the receipt of all addenda to this RFP issued before the Proposal due date shall be included in the Transmittal Letter accompanying the Offeror's Technical Proposal. Acknowledgement of the receipt of addenda to the RFP issued after the Proposal due date shall be in the manner specified in the addendum notice. Failure to acknowledge receipt of an addendum does not relieve the Offeror from complying with the terms, additions, deletions, or corrections set forth in the addendum.

4.13 Cancellations

The State reserves the right to cancel this RFP, accept or reject any and all Proposals, in whole or in part, received in response to this RFP, waive or permit the cure of minor irregularities, and conduct discussions with all qualified or potentially qualified Offerors in any manner necessary to serve the best interests of the State. The State also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to award a Contract based upon the written Proposals received without discussions or negotiations.

In the event, a government entity proposes and receives the recommendation for award for the Contract resulting from this RFP, the procurement may be cancelled and the award processed as a Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with COMAR 21.01.03.01.A(4).

4.14 Incurred Expenses

The State will not be responsible for any costs incurred by any Offeror in preparing and submitting a Proposal, in making an oral presentation, providing a demonstration, or performing any other activities related to submitting a Proposal in response to this solicitation.

4.15 Protest/Disputes

Any protest or dispute related, respectively, to this solicitation or the resulting Contract shall be subject to the provisions of COMAR 21.10 (Administrative and Civil Remedies).

4.16 Offeror Responsibilities

The selected Offeror shall be responsible for all products and services required by this RFP. All subcontractors must be identified and a complete description of their role relative to the Proposal must be included in the Offeror's Proposal. If applicable, subcontractors utilized in meeting the established MBE or VSBE participation goal(s) for this solicitation shall be identified as provided in the appropriate Attachment(s) to this RFP. (See RFP Section 4.26 "Minority Business Enterprise Goals" and RFP Section 4.27 "Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Goal").

If an Offeror that seeks to perform or provide the services required by this RFP is the subsidiary of another entity, all information submitted by the Offeror, including but not limited to references, financial reports, or experience and documentation (e.g. insurance policies, bonds, letters of credit) used to meet minimum qualifications, if any, shall pertain exclusively to the Offeror, unless the parent organization will guarantee the performance of the subsidiary. If applicable, the Offeror shall submit with its Proposal an explicit statement, signed by an authorized representative of the parent organization, stating that the parent organization will guarantee the performance of the subsidiary.

A parental guarantee of the performance of the Offeror under this section will not automatically result in crediting the Offeror with the experience and/or qualifications of the parent under any evaluation criteria pertaining to the Offeror's experience and qualifications. Instead, the Offeror will be evaluated on the extent to which the State determines that the experience and qualification of the parent are transferred to and shared with the Offeror, the parent is directly involved in the performance of the Contract, and the value of the parent's participation as determined by the State.

4.17 Mandatory Contractual Terms

By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, an Offeror, if selected for award, shall be deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions of this RFP and the Contract, attached herein as **Attachment M**. Any exceptions to this RFP or the Contract shall be clearly identified in the Executive Summary of the Technical Proposal. **A Proposal that takes exception to these terms may be rejected. See RFP Section 5.4.2.4.**

4.18 Proposal Affidavit

A Proposal submitted by an Offeror must be accompanied by a completed Proposal Affidavit. A copy of this Affidavit is included as **Attachment C** of this RFP.

4.19 Contract Affidavit

All Offerors are advised that if a Contract is awarded as a result of this solicitation, the successful Offeror will be required to complete a Contract Affidavit, a copy which is included as **Attachment N** of this RFP. This Affidavit must be provided within five (5) Business Days of notification of proposed Contract award. The Contractor must also submit a Contract Affidavit with any Contract renewal, including the exercise of any options or modifications that may extend the Contract term. For purposes of completing Section “B” of this Affidavit (Certification of Registration or Qualification with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation), a business entity that is organized outside of the State of Maryland is considered a “foreign” business.

4.20 Compliance with Laws/Arrearages

By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, the Offeror, if selected for award, agrees that it will comply with all federal, State, and local laws applicable to its activities and obligations under the Contract.

By submitting a response to this solicitation, each Offeror represents that it is not in arrears in the payment of any obligations due and owing the State, including the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and shall not become so in arrears during the term of the Contract if selected for Contract award.

4.21 Verification of Registration and Tax Payment

Before a business entity can do business in the State, it must be registered with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). SDAT is located at State Office Building, Room 803, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. For registration information, visit <https://www.egov.maryland.gov/businessexpress> .

It is strongly recommended that any potential Offeror complete registration prior to the due date for receipt of Proposals. An Offeror’s failure to complete registration with SDAT may disqualify an otherwise successful Offeror from final consideration and recommendation for Contract award.

4.22 False Statements

Offerors are advised that Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, § 11-205.1 provides as follows:

- (a) In connection with a procurement contract a person may not willfully:
 - (1) falsify, conceal, or suppress a material fact by any scheme or device;
 - (2) make a false or fraudulent statement or representation of a material fact; or
 - (3) use a false writing or document that contains a false or fraudulent statement or entry of a material fact.
- (b) A person may not aid or conspire with another person to commit an act under subsection (a) of this section.
- (c) A person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or both.

4.23 Payments by Electronic Funds Transfer

By submitting a response to this solicitation, the Offeror agrees to accept payments by electronic funds transfer (EFT) unless the State Comptroller's Office grants an exemption. Payment by EFT is mandatory for contracts exceeding \$200,000. The selected Offeror shall register using the COT/GAD X-10 Vendor Electronic Funds (EFT) Registration Request Form. Any request for exemption must be submitted to the State Comptroller's Office for approval at the address specified on the COT/GAD X-10 form, must include the business identification information as stated on the form, and must include the reason for the exemption. The COT/GAD X-10 form may be downloaded from the Comptroller's website at:

http://comptroller.marylandtaxes.com/Government_Services/State_Accounting_Information/Static_Files/APM/X-1020130407.pdf.

4.24 Prompt Payment Policy

This procurement and the Contract to be awarded pursuant to this solicitation are subject to the Prompt Payment Policy Directive issued by the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA) and dated August 1, 2008. Promulgated pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §§ 11-201, 13-205(a), and Title 14, Subtitle 3, and COMAR 21.01.01.03 and 21.11.03.01, the Directive seeks to ensure the prompt payment of all subcontractors on non-construction procurement contracts. The Contractor shall comply with the prompt payment requirements outlined in the Contract "Prompt Payment" clause. See **Attachment M**. Additional information is available on GOMA's website at:

<http://goma.maryland.gov/Documents/Legislation/PromptPaymentFAQs.pdf>.

4.25 Electronic Procurements Authorized

- 4.25.1 Under COMAR 21.03.05, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Board may conduct procurement transactions by electronic means, including the solicitation, proposing, award, execution, and administration of a contract, as provided in Md. Code Ann., Maryland Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, Commercial Law Article, Title 21.
- 4.25.2 Participation in the solicitation process on a procurement contract for which electronic means has been authorized shall constitute consent by the Offeror to conduct by electronic means all elements of the procurement of that Contract which are specifically authorized under the solicitation or Contract.
- 4.25.3 "Electronic means" refers to exchanges or communications using electronic, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or other means of electronically conducting transactions. Electronic means includes facsimile, e-mail, internet-based communications, EFT, specific electronic bidding platforms (e.g., <https://emaryland.buyspeed.com/bsol/>), and electronic data interchange.
- 4.25.4 In addition to specific electronic transactions specifically authorized in other sections of this solicitation (e.g., RFP § 4.23 "Payments by Electronic Funds Transfer") and subject to the exclusions noted in section 4.25.5 of this subsection, the following transactions are authorized to be conducted by electronic means on the terms described:
 - 4.25.4.1 The Procurement Officer may conduct the procurement using eMM, e-mail, or facsimile to issue:
 - (a) The solicitation (e.g., the RFP);
 - (b) Any amendments;
 - (c) Pre-Proposal conference documents;

- (d) Questions and responses;
- (e) Communications regarding the solicitation or Proposal to any Offeror or potential Offeror;
- (f) Notices of award selection or non-selection; and
- (g) The Procurement Officer's decision on any Proposal protest or Contract claim.

4.25.4.2 An Offeror or potential Offeror may use e-mail or facsimile to:

- (a) Ask questions regarding the solicitation;
- (b) Reply to any material received from the Procurement Officer by electronic means that includes a Procurement Officer's request or direction to reply by e-mail or facsimile, but only on the terms specifically approved and directed by the Procurement Officer; and
- (c) Submit a "No Proposal Response" to the solicitation.

4.25.4.3 The Procurement Officer, the Contract Monitor, and the Contractor may conduct day-to-day Contract administration, except as outlined in Section E of this subsection utilizing e-mail, facsimile, or other electronic means if authorized by the Procurement Officer or Contract Monitor.

4.25.5 The following transactions related to this procurement and any Contract awarded pursuant to it are *not authorized* to be conducted by electronic means:

- (a) Submission of initial Proposals;
- (b) Filing of Proposal Protests;
- (c) Filing of Contract Claims;
- (d) Submission of documents determined by the Board to require original signatures (e.g., Contract execution, Contract modifications, etc.); or
- (e) Any transaction, submission, or communication where the Procurement Officer has specifically directed that a response from the Contractor or Offeror be provided in writing or hard copy.

4.25.6 Any facsimile or e-mail transmission is only authorized to the facsimile numbers or e-mail addresses for the identified person as provided in the solicitation, Contract, or direction from the Procurement Officer or Contract Monitor.

4.26 Minority Business Enterprise Goals

4.26.1 Establishment of Goal and Subgoals. An overall MBE subcontractor participation goal of 5% of the total contract dollar value, including all option years, if any, has been established for this procurement.

There are no MBE subcontractor participation subgoals for this procurement.

4.26.2 Attachments D-1 to D-5 – The following Minority Business Enterprise participation instructions, and forms are provided to assist Offerors:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Attachment D-1A | MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule (must be submitted with Proposal) |
| Attachment D-1B | Waiver Guidance |
| Attachment D-1C | Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request |
| Attachment D-2 | Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement |
| Attachment D-3A | MBE Subcontractor Project Participation Certification |
| Attachment D-3B | MBE Prime Project Participation Certification |
| Attachment D-4A | Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report |
| Attachment D-4B | MBE Prime Contractor Report |

Attachment D-5 Subcontractor/Contractor Unpaid MBE Invoice Report

- 4.26.3** An Offeror shall include with its Proposal a completed MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**) whereby:
- (a) The Offeror acknowledges the certified MBE participation goal and commits to make a good faith effort to achieve the goal and any applicable subgoals, or requests a waiver, and affirms that MBE subcontractors were treated fairly in the solicitation process; and
 - (b) The Offeror responds to the expected degree of MBE participation, as stated in the solicitation, by identifying the specific commitment of certified MBEs at the time of Proposal submission. The Offeror shall specify the percentage of total contract value associated with each MBE subcontractor identified on the MBE participation schedule, including any work performed by the MBE Prime (including a Prime participating as a joint venture) to be counted towards meeting the MBE participation goals.
 - (c) An Offeror requesting a waiver should review Attachment D-1B (Waiver Guidance) and D-1C (Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request) prior to submitting its request.

If an Offeror fails to submit a completed Attachment D-1A with the Proposal as required, the Procurement Officer shall determine that the Proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

- 4.26.4** Offerors are responsible for verifying that each MBE (including any MBE Prime and/or MBE Prime participating in a joint venture) selected to meet the goal and any subgoals and subsequently identified in **Attachment D-1A** is appropriately certified and has the correct NAICS codes allowing it to perform the committed work.
- 4.26.5** Within ten (10) Business Days from notification that it is the recommended awardee or from the date of the actual award, whichever is earlier, the Offeror must provide the following documentation to the Procurement Officer.
- (a) Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement (**Attachment D-2**);
 - (b) MBE Subcontractor/Prime Project Participation Certification (**Attachment D-3A/3B**); and
 - (c) Any other documentation required by the Procurement Officer to ascertain Offeror responsibility in connection with the certified MBE subcontractor participation goal.

Further, if the recommended awardee believes a waiver (in whole or in part) of the overall MBE goal is necessary, the recommended awardee must submit a fully-documented waiver request that complies with COMAR 21.11.03.11.

If the recommended awardee fails to return each completed document within the required time, the Procurement Officer may determine that the recommended awardee is not responsible and, therefore, not eligible for Contract award. If the Contract has already been awarded, the award is voidable.

- 4.26.6** A current directory of certified MBEs is available through the Maryland State Department of Transportation (MDOT), Office of Minority Business Enterprise, 7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076. The phone numbers are (410) 865-1269, 1-800-544-6056, or TTY (410) 865-1342. The directory is also available on the MDOT website at <http://mbe.mdot.maryland.gov/directory/>. The most current and up-to-date information on MBEs is available via this website. **Only MDOT-certified MBEs may be used to meet the MBE subcontracting goals.**
- 4.26.7** The Contractor, once awarded a Contract, will be responsible for submitting or requiring its subcontractor(s) to submit the following forms to provide the State with ongoing monitoring of MBE participation:
- (a) **Attachment D-4A** (Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report);
 - (b) **Attachment D-4B** (MBE Prime Contractor Report, *if applicable*); and

(c) **Attachment D-5** (MBE Subcontractor Unpaid MBE Invoice Report).

- 4.26.8** An Offeror that requested a waiver of the goal or any of the applicable subgoals will be responsible for submitting the Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request (**Attachment D-1C**) and all documentation within ten (10) Business Days from notification that it is the recommended awardee or from the date of the actual award, whichever is earlier, as required in COMAR 21.11.03.11.
- 4.26.9** All documents, including the MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule (**Attachment D-1A**), completed and submitted by the Offeror in connection with its certified MBE participation commitment shall be considered a part of the resulting Contract and are hereby expressly incorporated into the Contract by reference thereto. All of the referenced documents will be considered a part of the Proposal for order of precedence purposes (see Contract – **Attachment M**, RFP Section 2.1).
- 4.26.10** The Offeror is advised that liquidated damages will apply in the event the Contractor fails to comply in good faith with the requirements of the MBE program and pertinent Contract provisions. (See Contract – **Attachment M**, “Liquidated Damages” clause).
- 4.26.11** As set forth in COMAR 21.11.03.12-1(D), when a certified MBE firm participates on a Contract as a Prime Contractor (including a joint-venture where the MBE firm is a partner), a procurement agency may count the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the contract that the certified MBE firm performs with its own work force towards fulfilling up to fifty-percent (50%) of the MBE participation goal (overall) and up to one hundred percent (100%) of not more than one of the MBE participation sub-goals, if any, established for the contract.

In order to receive credit for self-performance, an MBE Prime must list its firm in RFP Section 4A of the MBE Participation Schedule (**Attachment D-1A**) and include information regarding the work it will self-perform. For the remaining portion of the overall goal and the sub-goals, the MBE Prime must also identify certified MBE subcontractors (see RFP Section 4B of the MBE Participation Schedule (**Attachment D-1A**)) used to meet those goals. If dually-certified, the MBE Prime can be designated as only one of the MBE sub-goal classifications but can self-perform up to 100% of the stated sub-goal.

As set forth in COMAR 21.11.03.12-1, once the Contract work begins, the work performed by a certified MBE firm, including an MBE Prime, can only be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if the MBE firm is performing a commercially useful function on the Contract.

4.26.12 With respect to Contract administration, the Contractor shall:

- (1) Submit to the Board’s designated representative by the 10th of the month following the reporting period:
 - a. A Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid MBE Invoice Report (**Attachment D-4A**) listing any unpaid invoices, over 45 days old, received from any certified MBE subcontractor, the amount of each invoice and the reason payment has not been made; and
 - b. (If Applicable) An MBE Prime Contractor Report (**Attachment D-4B**) identifying an MBE Prime’s self-performing work to be counted towards the MBE participation goals.
- (2) Include in its agreements with its certified MBE subcontractors a requirement that those subcontractors submit to the Board’s designated representative by the 10th of the month following the reporting period an MBE Subcontractor Paid/Unpaid Invoice Report (**Attachment D-5**) that identifies the Contract and lists all payments to the MBE subcontractor received from the Contractor in the preceding reporting period month, as well as any outstanding invoices, and the amounts of those invoices.
- (3) Maintain such records as are necessary to confirm compliance with its MBE participation obligations. These records must indicate the identity of certified minority and non-minority subcontractors employed on the Contract, type of work performed by each, and actual dollar value of work performed. Subcontract

agreements documenting the work performed by all MBE participants must be retained by the Contractor and furnished to the Procurement Officer on request.

- (4) Consent to provide such documentation as reasonably requested and right-of-entry at reasonable times for purposes of the State's representatives verifying compliance with the MBE participation obligations. Contractor must retain all records concerning MBE participation and make them available for State inspection for three years after final completion of the Contract.
- (5) Upon completion of the Contract and before final payment and/or release of retainage, submit a final report in affidavit form and under penalty of perjury, of all payments made to, or withheld from MBE subcontractors.

4.27 Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Goal

There is no Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE) participation goal for this procurement.

4.28 Living Wage Requirements

- 4.28.1 Maryland law requires that Contractors meeting certain conditions pay a living wage to covered employees on State service contracts over \$100,000. Maryland Code, State Finance and Procurement, § 18-101 *et al.* The Commissioner of Labor and Industry at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation requires that a Contractor subject to the Living Wage law submit payroll records for covered employees and a signed statement indicating that it paid a living wage to covered employees; or receive a waiver from Living Wage reporting requirements. *See* COMAR 21.11.10.05.
- 4.28.2 If subject to the Living Wage law, Contractor agrees that it will abide by all Living Wage law requirements, including but not limited to reporting requirements in COMAR 21.11.10.05. Contractor understands that failure of Contractor to provide such documents is a material breach of the terms and conditions and may result in Contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions. See the "Living Wage" clause in the Contract (**Attachment M**).
- 4.28.3 Additional information regarding the State's living wage requirement is contained in **Attachment F**. Offerors must complete and submit the Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement (**Attachment F-1**) with their Proposals. If an Offeror fails to complete and submit the required documentation, the State may determine the Offeror to be not responsible under State law.
- 4.28.4 Contractors and subcontractors subject to the Living Wage Law shall pay each covered employee at least the minimum amount set by law for the applicable Tier area. The specific living wage rate is determined by whether a majority of services take place in a Tier 1 Area or Tier 2 Area of the State. The Tier 1 Area includes Montgomery, Prince George's, Howard, Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties, and Baltimore City. The Tier 2 Area includes any county in the State not included in the Tier 1 Area. In the event that the employees who perform the services are not located in the State, the head of the unit responsible for a State Contract pursuant to §18-102(d) of the State Finance and Procurement Article shall assign the tier based upon where the recipients of the services are located.
- 4.28.5 The Contract resulting from this solicitation will be determined to be a Tier 1 Contract or a Tier 2 Contract depending on the location(s) from which the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services. The Offeror must identify in its Proposal the location(s) from which services will be provided, including the location(s) from which 50% or more of the Contract services will be provided.

- (1) If the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services from a location(s) in a Tier 1 jurisdiction(s) the Contract will be a Tier 1 Contract.
- (2) If the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services from a location(s) in a Tier 2 jurisdiction(s), the Contract will be a Tier 2 Contract.
- (3) If the Contractor provides more than 50% of the services from an out-of-State location, the State agency determines the wage tier based on where the majority of the service recipients are located. In this circumstance, this Contract will be determined to be a Tier 1 Contract.

4.28.6 Information pertaining to reporting obligations may be found by going to the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) website: <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/labor/prev/livingwage.shtml>.

NOTE: Whereas the Living Wage may change annually, the Contract price may not be changed because of a Living Wage change.

4.29 Federal Funding Acknowledgement

This Contract does not contain federal funds.

4.30 Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure

Offerors shall complete and sign the Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure (**Attachment H**) and submit it with their Proposals. All Offerors are advised that if a Contract is awarded as a result of this solicitation, the Contractor's personnel who perform or control work under this Contract and each of the participating subcontractor personnel who perform or control work under this Contract shall be required to complete agreements substantially similar to **Attachment H**, Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure. For policies and procedures applying specifically to Conflict of Interests, the Contract is governed by COMAR 21.05.08.08.

4.31 Non-Disclosure Agreement

A Non-Disclosure Agreement is not required for this procurement.

4.32 HIPAA - Business Associate Agreement

A HIPAA Business Associate Agreement is not required for this procurement.

4.33 Nonvisual Access

This solicitation does not contain Information Technology (IT) provisions requiring Nonvisual Access.

4.34 Mercury and Products That Contain Mercury

This solicitation does not include the procurement of products known to likely include mercury as a component.

4.35 Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure

This solicitation does not require a Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure.

4.36 Department of Human Resources (DHR) Hiring Agreement

This solicitation does not require a DHR Hiring Agreement.

4.37 Small Business Reserve (SBR) Procurement

This solicitation is not designated as a Small Business Reserve (SBR) Procurement.

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SECTION 5 – PROPOSAL FORMAT

5.1 Two Part Submission

Offerors shall submit Proposals in separate volumes:

- Volume I – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL
- Volume II – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

5.2 Proposals

5.2.1 Volume I – Technical Proposal, and Volume II – Financial Proposal shall be sealed separately from one another. It is preferred, but not required, that the name, email address, and telephone number of a contact person for the Offeror be included on the outside of the packaging for each volume. Each Volume shall contain an unbound original, so identified, and six (6) copies. Unless the resulting package will be too unwieldy, the Board’s preference is for the two (2) sealed Volumes to be submitted together in a single package including a label bearing:

- (1) RFP title and number,
- (2) Name and address of the Offeror, and
- (3) Closing date and time for receipt of Proposals

to the Procurement Officer (see RFP Key Information Summary Sheet) prior to the date and time for receipt of Proposals (see RFP Section 4.4 “Proposals Due (Closing) Date and Time”).

5.2.2 An electronic version (on Compact Disk/CD, Digital Versatile Disc/DVD, or Universal Serial Bus/USB Flash/Thumb Drive) of Volume I - Technical Proposal in Microsoft Word format must be enclosed with the original Volume I - Technical Proposal submission. An electronic version (on CD, DVD, or USB Flash Drive) of Volume II - Financial Proposal in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Excel format must be enclosed with the original Volume II - Financial Proposal submission. Each CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive must be labeled on the outside with the RFP title and number, name of the Offeror, and volume number. Each CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive must be packaged with the original copy of the appropriate Proposal (Technical or Financial). In the event of any discrepancy between the hard copy and electronic versions of an Offeror’s Proposal, the State shall determine the controlling version in accordance with the State’s interests.

5.2.3 A second electronic version of Volume I and Volume II in searchable Adobe .pdf format shall be submitted on CD, DVD, or USB Flash Drive for Public Information Act (PIA) requests. This copy shall be redacted so that confidential and/or proprietary information has been removed. (See RFP Section 4.8 “Public Information Act Notice.”)

5.2.4 Beginning with Tab B (see RFP Section 5.4.2.3), all pages of both Proposal volumes shall be consecutively-numbered from beginning (Page 1) to end (Page “x”). The Title Page, Table of Contents, and any Claim of Confidentiality (Tabs A and A-1; see RFP Sections 5.4.2.1 and 5.4.2.2), should be numbered using romanettes (ex. i, ii, iii, iv, v, etc.).

5.2.5 Proposals and any modifications to Proposals will be shown only to State employees, members of the Evaluation Committee, and other persons deemed by the Board to have a legitimate interest in them.

5.3 Delivery

Offerors may either mail or hand-deliver Proposals.

- 5.3.1 For U.S. Postal Service deliveries, any Proposal that has been received at the appropriate mailroom, or typical place of mail receipt, for the respective procuring unit by the time and date listed in the RFP will be deemed to be timely. If an Offeror chooses to use the U.S. Postal Service for delivery, the Board recommends that it use Express Mail, Priority Mail, or Certified Mail only as these are the only forms for which both the date and time of receipt can be verified by the Board. It could take several days for an item sent by first class mail to make its way by normal internal mail to the procuring unit and an Offeror using first class mail will not be able to prove a timely delivery at the mailroom.
- 5.3.2 Hand-delivery includes delivery by commercial carrier acting as agent for the Offeror. For any type of direct (non-mail) delivery, an Offeror is advised to secure a dated, signed, and time-stamped (or otherwise indicated) receipt of delivery.
- 5.3.3 After receipt, a Register of Proposals will be prepared that identifies each Offeror. The Register of Proposals will be open to inspection only after the Procurement Officer makes a determination recommending the award of the Contract.

5.4 Volume I – Technical Proposal

Note: No pricing information is to be included in the Technical Proposal (Volume I). Pricing information is to be included only in the Financial Proposal (Volume II).

- 5.4.1 **Format of Technical Proposal.** Inside a sealed package described in Section 5.2 “Proposals,” the unbound original, six (6) copies, and the electronic version shall be provided. The RFP sections are numbered for ease of reference. Section 5.4.2 sets forth the order of information to be provided in the Technical Proposal, e.g., Section 5.4.2.1 “Title and Table of Contents,” Section 5.4.2.2 “Claim of Confidentiality,” Section 5.4.2.3 “Transmittal Letter,” Section 5.4.2.4 “Executive Summary,” etc. In addition to the instructions below, responses in the Offeror’s Technical Proposal should reference the organization and numbering of Sections in the RFP (ex. “Section 2.2.1 Response . . . ; “Section 2.2.2 Response . . .,” etc.). This Proposal organization will allow State officials and the Evaluation Committee (see RFP Section 6.1) to “map” Offeror responses directly to RFP requirements by Section number and will aid in the evaluation process.
- 5.4.2 **The Technical Proposal** shall include the following documents and information in the order specified as follows. Each section of the Technical Proposal shall be separated by a TAB as detailed below:
 - 5.4.2.1 **Title Page and Table of Contents (Submit under TAB A).** The Technical Proposal should begin with a Title Page bearing the name and address of the Offeror and the name and number of this RFP. A Table of Contents shall follow the Title Page for the Technical Proposal, organized by section, subsection, and page number.
 - 5.4.2.2 **Claim of Confidentiality (If applicable, submit under TAB A-1).** Any information which is claimed to be confidential is to be noted by reference and included after the Title Page and before the Table of Contents, and if applicable, also in the Offeror’s Financial Proposal. An explanation for each claim of confidentiality shall be included. (See RFP Section 4.8 “Public Information Act Notice.”) The entire Proposal should not be given a blanket confidentiality designation. Any confidentiality designation must apply to specific sections, pages, or portions of pages of the Proposal.

5.4.2.3 **Transmittal Letter (Submit under TAB B).** A Transmittal Letter shall accompany the Technical Proposal. The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Proposal and acknowledge the receipt of any addenda. The Transmittal Letter should be brief and signed by an individual who is authorized to commit the Offeror to the services and requirements as stated in this RFP. The Transmittal Letter should include the following:

- (1) Name and address of the Offeror;
- (2) Name, title, e-mail address, and telephone number of primary contact for the Offeror;
- (3) Solicitation Title and Solicitation Number that the Proposal is in response to;
- (4) Signature, typed name, and title of an individual authorized to commit the Offeror to its Proposal;
- (5) Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) of the Offeror, or if a single individual, that individual's Social Security Number (SSN);
- (6) Offeror's eMM number;
- (7) Offeror's MBE certification number (if applicable);
- (8) Acceptance of all State RFP and Contract terms and conditions (see RFP Section 4.17); if any exceptions are taken, they are to be noted in the Executive Summary (see RFP Section 5.4.2.4); and
- (9) Acknowledgement of all addenda to this RFP.

5.4.2.4 **Executive Summary (Submit under TAB C).** The Offeror shall condense and highlight the contents of the Technical Proposal in a separate section titled "Executive Summary." The Summary shall identify the Service Category(ies) and Region(s) for which the Offeror is proposing to provide services (if applicable). In addition, the Summary shall indicate whether the Offeror is the subsidiary of another entity, and if so, whether all information submitted by the Offeror pertains exclusively to the Offeror. If not, the subsidiary Offeror shall include a guarantee of performance from its parent organization as part of its Executive Summary.

The Summary shall also identify any exceptions the Offeror has taken to the requirements of this RFP, the Contract (Attachment M), or any other attachments. Exceptions to terms and conditions may result in having the Proposal deemed unacceptable or classified as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

If the Offeror has taken no exceptions to the requirements of this RFP, the Contract (Attachment M), or any other attachments, the Executive Summary shall so state.

5.4.2.5 **Minimum Qualifications Documentation (If applicable, Submit under TAB D).** The Offeror shall submit any Minimum Qualifications documentation that may be required, as set forth in RFP Section 1, "Minimum Qualifications."

5.4.5.6 **Offeror Technical Response to RFP Requirements and Proposed Work Plan (Submit under TAB E).**

5.4.5.6.1 The Offeror shall address each Scope of Work requirement (RFP Section 2) in its Technical Proposal and describe how its proposed services, including the services of any proposed subcontractor(s), will meet or exceed the requirement(s). If the State is seeking Offeror agreement to any requirement(s), the Offeror shall state its agreement or disagreement. Any paragraph in the Technical Proposal that responds to a Scope of Work requirement shall include an explanation of how the work will be done. Any exception to a requirement, term, or condition may result in having the Proposal classified as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award or the Offeror deemed not responsible.

5.4.5.6.2 The Offeror shall give a definitive **section-by-section** description of the proposed plan to meet the requirements of the RFP, i.e., a Work Plan. The Work Plan shall include the specific methodology, techniques, and number of staff, if applicable, to be used by the Offeror in providing the required services as outlined in RFP Section 2, Scope of Work. The description shall include an outline of the overall management concepts employed by the Offeror and a project management plan, including project control mechanisms and overall timelines. Project deadlines considered contract deliverables must be recognized in the Work Plan.

5.4.5.6.3 The Offeror shall identify the location(s) from which it proposes to provide the services, including, if applicable, any current facilities that it operates, and any required construction to satisfy the State's requirements as outlined in this RFP.

5.4.5.6.4 The Offeror shall provide a draft Problem Escalation Procedure (PEP) that includes, at a minimum, titles of individuals to be contacted by the Board's Contract Monitor should problems arise under the Contract and explains how problems with work under the Contract will be escalated in order to resolve any issues in a timely manner. Final procedures shall be submitted as indicated in RFP Section 3.3.

5.4.2.7 **Experience and Qualifications of Proposed Staff (Submit under TAB F).** The Offeror shall identify the qualifications and types of staff proposed to be utilized under the Contract.

The Offeror shall describe in detail how the proposed staff's experience and qualifications relate to their specific responsibilities, including any staff of proposed subcontractor(s), as detailed in the Work Plan. The Offeror shall include individual resumes for the Key Personnel, including Key Personnel for any proposed subcontractor(s), who are to be assigned to the project if the Offeror is awarded the Contract. Each resume should include the amount of experience the individual has had relative to the Scope of Work set forth in this solicitation. Letters of intended commitment to work on the project, including letters from any proposed subcontractor(s), shall be included in this section.

The Offeror shall provide an Organizational Chart outlining personnel and their related duties. The Offeror shall include job titles and the percentage of time each individual will spend on his/her assigned tasks. Offerors using job titles other than those commonly used by industry standards must provide a crosswalk reference document.

5.4.2.8 **Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities (Submit under TAB G).** The Offeror shall include information on past experience with similar projects and/or services. The Offeror shall describe how its organization can meet the requirements of this RFP and shall also include the following information:

- (1) The number of years the Offeror has provided the similar services;
- (2) The number of clients/customers and geographic locations that the Offeror currently serves;
- (3) The names and titles of headquarters or regional management personnel who may be involved with supervising the services to be performed under this Contract;
- (4) The Offeror's process for resolving billing errors;
- (5) An organizational chart that identifies the complete structure of the Offeror, including any parent company, headquarters, regional offices, and subsidiaries of the Offeror. ; and
- (6) The Offeror's large pension plan engagements over the past five (5) years identifying each by plan type, size, number of participants covered, number of investment options, number of participants contributing, number of participants in payout, with specific indication of two (2) defined contribution assignments with assets of not less than \$500,000,000.

5.4.2.9 **References (Submit under TAB H).** At least three (3) references are requested from customers who are capable of documenting the Offeror's ability to provide the services specified in this RFP. References used to meet any Minimum Qualifications (see RFP Section 1) may be used to meet this request. Each reference shall be from a client for whom the Offeror has provided services within the past five (5) years and shall include the following information:

- (1) Name of client organization;
- (2) Name, title, telephone number, and e-mail address, if available, of point of contact for client organization; and
- (3) Value, type, duration, and description of services provided.

The Board reserves the right to request additional references or utilize references not provided by an Offeror.

5.4.2.10 **List of Current or Prior State Contracts (Submit under TAB I).** Provide a list of all contracts with any entity of the State of Maryland for which the Offeror is currently performing services or for which services have been completed within the last five (5) years. For each identified contract, the Offeror is to provide:

- (1) The State contracting entity;
- (2) A brief description of the services/goods provided;
- (3) The dollar value of the contract;
- (4) The term of the contract;
- (5) The State employee contact person (name, title, telephone number, and, if possible, e-mail address); and
- (6) Whether the contract was terminated before the end of the term specified in the original contract, including whether any available renewal option was not exercised.

Information obtained regarding the Offeror's level of performance on State contracts will be used by the Procurement Officer to determine the responsibility of the Offeror and considered as part of the experience and past performance evaluation criteria of the RFP.

5.4.2.11 **Financial Capability (Submit under TAB J).** An Offeror must include in its Proposal a commonly-accepted method to prove its fiscal integrity. If available, the Offeror shall include Financial Statements, preferably a profit and loss (P&L) statement and a balance sheet, for the last two (2) years (independently audited preferred).

In addition, the Offeror may supplement its response to this section by including one or more of the following with its response:

- (1) Dun & Bradstreet Rating;
- (2) Standard and Poor's Rating;
- (3) Lines of credit;
- (4) Evidence of a successful financial track record; and
- (5) Evidence of adequate working capital.

5.4.2.12 **Certificate of Insurance (Submit under TAB K).** The Offeror shall provide a copy of its current certificate of insurance showing the types and limits of insurance in effect as of the Proposal submission date. The current insurance types and limits do not have to be the same as described in Section 3.1. See Section 3.1 for the required insurance certificate submission for the recommended Offeror.

5.4.2.13 **Subcontractors (Submit under TAB L).** The Offeror shall provide a complete list of all subcontractors that will work on the Contract if the Offeror receives an award, including those utilized in meeting the MBE and/or VSBE subcontracting goal, if applicable. This list shall include a full description of the duties each subcontractor will perform and why/how each subcontractor was deemed the most qualified for this project.

5.4.2.14 **Legal Action Summary (Submit under TAB M).** This summary shall include:

- (1) A statement as to whether there are any outstanding legal actions or potential claims against the Offeror and a brief description of any action;
- (2) A brief description of any settled or closed legal actions or claims against the Offeror over the past five (5) years;
- (3) A description of any judgments against the Offeror within the past five (5) years, including the case name, court case docket number, and what the final ruling or determination was from the court; and
- (4) In instances where litigation is on-going and the Offeror has been directed not to disclose information by the court, the name of the judge and location of the court.

5.4.2.15 **Economic Benefit Factors (Submit under TAB N).** The Offeror shall submit with its Proposal a narrative describing benefits that will accrue to the Maryland economy as a direct or indirect result of its performance of this Contract. Proposals will be evaluated to assess the benefit to Maryland's economy specifically offered. The economic benefit offered should be consistent with—**but should not quote or otherwise quantify**—the Offeror's Total Proposal Price from **Attachment B**, the Financial Proposal Form. See COMAR 21.05.03.03A(3).

Proposals that identify specific benefits as being contractually enforceable commitments will be rated more favorably than Proposals that do not identify specific benefits as contractual commitments, all other factors being equal.

Offerors shall identify any performance guarantees that will be enforceable by the State if the full level of promised benefit is not achieved during the Contract term.

As applicable, for the full duration of the Contract, including any renewal period, or until the commitment is satisfied, the Contractor shall provide to the Procurement Officer or other designated agency personnel reports of the actual attainment of each benefit listed in response to this section. These benefit attainment reports shall be provided quarterly, unless elsewhere in these specifications a different reporting frequency is stated.

In responding to this section, the following do not generally constitute economic benefits to be derived from this Contract:

- (1) Generic statements that the State will benefit from the Offeror's superior performance under the Contract;
- (2) Descriptions of the number of Offeror employees located in Maryland other than those that will be performing work under this Contract; and
- (3) Tax revenues from Maryland-based employees or locations, other than those that will be performing, or used to perform, work under this Contract.

Discussion of Maryland-based employees or locations may be appropriate if the Offeror makes some projection or guarantee of increased or retained presence based upon being awarded this Contract.

Examples of economic benefits to be derived from a contract may include any of the following. For each factor identified below, identify the specific benefit and contractual commitments and provide a breakdown of expenditures in that category:

- (1) The Contract dollars to be recycled into Maryland's economy in support of the Contract, through the use of Maryland subcontractors, suppliers and joint venture partners. Do not include actual fees or rates paid to subcontractors or information from your Financial Proposal;
- (2) The number and types of jobs for Maryland residents resulting from the Contract. Indicate job classifications, number of employees in each classification and aggregate payroll to which the Offeror has committed, including contractual commitments at both prime and, if applicable, subcontract levels. If no new positions or subcontracts are anticipated as a result of this Contract, so state explicitly;
- (3) Tax revenues to be generated for Maryland and its political subdivisions as a result of the Contract. Indicate tax category (sales taxes, payroll taxes, inventory taxes and estimated personal income taxes for new employees). Provide a forecast of the total tax revenues resulting from the Contract;
- (4) Subcontract dollars committed to Maryland small businesses and MBEs; and
- (5) Other benefits to the Maryland economy which the Offeror promises will result from awarding the Contract to the Offeror, including contractual commitments. Describe the benefit, its value to the Maryland economy, and how it will result from, or because of the Contract award. Offerors may commit to benefits that are not directly attributable to the Contract, but for which the Contract award may serve as a catalyst or impetus.

5.4.3 Additional Required Technical Submissions (Submit under TAB O).

5.4.3.1 The following documents shall be completed, signed, and included in the Technical Proposal, under TAB O that follows the material submitted in response to Section 5.4.2.

- a. Completed Proposal Affidavit (**Attachment C**).
- b. Completed Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement (**Attachment F-1**).

5.4.3.2 ***If Required**, the following documents shall be completed, signed, and included in the Technical Proposal, under TAB O that follows the material submitted in response to Section 5.4.2. *See appropriate RFP Section to determine whether the particular document is required for this procurement:

- (1) A Signed Statement from the Offeror's Parent Organization Guaranteeing Performance of the Offeror. **See RFP Section 4.16;**
- (2) Completed MDOT Certified MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**). **See RFP Section 4.26;**
- (3) Completed Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure (**Attachment H**). **See RFP Section 4.30.**

5.5 Volume II – Financial Proposal

Under separate sealed cover from the Technical Proposal and clearly identified in the format identified in Section 5.2 "Proposals," the Offeror shall submit an original unbound copy, six (6) copies, and an electronic version in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Excel of the Financial Proposal. The Financial Proposal shall contain all price information in the

format specified in **Attachment B**. The Offeror shall complete the Financial Proposal Form only as provided in the Financial Proposal Instructions and the Financial Proposal Form itself.

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SECTION 6 – EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

6.1 Evaluation Committee

Evaluation of Proposals will be performed in accordance with COMAR 21.05.03 by a committee established for that purpose and based on the evaluation criteria set forth below. The Evaluation Committee will review Proposals, participate in Offeror oral presentations and discussions, and provide input to the Procurement Officer. The Board reserves the right to utilize the services of individuals outside of the established Evaluation Committee for advice and assistance, as deemed appropriate.

6.2 Technical Proposal Evaluation Criteria

The criteria to be used to evaluate each Technical Proposal are listed below in descending order of importance. Unless stated otherwise, any subcriteria within each criterion have equal weight.

- 6.2.1 Offeror's Technical Response to RFP Requirements and Work Plan (See RFP § 5.4.2.6). The State prefers an Offeror's response to work requirements in the RFP that illustrates a comprehensive understanding of work requirements and mastery of the subject matter, including an explanation of how the work will be done. Proposals which include limited responses to work requirements such as "concur" or "will comply" will receive a lower ranking than those Proposals that demonstrate an understanding of the work requirements and include plans to meet or exceed them.
- 6.2.2 Experience and Qualifications of Proposed Staff (See RFP § 5.4.2.7)
- 6.2.3 Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities, including proposed Subcontractors (See RFP § 5.4.2.8 – 5.4.2.14)
- 6.2.4 Economic Benefit to State of Maryland (See RFP § 5.4.2.15)

6.3 Financial Proposal Evaluation Criteria

All Qualified Offerors will be ranked from the lowest (most advantageous) to the highest (least advantageous) price based on the Total Proposal Price within the stated guidelines set forth in this RFP and as submitted on **Attachment B** - Financial Proposal Form.

6.4 Reciprocal Preference

Although Maryland law does not generally authorize procuring units to favor resident Offerors in awarding procurement contracts, many other states do grant their resident businesses preferences over Maryland contractors. Therefore, COMAR 21.05.01.04 permits procuring units to apply a reciprocal preference in favor of a Maryland resident business under the following conditions:

- (1) The Maryland resident business is a responsible Offeror;
- (2) The most advantageous offer is from a responsible Offeror whose principal office or principal operations through which it would provide the services required under this RFP is in another state;
- (3) The other state gives a preference to its resident businesses through law, policy, or practice; and
- (4) The Maryland resident preference does not conflict with a federal law or grant affecting the procurement Contract.

The preference given shall be identical to the preference that the other state, through law, policy, or practice gives to its resident businesses.

6.5 Selection Procedures

6.5.1 **General.** The Contract will be awarded in accordance with the Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSP) method found at COMAR 21.05.03. The Competitive Sealed Proposals method allows for the conducting of discussions and the revision of Proposals during these discussions. Therefore, the State may conduct discussions with all Offerors that have submitted Proposals that are determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for contract award or potentially so. However, the State reserves the right to make an award without holding discussions.

In either case (i.e., with or without discussions), the State may determine an Offeror to be not responsible and/or an Offeror's Proposal to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award at any time after the initial closing date for receipt of Proposals and prior to Contract award. If the State finds an Offeror to be not responsible and/or an Offeror's Technical Proposal to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award, that Offeror's Financial Proposal will subsequently be returned if the Financial Proposal is unopened at the time of the determination.

6.5.2 Selection Process Sequence

6.5.2.1 A determination is made that the MDOT Certified MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**) is included and properly completed, if there is an MBE goal. In addition, a determination is made that the VSBE Utilization Affidavit and Subcontractor Participation Schedule (**Attachment E-1**) is included and is properly completed, if there is a VSBE goal. Finally, a determination is made that all Minimum Qualifications, if any (See RFP Section 1), have been satisfied.

6.5.2.2 Technical Proposals are evaluated for technical merit and ranked. During this review, oral presentations and discussions may be held. The purpose of such discussions will be to assure a full understanding of the State's requirements and Offeror's ability to perform the services, as well as facilitate arrival at a Contract that is most advantageous to the State. Offerors will be contacted by the State as soon as any discussions are scheduled.

6.5.2.3 Offerors must confirm in writing any substantive oral clarifications of, or changes in, their Technical Proposals made in the course of discussions. Any such written clarifications or changes then become part of the Offeror's Technical Proposal. Technical Proposals are given a final review and ranked.

6.5.2.4 The Financial Proposal of each Qualified Offeror (a responsible Offeror determined to have submitted an acceptable Proposal) will be evaluated and ranked separately from the Technical evaluation. After a review of the Financial Proposals of Qualified Offerors, the Evaluation Committee or Procurement Officer may again conduct discussions to further evaluate the Offeror's entire Proposal.

6.5.2.5 When in the best interest of the State, the Procurement Officer may permit Qualified Offerors to revise their initial Proposals and submit, in writing, Best and Final Offers (BAFOs). The State may make an award without issuing a request for a BAFO.

6.5.3 **Award Determination.** Upon completion of the Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal evaluations and rankings, each Offeror will receive an overall ranking. The Procurement Officer will recommend award of the Contract to the responsible Offeror that submitted the Proposal determined to be the most advantageous to the State. In making this most advantageous Proposal determination, technical and financial factors will receive equal weight.

6.6 Documents Required upon Notice of Recommendation for Contract Award

Upon receipt of a Notification of Recommendation for Contract Award, the following documents shall be completed, signed if applicable with original signatures, and submitted by the recommended awardee within five (5) Business Days, unless noted otherwise. Submit three (3) copies of each of the following documents:

- (1) Contract (**Attachment M**),
- (2) Contract Affidavit (**Attachment N**),
- (3) MBE **Attachments D-2 and D-3A/B**, within ten (10) Business Days, if applicable; *see **RFP Section 4.26**,
- (4) MBE Waiver Justification within ten (10) Business Days (see **MBE Waiver Guidance and forms in Attachments D-1B and D-1C**), if a waiver has been requested (if applicable; *see **RFP Section 4.26**), and
- (5) Copy of a current Certificate of Insurance with the prescribed limits set forth in RFP Section 3.1 “Insurance Requirements,” listing the State as an additional insured, if applicable; *see **RFP Section 3.1** .

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RFP ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A – Pre-Proposal Conference Response Form

It is requested that this form be completed and submitted as described in RFP Section 4.1 by those potential Offerors that plan on attending the Pre-Proposal Conference.

ATTACHMENT B – Financial Proposal Instructions and Form

The Financial Proposal Form must be completed and submitted in the Financial Proposal package.

ATTACHMENT C –Proposal Affidavit

This Attachment must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENTS D – Minority Business Enterprise Forms

If required (see RFP Section 4.26), these Attachments include the MBE subcontracting goal statement and instructions, and MBE Attachments D-1 through D-5. Attachment D-1 must be properly completed and submitted with the Offeror's Technical Proposal or the Proposal will be deemed not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award and rejected. Within ten (10) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for Contract award, the Offeror must submit Attachments D-2 and D-3A/B.

ATTACHMENTS E – Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Forms

Not required.

ATTACHMENT F – Maryland Living Wage Requirements for Service Contracts and Affidavit of Agreement

Attachment F-1 Living Wage Affidavit of Agreement must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT G – Federal Funds Attachment

Not required.

ATTACHMENT H – Conflict of Interest Affidavit and Disclosure

If required (see RFP Section 4.30), this Attachment must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT I – Non-Disclosure Agreement

Not required.

ATTACHMENT J – HIPAA Business Associate Agreement

Not required.

ATTACHMENT K – Mercury Affidavit

Not required.

ATTACHMENT L – Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure

Not required.

ATTACHMENT M – Contract

This is the sample contract used by the Board. It is provided with the RFP for informational purposes and is not required to be submitted at Proposal submission time. Upon notification of recommendation for award, a completed contract will be sent to the recommended awardee for signature. The recommended awardee must return to the Procurement Officer three (3) executed copies of the Contract within five (5) Business Days after receipt. Upon Contract award, a fully-executed copy will be sent to the Contractor.

ATTACHMENT N – Contract Affidavit

This Attachment must be completed and submitted by the recommended awardee to the Procurement Officer within five (5) Business Days of receiving notification of recommendation for award.

ATTACHMENT O – Department of Human Resources (DHR) Hiring Agreement

Not required.

ATTACHMENT P – MSRP Statement of Investment Policy

ATTACHMENT Q – Quarterly MSRP Investment Performance Report

ATTACHMENT R – MSRP Biennial Report

ATTACHMENT A – PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE RESPONSE FORM

**Solicitation Number G50R740001
INVESTMENT AND DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN CONSULTING SERVICES**

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at the date, time, and location indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors).

Please return this form at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Pre-Proposal Conference date, advising whether or not you plan to attend. The completed form should be returned via e-mail or fax to the Procurement Officer. The Procurement Officer’s contact information is provided in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet.

Please indicate:

_____ Yes, the following representatives will be in attendance:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

_____ No, we will not be in attendance.

Please specify whether any reasonable accommodations are requested (see RFP § 4.1 “Pre-Proposal Conference”):

Signature

Title

Name of Firm (please print)

B-1: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

In order to assist Offerors in the preparation of their Financial Proposal and to comply with the requirements of this solicitation, Financial Proposal Instructions and a Financial Proposal Form have been prepared. Offerors shall submit their Financial Proposal on the Financial Proposal Form in accordance with the instructions on the Financial Proposal Form and as specified herein. Do not alter the Financial Proposal Form or the Proposal may be determined to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. The Financial Proposal Form is to be signed and dated, where requested, by an individual who is authorized to bind the Offeror to the prices entered on the Financial Proposal Form.

The Financial Proposal Form is used to calculate the Offeror's TOTAL PROPOSAL PRICE. Follow these instructions carefully when completing your Financial Proposal Form:

- A) All Unit and Extended Prices must be clearly entered in dollars and cents, e.g., \$24.15. Make your decimal points clear and distinct.
- B) All Unit Prices must be the actual price per unit the State will pay for the specific item or service identified in this RFP and may not be contingent on any other factor or condition in any manner.
- C) All calculations shall be rounded to the nearest cent, i.e., .344 shall be .34 and .345 shall be .35.
- D) Any goods or services required through this RFP and proposed by the vendor at **No Cost to the State** must be clearly entered in the Unit Price, if appropriate, and Extended Price with **\$0.00**.
- E) Every blank in every Financial Proposal Form shall be filled in. Any changes or corrections made to the Financial Proposal Form by the Offeror prior to submission shall be initialed and dated.
- F) Except as instructed on the Financial Proposal Form, nothing shall be entered on or attached to the Financial Proposal Form that alters or proposes conditions or contingencies on the prices. Alterations and/or conditions may render the Proposal not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.
- G) It is imperative that the prices included on the Financial Proposal Form have been entered correctly and calculated accurately by the Offeror and that the respective total prices agree with the entries on the Financial Proposal Form. Any incorrect entries or inaccurate calculations by the Offeror will be treated as provided in COMAR 21.05.03.03, and may cause the Proposal to be rejected.
- H) All Financial Proposal prices entered below are to be fully loaded prices that include all costs/expenses associated with the provision of services as required by the RFP. The Financial Proposal price shall include, but is not limited to, all: labor, profit/overhead, general operating, administrative, travel costs and all other expenses and costs necessary to perform the work set forth in the solicitation. No other amounts will be paid to the Contractor. If labor rates are requested, those amounts shall be fully-loaded rates; no overtime amounts will be paid.
- I) Failure to adhere to any of these instructions may result in the Proposal being determined not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

MSRP Board of Trustees
RFP: Investment and Defined Contribution Plans Consulting Services
B-2: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL FORM

The Financial Proposal Form shall contain all price information in the format specified on these pages. Complete the Financial Proposal Form only as provided in the Financial Proposal Instructions. Do not amend, alter or leave blank any items on the Financial Proposal Form. Failure to adhere to any of these instructions may result in the Proposal being determined not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. For each Contract year, please enter the proposed "A. Monthly Price" and then select the entire table and press F9.

| Contract years ending in | A. Monthly Price | B. Yearly Price (Monthly Price X 12) |
|--|-------------------------|---|
| 2018 | | \$ 0.00 |
| 2019 | | \$ 0.00 |
| 2020 | | \$ 0.00 |
| 2021 | | \$ 0.00 |
| 2022 | | \$ 0.00 |
| Five-Year Total Proposal Price (Total Column B) | | \$0.00 |

Submitted By: _____
 Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name and Title: _____

Offeror Name : _____

Offeror Address: _____

Location(s) from which services will be performed (City/State): _____

FEIN: _____ eMM # _____

Contact Information of Above Authorized Signatory: Telephone: (____) ____-- _____

Fax: (____) ____-- _____

E-mail: _____

ATTACHMENT C – PROPOSAL AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORITY

I hereby affirm that I, _____ (name of affiant) am the _____ (title) and duly authorized representative of _____ (name of business entity) and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidavit on behalf of the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION REGARDING COMMERCIAL NONDISCRIMINATION

The undersigned Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that the following information is correct: In preparing its Proposal on this project, the Offeror has considered all Proposals submitted from qualified, potential subcontractors and suppliers, and has not engaged in “discrimination” as defined in § 19-103 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. “Discrimination” means any disadvantage, difference, distinction, or preference in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of a vendor, subcontractor, or commercial customer on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, sexual identity, or on the basis of disability or any otherwise unlawful use of characteristics regarding the vendor’s, supplier’s, or commercial customer’s employees or owners. “Discrimination” also includes retaliating against any person or other entity for reporting any incident of “discrimination”. Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation on this project, it is understood that, if the certification is false, such false certification constitutes grounds for the State to reject the Proposal submitted by the Offeror on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the Proposal. As part of its Proposal, the Offeror herewith submits a list of all instances within the past four (4) years where there has been a final adjudicated determination in a legal or administrative proceeding in the State of Maryland that the Offeror discriminated against subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, and a description of the status or resolution of that determination, including any remedial action taken. Offeror agrees to comply in all respects with the State’s Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as described under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

B-1. CERTIFICATION REGARDING MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

The undersigned Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that it has fully complied with the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, State Finance and Procurement Article, § 14-308(a)(2), Annotated Code of Maryland, which provides that, except as otherwise provided by law, a contractor may not identify a certified minority business enterprise in a Proposal and:

- (1) Fail to request, receive, or otherwise obtain authorization from the certified minority business enterprise to identify the certified minority Proposal;
- (2) Fail to notify the certified minority business enterprise before execution of the contract of its inclusion in the Proposal;
- (3) Fail to use the certified minority business enterprise in the performance of the contract; or
- (4) Pay the certified minority business enterprise solely for the use of its name in the Proposal.

Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation on this project, it is understood that if the certification is false, such false certification constitutes grounds for the State to reject the Proposal submitted by the Offeror on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the Proposal.

B-2. CERTIFICATION REGARDING VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

The undersigned Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that it has fully complied with the State veteran-owned small business enterprise law, State Finance and Procurement Article, § 14-605, Annotated Code of Maryland, which provides that a person may not:

- (1) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, or aid another person in fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain public money, procurement contracts, or funds expended under a procurement contract to which the person is not entitled under this title;

- (2) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently represent participation of a veteran-owned small business enterprise in order to obtain or retain a Proposal preference or a procurement contract;
- (3) Willfully and knowingly make or subscribe to any statement, declaration, or other document that is fraudulent or false as to any material matter, whether or not that falsity or fraud is committed with the knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to present the declaration, statement, or document;
- (4) Willfully and knowingly aid, assist in, procure, counsel, or advise the preparation or presentation of a declaration, statement, or other document that is fraudulent or false as to any material matter, regardless of whether that falsity or fraud is committed with the knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to present the declaration, statement, or document;
- (5) Willfully and knowingly fail to file any declaration or notice with the unit that is required by COMAR 21.11.13; or
- (6) Establish, knowingly aid in the establishment of, or exercise control over a business found to have violated a provision of § B-2(1)-(5) of this regulation.

C. AFFIRMATION REGARDING BRIBERY CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business (as is defined in Section 16-101(b) of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland), or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies has been convicted of, or has had probation before judgment imposed pursuant to Criminal Procedure Article, § 6-220, Annotated Code of Maryland, or has pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of, bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe in violation of Maryland law, or of the law of any other state or federal law, except as follows (indicate the reasons why the affirmation cannot be given and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of person(s) involved, and their current positions and responsibilities with the business):

D. AFFIRMATION REGARDING OTHER CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has:

- (1) Been convicted under state or federal statute of:
 - (a) A criminal offense incident to obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public or private contract; or
 - (b) Fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records or receiving stolen property;
- (2) Been convicted of any criminal violation of a state or federal antitrust statute;
- (3) Been convicted under the provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code for violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1961 et seq., or the Mail Fraud Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1341 et seq., for acts in connection with the submission of Proposals for a public or private contract;
- (4) Been convicted of a violation of the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, § 14-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;

- (5) Been convicted of a violation of § 11-205.1 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (6) Been convicted of conspiracy to commit any act or omission that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in subsections (1)—(5) above;
- (7) Been found civilly liable under a state or federal antitrust statute for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of Proposals for a public or private contract;
- (8) Been found in a final adjudicated decision to have violated the Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland with regard to a public or private contract;
- (9) Been convicted of a violation of one or more of the following provisions of the Internal Revenue Code:
- (a) §7201, Attempt to Evade or Defeat Tax;
 - (b) §7203, Willful Failure to File Return, Supply Information, or Pay Tax,
 - (c) §7205, Fraudulent Withholding Exemption Certificate or Failure to Supply Information,
 - (d) §7206, Fraud and False Statements, or
 - (e) §7207, Fraudulent Returns, Statements, or Other Documents;
- (10) Been convicted of a violation of 18 U.S.C. §286, Conspiracy to Defraud the Government with Respect to Claims, 18 U.S.C. §287, False, Fictitious, or Fraudulent Claims, or 18 U.S.C. §371, Conspiracy to Defraud the United States;
- (11) Been convicted of a violation of the Tax-General Article, Title 13, Subtitle 7 or Subtitle 10, Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (12) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated State Prevailing Wage Laws as provided in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 17, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
- (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:
 - (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review;
- (13) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated State Living Wage Laws as provided in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
- (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:
 - (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review;
- (14) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated the Labor and Employment Article, Title 3, Subtitles 3, 4, or 5, or Title 5, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
- (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:

- (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act; and
- (ii) Not overturned on judicial review; or

(15) Admitted in writing or under oath, during the course of an official investigation or other proceedings, acts or omissions that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in §§ B and C and subsections D(1)—(14) above, except as follows (indicate reasons why the affirmations cannot be given, and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, and the status of any debarment):

E. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business’s contracting activities, including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has ever been suspended or debarred (including being issued a limited denial of participation) by any public entity, except as follows (list each debarment or suspension providing the dates of the suspension or debarment, the name of the public entity and the status of the proceedings, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, the grounds of the debarment or suspension, and the details of each person’s involvement in any activity that formed the grounds of the debarment or suspension).

F. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

(1) The business was not established and does not operate in a manner designed to evade the application of or defeat the purpose of debarment pursuant to Sections 16-101, et seq., of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and

(2) The business is not a successor, assignee, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business, except as follows (you must indicate the reasons why the affirmations cannot be given without qualification):

G. SUBCONTRACT AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, has knowingly entered into a contract with a public body under which a person debarred or suspended under Title 16 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services, architectural services, construction related services, leases of real property, or construction.

H. AFFIRMATION REGARDING COLLUSION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business has:

- (1) Agreed, conspired, connived, or colluded to produce a deceptive show of competition in the compilation of the accompanying Proposal that is being submitted; or
- (2) In any manner, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement of any kind to fix the Proposal price of the Offeror or of any competitor, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the contract for which the accompanying Proposal is submitted.

I. CERTIFICATION OF TAX PAYMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Except as validly contested, the business has paid, or has arranged for payment of, all taxes due the State of Maryland and has filed all required returns and reports with the Comptroller of the Treasury, State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, as applicable, and will have paid all withholding taxes due the State of Maryland prior to final settlement.

J. CONTINGENT FEES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency working for the business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of the Contract.

K. CERTIFICATION REGARDING INVESTMENTS IN IRAN

(1) The undersigned certifies that, in accordance with State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-705, Annotated Code of Maryland:

- (a) It is not identified on the list created by the Board of Public Works as a person engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-702, Annotated Code of Maryland; and
- (b) It is not engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-702, Annotated Code of Maryland.

2. The undersigned is unable to make the above certification regarding its investment activities in Iran due to the following activities: _____

L. CONFLICT MINERALS ORIGINATED IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (FOR SUPPLIES AND SERVICES CONTRACTS)

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has complied with the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §14-413, Annotated Code of Maryland governing proper disclosure of certain information regarding conflict minerals originating in the Democratic Republic of Congo or its neighboring countries as required by federal law.

M. I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Any claims of environmental attributes made relating to a product or service included in the Proposal are consistent with the Federal Trade Commission’s Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims as provided in 16 C.F.R. §260, that apply to claims about the environmental attributes of a product, package, or service in connection with the marketing, offering for sale, or sale of such item or service.

N. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Procurement Officer and may be distributed to units of: (1) the State of Maryland; (2) counties or other subdivisions of the State of Maryland; (3) other states; and (4) the federal government. I further acknowledge that this Affidavit is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, both criminal and civil, and that nothing in this Affidavit or any contract resulting from the submission of this Proposal shall be construed to supersede, amend, modify or waive, on behalf of the State of Maryland, or any unit of the State of Maryland having jurisdiction, the exercise of any statutory right or remedy conferred by the Constitution and the laws of Maryland with respect to any misrepresentation made or any violation of the obligations, terms and covenants undertaken by the above business with respect to (1) this Affidavit, (2) the contract, and (3) other Affidavits comprising part of the contract.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____

By: _____ (print name of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

_____ (signature of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH PROPOSAL

ATTACHMENTS D – MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE FORMS

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1A MBE UTILIZATION AND FAIR SOLICITATION AFFIDAVIT & MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE - INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THIS DOCUMENT

This form includes Instructions and the MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit & MBE Participation Schedule which must be submitted with the Proposal. If the Offeror fails to accurately complete and submit this Affidavit and Schedule with the Proposal as required, the Procurement Officer shall determine that the Proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

1. Contractor shall structure its procedures for the performance of the work required in this Contract to attempt to achieve the minority business enterprise (MBE) subcontractor participation goal stated in the Request for Proposals. Contractor agrees to exercise good faith efforts to carry out the requirements set forth in these Instructions, as authorized by the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 21.11.03.
2. MBE Goals and Subgoals: Please review the solicitation for information regarding the Contract's MBE overall participation goals and subgoals. After satisfying the requirements for any established subgoals, the Contractor is encouraged to use a diverse group of subcontractors and suppliers from any/all of the various MBE classifications to meet the remainder of the overall MBE participation goal.
3. MBE means a minority business enterprise that is certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation ("MDOT"). Only MBEs certified by MDOT may be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. In order to be counted for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals, the MBE firm, including an MBE Prime, must be MDOT-certified for the services, materials or supplies that it is committed to perform on the MBE Participation Schedule.
4. Please refer to the MDOT MBE Directory at www.mdot.state.md.us to determine if a firm is certified with the appropriate North American Industry Classification System ("NAICS") Code **and** the product/services description (specific product that a firm is certified to provide or specific areas of work that a firm is certified to perform). For more general information about NAICS, please visit www.naics.com. Only those specific products and/or services for which a firm is certified in the MDOT Directory can be used for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. **WARNING:** If the firm's NAICS Code is in **graduated status**, such services/products **may not be counted** for purposes of achieving the MBE participation goals. A NAICS Code is in the graduated status if the term "Graduated" follows the Code in the MDOT MBE Directory.
5. **Guidelines Regarding MBE Prime Self-Performance:** Please note that when a certified MBE firm participates as a Prime contractor on a Contract, a procurement agency may count the distinct, clearly defined portion of the work of the Contract that the certified MBE firm performs with its own workforce toward fulfilling up to, but no more than, fifty-percent (50%) of the MBE participation goal (overall), including up to one hundred percent (100%) of not more than one of the MBE participation subgoals, if any, established for the Contract.
 - ✓ In order to receive credit for self-performance, an MBE Prime must be certified in the appropriate NAICS code to do the work and must list its firm in the MBE Participation Schedule, including the certification category under which the MBE Prime is self-performing and include information regarding the work it will self-perform.
 - ✓ For the remaining portion of the overall goal and the remaining subgoals, the MBE Prime must also identify on the MBE Participation Schedule the other certified MBE subcontractors used to meet those goals or request a waiver.

- ✓ These guidelines apply to the work performed by the MBE Prime that can be counted for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals. These requirements do not affect the MBE Prime’s ability to self-perform a greater portion of the work in excess of what is counted for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals.
 - ✓ Please note that the requirements to meet the MBE participation overall goal and subgoals are distinct and separate. If the Contract has subgoals, regardless of MBE Prime’s ability to self-perform up to 50% of the overall goal (including up to 100% of any subgoal), the MBE Prime must either commit to other MBEs for each of any remaining subgoals or request a waiver. As set forth in **Attachment D1-B Waiver Guidance**, the MBE Prime’s ability to self-perform certain portions of the work of the Contract will not be deemed a substitute for the good faith efforts to meet any remaining subgoal or the balance of the overall goal.
 - ✓ In certain instances where the percentages allocated to MBE participation subgoals add up to more than 50% of the overall goal, the portion of self-performed work that an MBE Prime may count toward the overall goal may be limited to less than 50%. Please refer to GOMA’s website (www.goma.maryland.gov) for the MBE Prime Regulations Q&A for illustrative examples.
6. Subject to items 1 through 5 above, when a certified MBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, a procurement agency may count a portion of the total dollar value of the Contract equal to the distinct, clearly-defined portion of the work of the Contract that the certified MBE performs with its own workforce towards fulfilling the Contract goal, and not more than one of the Contract subgoals, if any.
 7. As set forth in COMAR 21.11.03.12-1, once the Contract work begins, the work performed by a certified MBE firm, including an MBE prime, can only be counted towards the MBE participation goal(s) if the MBE firm is performing a commercially useful function on the Contract. Please refer to COMAR 21.11.03.12-1 for more information regarding these requirements.
 8. If you have any questions as to whether a firm is certified to perform the specific services or provide specific products, please contact MDOT’s Office of Minority Business Enterprise at 1-800-544-6056 or via email to mbe@mdot.state.md.us sufficiently prior to the submission due date.
 9. Worksheet: The percentage of MBE participation, calculated using the percentage amounts for all of the MBE firms listed on the Participation Schedule **MUST** at least equal the MBE participation goal **and** subgoals (if applicable) set forth in the solicitation. If a Offeror is unable to achieve the MBE participation goal and/or any subgoals (if applicable), the Offeror must request a waiver in Item 1 of the MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit (**Attachment D-1A**) or the Proposal will be determined to be not susceptible of being selected for award. You may wish to use the Subgoal summary below to assist in calculating the percentages and confirm that you have met the applicable MBE participation goal and subgoals, if any.

SUBGOALS (IF APPLICABLE)

TOTAL AFRICAN AMERICAN MBE PARTICIPATION: _____ %
TOTAL ASIAN AMERICAN MBE PARTICIPATION: _____ %
TOTAL HISPANIC AMERICAN MBE PARTICIPATION: _____ %
TOTAL WOMEN-OWNED MBE PARTICIPATION: _____ %

OVERALL GOAL

TOTAL MBE PARTICIPATION (INCLUDE ALL CATEGORIES): _____ %

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1A
MBE UTILIZATION AND FAIR SOLICITATION AFFIDAVIT
& MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

This MBE Utilization and Fair Solicitation Affidavit and MBE Participation Schedule must be completed in its entirety and included with the Proposal. If the Offeror fails to accurately complete and submit this Affidavit and Schedule with the Proposal as required, the Procurement Officer shall determine that the Proposal is not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

In connection with the Proposal submitted in response to Solicitation No. G50R7400001, I affirm the following:

1. **MBE Participation (PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE)** (Agency should insert the participation goal and subgoal amounts from the PRG and Subgoal Worksheet in the blanks below, delete any of the subgoals that do not apply to this solicitation, and then delete this sentence of instruction.)

I acknowledge and intend to meet IN FULL both the overall certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation goal of 5 percent and all of the following subgoals:

N/A percent for African American-owned MBE firms

N/A percent for Hispanic American-owned MBE firms

N/A percent for Asian American-owned MBE firms

N/A percent for Women-owned MBE firms

Therefore, I am not seeking a waiver pursuant to COMAR 21.11.03.11. I acknowledge that by checking the above box and agreeing to meet the stated goal and subgoal(s), if any, I must complete the MBE Participation Schedule (Item 4 below) in order to be considered for award.

OR

I conclude that I am unable to achieve the MBE participation goal and/or subgoals. I hereby request a waiver, in whole or in part, of the overall goal and/or subgoals. I acknowledge that by checking this box and requesting a partial waiver of the stated goal and/or one or more of the stated subgoal(s) if any, I must complete the MBE Participation Schedule (Item 4 below) for the portion of the goal and/or subgoal(s) if any, for which I am not seeking a waiver, in order to be considered for award.

2. **Additional MBE Documentation**

I understand that if I am notified that I am the apparent awardee or as requested by the Procurement Officer, I must submit the following documentation within 10 Business Days of receiving notice of the potential award or from the date of conditional award (per COMAR 21.11.03.10), whichever is earlier:

- (b) Good Faith Efforts Documentation to Support Waiver Request (**Attachment D-1C**)
- (c) Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement (**Attachment D-2**);
- (d) MBE Subcontractor/MBE Prime Project Participation Statement (**Attachments D-3A/B**);

- (e) Any other documentation, including additional waiver documentation if applicable, required by the Procurement Officer in connection with the certified MBE participation goal and subgoals, if any.

I understand that if I fail to return each completed document within the required time, the Procurement Officer may determine that my proposal is not is not susceptible of being selected for contract award. If the Contract has already been awarded, the award is voidable.

3. Information Provided to MBE firms

In the solicitation of subcontract quotations or offers, MBE firms were provided not less than the same information and amount of time to respond as were non-MBE firms.

4. MBE Participation Schedule

Set forth below are the (i) certified MBEs I intend to use, (ii) percentage of the total Contract amount allocated to each MBE for this project and (iii) items of work each MBE will provide under the Contract. I have confirmed with the MDOT database that the MBE firms identified below (including any self-performing MBE prime firms) are performing work activities for which they are MDOT-certified.

| Prime Contractor | Project Description | PROJECT/CONTRACT NUMBER |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | | |

LIST INFORMATION FOR EACH CERTIFIED MBE FIRM YOU AGREE TO USE TO ACHIEVE THE MBE PARTICIPATION GOAL AND SUBGOALS, IF ANY. **MBE PRIMES:** PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SECTIONS A AND B BELOW.

SECTION A: For MBE Prime Contractors ONLY (including MBE Primes in a Joint Venture)

| | |
|--|--|
| MBE Prime Firm Name: _____ MBE Certification Number: _____ (If dually certified, check only one box.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification | Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the MBE overall participation goal (up to 50% of the overall goal): _____% Percentage of total Contract Value to be performed with own forces and counted towards the subgoal, if any, for my MBE classification (up to 100% of not more than one subgoal): _____% Description of the Work to be performed with MBE prime’s own workforce: _____ _____ |
|--|--|

SECTION B: For all Contractors (including MBE Primes and MBE Primes in a Joint Venture)

| | |
|--|---|
| MBE Firm Name: _____ MBE Certification Number: _____ (If dually certified, check only one box.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification | Percentage of Total Contract to be provided by this MBE: _____% Description of the Work to be Performed: _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>MBE Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification</p> | <p>Percentage of Total Contract to be provided by this MBE: _____%</p> <p>Description of the Work to be Performed:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>MBE Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification</p> | <p>Percentage of Total Contract to be provided by this MBE: _____%</p> <p>Description of the Work to be Performed:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>MBE Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification</p> | <p>Percentage of Total Contract to be provided by this MBE: _____%</p> <p>Description of the Work to be Performed:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>MBE Firm Name: _____</p> <p>MBE Certification Number: _____</p> <p>(If dually certified, check only one box.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification</p> | <p>Percentage of Total Contract to be provided by this MBE: _____%</p> <p>Description of the Work to be Performed:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |

(Continue on separate page if needed)

I solemnly affirm under the penalties of perjury that: (i) I have reviewed the instructions for the MBE Utilization & Fair Solicitation Affidavit and MBE Schedule, and (ii) the information contained in the MBE Utilization & Fair Solicitation Affidavit and MBE Schedule is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Offeror Name
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Signature of Authorized Representative

Address

Printed Name and Title

City, State and Zip Code

Date

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH PROPOSAL

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1B **WAIVER GUIDANCE**

GUIDANCE FOR DOCUMENTING GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO MEET MBE PARTICIPATION GOALS

In order to show that it has made good faith efforts to meet the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation goal (including any MBE subgoals) on a contract, the Offeror must either (1) meet the MBE Goal(s) and document its commitments for participation of MBE Firms, or (2) when it does not meet the MBE Goal(s), document its Good Faith Efforts to meet the goal(s).

I. Definitions

MBE Goal(s) – “MBE Goal(s)” refers to the MBE participation goal and MBE participation subgoal(s).

Good Faith Efforts – The “Good Faith Efforts” requirement means that when requesting a waiver, the Offeror must demonstrate that it took all necessary and reasonable steps to achieve the MBE Goal(s), which, by their scope, intensity, and appropriateness to the objective, could reasonably be expected to obtain sufficient MBE participation, even if those steps were not fully successful. Whether a Offeror that requests a waiver made adequate good faith efforts will be determined by considering the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts that the Offeror has made. The efforts employed by the Offeror should be those that one could reasonably expect a Offeror to take if the Offeror were actively and aggressively trying to obtain MBE participation sufficient to meet the MBE contract goal and subgoals. Mere *pro forma* efforts are not good faith efforts to meet the MBE contract requirements. The determination concerning the sufficiency of the Offeror’s good faith efforts is a judgment call; meeting quantitative formulas is not required.

Identified Firms – “Identified Firms” means a list of the MBEs identified by the procuring agency during the goal setting process and listed in the procurement as available to perform the Identified Items of Work. It also may include additional MBEs identified by the Offeror as available to perform the Identified Items of Work, such as MBEs certified or granted an expansion of services after the procurement was issued. If the procurement does not include a list of Identified Firms, this term refers to all of the MBE Firms (if State-funded) the Offeror identified as available to perform the Identified Items of Work and should include all appropriately certified firms that are reasonably identifiable.

Identified Items of Work – “Identified Items of Work” means the Proposal items identified by the procuring agency during the goal setting process and listed in the procurement as possible items of work for performance by MBE Firms. It also may include additional portions of items of work the Offeror identified for performance by MBE Firms to increase the likelihood that the MBE Goal(s) will be achieved. If the procurement does not include a list of Identified Items of Work, this term refers to all of the items of work the Offeror identified as possible items of work for performance by MBE Firms and should include all reasonably identifiable work opportunities.

MBE Firms – “MBE Firms” refers to firms certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation (“MDOT”) under COMAR 21.11.03. Only MDOT-certified MBE Firms can participate in the State’s MBE Program.

II. Types of Actions Agency will Consider

The Offeror is responsible for making relevant portions of the work available to MBE subcontractors and suppliers and select those portions of the work or material needs consistent with the available MBE subcontractors and suppliers, so as to facilitate MBE participation. The following is a list of types of actions the procuring agency will consider as part of the Offeror's Good Faith Efforts when the Offeror fails to meet the MBE Goal(s). This list is not intended to be a mandatory checklist, nor is it intended to be exclusive or exhaustive. Other factors or types of efforts may be relevant in appropriate cases.

A. Identify Proposal Items as Work for MBE Firms

1. Identified Items of Work in Procurements
 - (a) Certain procurements will include a list of Proposal items identified during the goal setting process as possible work for performance by MBE Firms. If the procurement provides a list of Identified Items of Work, the Offeror shall make all reasonable efforts to solicit quotes from MBE Firms to perform that work.
 - (b) Offerors may, and are encouraged to, select additional items of work to be performed by MBE Firms to increase the likelihood that the MBE Goal(s) will be achieved.
2. Identified Items of Work by Offerors
 - (a) When the procurement does not include a list of Identified Items of Work or for additional Identified Items of Work, Offerors should reasonably identify sufficient items of work to be performed by MBE Firms.
 - (b) Where appropriate, Offerors should break out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate MBE participation, rather than perform these work items with their own forces. The ability or desire of a Prime contractor to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the Offeror of the responsibility to make Good Faith Efforts.

B. Identify MBE Firms to Solicit

1. MBE Firms Identified in Procurements
 - (a) Certain procurements will include a list of the MBE Firms identified during the goal setting process as available to perform the items of work. If the procurement provides a list of Identified MBE Firms, the Offeror shall make all reasonable efforts to solicit those MBE firms.
 - (b) Offerors may, and are encouraged to, search the MBE Directory to identify additional MBEs who may be available to perform the items of work, such as MBEs certified or granted an expansion of services after the solicitation was issued.
2. MBE Firms Identified by Offerors
 - (a) When the procurement does not include a list of Identified MBE Firms, Offerors should reasonably identify the MBE Firms that are available to perform the Identified Items of Work.
 - (b) Any MBE Firms identified as available by the Offeror should be certified to perform the Identified Items of Work.

C. Solicit MBEs

1. Solicit all Identified Firms for all Identified Items of Work by providing written notice. The Offeror should:
 - (a) provide the written solicitation at least 10 days prior to Proposal opening to allow sufficient time for the MBE Firms to respond;
 - (b) send the written solicitation by first-class mail, facsimile, or email using contact information in the MBE Directory, unless the Offeror has a valid basis for using different contact information; and
 - (c) provide adequate information about the plans, specifications, anticipated time schedule for portions of the work to be performed by the MBE, and other requirements of the contract to assist MBE Firms in responding. (This information may be provided by including hard copies in the written solicitation or by electronic means as described in C.3 below.)

2. “All” Identified Firms includes the MBEs listed in the procurement and any MBE Firms you identify as potentially available to perform the Identified Items of Work, but it does not include MBE Firms who are no longer certified to perform the work as of the date the Offeror provides written solicitations.
3. “Electronic Means” includes, for example, information provided *via* a website or file transfer protocol (FTP) site containing the plans, specifications, and other requirements of the contract. If an interested MBE cannot access the information provided by electronic means, the Offeror must make the information available in a manner that is accessible to the interested MBE.
4. Follow up on initial written solicitations by contacting MBEs to determine if they are interested. The follow up contact may be made:
 - (a) by telephone using the contact information in the MBE Directory, unless the Offeror has a valid basis for using different contact information; or
 - (b) in writing *via* a method that differs from the method used for the initial written solicitation.
5. In addition to the written solicitation set forth in C.1 and the follow up required in C.4, use all other reasonable and available means to solicit the interest of MBE Firms certified to perform the work of the contract. Examples of other means include:
 - (a) attending any pre-proposal meetings at which MBE Firms could be informed of contracting and subcontracting opportunities; and
 - (b) if recommended by the procurement, advertising with or effectively using the services of at least two minority focused entities or media, including trade associations, minority/women community organizations, minority/women contractors’ groups, and local, state, and federal minority/women business assistance offices listed on the MDOT Office of Minority Business Enterprise website.

D. Negotiate With Interested MBE Firms

Offerors must negotiate in good faith with interested MBE Firms.

1. Evidence of negotiation includes, without limitation, the following:
 - (a) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBE Firms that were considered;
 - (b) a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for subcontracting and the means used to provide that information; and
 - (c) evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for MBE Firms to perform the work.
2. An Offeror using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including MBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as contract goals into consideration.
3. The fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using MBE Firms is not in itself sufficient reason for a Offeror’s failure to meet the contract MBE goal(s), as long as such costs are reasonable. Factors to take into consideration when determining whether an MBE Firm’s quote is excessive or unreasonable include, without limitation, the following:
 - (a) dollar difference between the MBE subcontractor’s quote and the average of the other subcontractors’ quotes received by the Offeror;
 - (b) percentage difference between the MBE subcontractor’s quote and the average of the other subcontractors’ quotes received by the Offeror;
 - (c) percentage that the MBE subcontractor’s quote represents of the overall contract amount;
 - (d) number of MBE firms that the Offeror solicited for that portion of the work;
 - (e) whether the work described in the MBE and Non-MBE subcontractor quotes (or portions thereof) submitted for review is the same or comparable; and
 - (f) number of quotes received by the Offeror for that portion of the work.

4. The above factors are not intended to be mandatory, exclusive, or exhaustive, and other evidence of an excessive or unreasonable price may be relevant.
5. The Offeror may not use its price for self-performing work as a basis for rejecting an MBE Firm's quote as excessive or unreasonable.
6. The "average of the other subcontractors' quotes received" by the Offeror refers to the average of the quotes received from all subcontractors. Offeror should attempt to receive quotes from at least three subcontractors, including one quote from an MBE and one quote from a Non-MBE.
7. An Offeror shall not reject an MBE Firm as unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of the firm's capabilities. For each certified MBE that is rejected as unqualified or that placed a subcontract quotation or offer that the Offeror concludes is not acceptable, the Offeror must provide a written detailed statement listing the reasons for this conclusion. The Offeror also must document the steps taken to verify the capabilities of the MBE and Non-MBE Firms quoting similar work.
 - (a) The factors to take into consideration when assessing the capabilities of an MBE Firm, include, but are not limited to the following: financial capability, physical capacity to perform, available personnel and equipment, existing workload, experience performing the type of work, conduct and performance in previous contracts, and ability to meet reasonable contract requirements.
 - (b) The MBE Firm's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associations and political or social affiliations (for example union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the efforts to meet the project goal.

E. Assisting Interested MBE Firms

When appropriate under the circumstances, the decision-maker will consider whether the Offeror made reasonable efforts to assist interested MBR Firms in obtaining:

1. The bonding, lines of credit, or insurance required by the procuring agency or the Offeror; and
2. Necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.

III. Other Considerations

In making a determination of Good Faith Efforts the decision-maker may consider engineering estimates, catalogue prices, general market availability and availability of certified MBE Firms in the area in which the work is to be performed, other bids or offers and subcontract bids or offers substantiating significant variances between certified MBE and Non-MBE costs of participation, and their impact on the overall cost of the contract to the State and any other relevant factors.

The decision-maker may take into account whether an Offeror decided to self-perform subcontract work with its own forces, especially where the self-performed work is Identified Items of Work in the procurement. The decision-maker also may take into account the performance of other Offerors in meeting the contract. For example, when the apparent successful Offeror fails to meet the contract goal, but others meet it, this reasonably raises the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts, the apparent successful Offeror could have met the goal. If the apparent successful Offeror fails to meet the goal, but meets or exceeds the average MBE participation obtained by other Offerors, this, when viewed in conjunction with other factors, could be evidence of the apparent successful Offeror having made Good Faith Efforts.

IV. Documenting Good Faith Efforts

At a minimum, an Offeror seeking a waiver of the MBE Goal(s) or a portion thereof must provide written documentation of its Good Faith Efforts, in accordance with COMAR 21.11.03.11, within 10 business days after receiving notice that it is the apparent awardee. The written documentation shall include the following:

A. Items of Work (Complete Good Faith Efforts Documentation Attachment D-1C, Part 1)

A detailed statement of the efforts made to select portions of the work proposed to be performed by certified MBE Firms in order to increase the likelihood of achieving the stated MBE Goal(s).

B. Outreach/Solicitation/Negotiation

1. The record of the Offeror's compliance with the outreach efforts prescribed by COMAR 21.11.03.09C(2)(a). **(Complete Outreach Efforts Compliance Statement – Attachment D-2).**
2. A detailed statement of the efforts made to contact and negotiate with MBE Firms including:
 - (a) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the MBE Firms who were contacted, with the dates and manner of contacts (letter, fax, email, telephone, etc.) **(Complete Good Faith Efforts Attachment D-1C-Part 2, and submit letters, fax cover sheets, emails, etc. documenting solicitations);** and
 - (b) a description of the information provided to MBE Firms regarding the plans, specifications, and anticipated time schedule for portions of the work to be performed and the means used to provide that information.

C. Rejected MBE Firms (Complete Good Faith Efforts Attachment D-1C, Part 3)

1. For each MBE Firm that the Offeror concludes is not acceptable or qualified, a detailed statement of the reasons for the Offeror's conclusion, including the steps taken to verify the capabilities of the MBE and Non-MBE Firms quoting similar work.
2. For each certified MBE Firm that the Offeror concludes has provided an excessive or unreasonable price, a detailed statement of the reasons for the Offeror's conclusion, including the quotes received from all MBE and Non-MBE firms bidding on the same or comparable work. **(Include copies of all quotes received.)**
3. A list of MBE Firms contacted but found to be unavailable. This list should be accompanied by an MBE Unavailability Certificate (see **D-1B - Exhibit A** to this Part 1) signed by the MBE contractor or a statement from the Offeror that the MBE contractor refused to sign the MBE Unavailability Certificate.

D. Other Documentation

1. Submit any other documentation requested by the Procurement Officer to ascertain the Offeror's Good Faith Efforts.
2. Submit any other documentation the Offeror believes will help the Procurement Officer ascertain its Good Faith Efforts.

MBE ATTACHMENT D-1C
GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST

PAGE __ OF __

| Prime Contractor | Project Description | SOLICITATION NUMBER |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | |

PARTS 1, 2, AND 3 MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THIS CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH ALL DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING YOUR WAIVER REQUEST.

I affirm that I have reviewed **Attachment D-1B**, Waiver Guidance. I further affirm under penalties of perjury that the contents of Parts 1, 2, and 3 of this **Attachment D-1C** Good Faith Efforts Documentation Form are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

 Company Name

 Signature of Representative

 Address

 Printed Name and Title

 City, State and Zip Code

 Date

**GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION
TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST**

**PART 1 – IDENTIFIED ITEMS OF WORK OFFEROR MADE AVAILABLE TO MBE
FIRMS**

PAGE __ OF __

| Prime Contractor | Project Description | SOLICITATION NUMBER |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | |

Identify those items of work that the Offeror made available to MBE Firms. This includes, where appropriate, those items the Offeror identified and determined to subdivide into economically feasible units to facilitate the MBE participation. For each item listed, show the anticipated percentage of the total contract amount. It is the Offeror’s responsibility to demonstrate that sufficient work to meet the goal was made available to MBE Firms, and the total percentage of the items of work identified for MBE participation equals or exceeds the percentage MBE goal set for the procurement. Note: If the procurement includes a list of Proposal items identified during the goal setting process as possible items of work for performance by MBE Firms, the Offeror should make all of those items of work available to MBE Firms or explain why that item was not made available. If the Offeror selects additional items of work to make available to MBE Firms, those additional items should also be included below.

| Identified Items of Work | Was this work listed in the procurement? | Does Offeror normally self-perform this work? | Was this work made available to MBE Firms? If no, explain why? |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Please check if Additional Sheets are attached.

**GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION
TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST**

PART 2 – IDENTIFIED MBE FIRMS AND RECORD OF SOLICITATIONS

PAGE __ OF __

| Prime Contractor | Project Description | SOLICITATION NUMBER |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | |

Identify the MBE Firms solicited to provide quotes for the Identified Items of Work made available for MBE participation. Include the name of the MBE Firm solicited, items of work for which quotes were solicited, date and manner of initial and follow-up solicitations, whether the MBE provided a quote, and whether the MBE is being used to meet the MBE participation goal. MBE Firms used to meet the participation goal must be included on the MBE Participation Schedule. Note: If the procurement includes a list of the MBE Firms identified during the goal setting process as potentially available to perform the items of work, the Offeror should solicit all of those MBE Firms or explain why a specific MBE was not solicited. If the Offeror identifies additional MBE Firms who may be available to perform Identified Items of Work, those additional MBE Firms should also be included below. Copies of all written solicitations and documentation of follow-up calls to MBE Firms must be attached to this form. This list should be accompanied by a Minority Contractor Unavailability Certificate signed by the MBE contractor or a statement from the Offeror that the MBE contractor refused to sign the Minority Contractor Unavailability Certificate (see **Attachment D-1B – Exhibit A**). If the Offeror used a Non-MBE or is self-performing the identified items of work, Part 3 must be completed.

| Name of Identified MBE Firm & MBE Classification | Describe Item of Work Solicited | Initial Solicitation Date & Method | Follow-up Solicitation Date & Method | Details for Follow-up Calls | Quote Rec'd | Quote Used | Reason Quote Rejected |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| Firm Name: <hr/> MBE Classification (Check only if requesting waiver of MBE subgoal.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification | | Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email | Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email | Time of Call: Spoke With: <input type="checkbox"/> Left Message | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Used Other MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Used Non-MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing |
| Firm Name: <hr/> MBE Classification (Check only if requesting waiver of MBE subgoal.) <input type="checkbox"/> African American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Women-Owned <input type="checkbox"/> Other MBE Classification | | Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email | Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Email | Time of Call: Spoke With: <input type="checkbox"/> Left Message | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Used Other MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Used Non-MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing |

Please check if Additional Sheets are attached.

**GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION
TO SUPPORT WAIVER REQUEST**

PART 3 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING REJECTED MBE QUOTES

PAGE __ OF __

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Prime Contractor | Project Description | SOLICITATION NUMBER |
| | | |

This form must be completed if Part 2 indicates that an MBE quote was rejected because the Offeror is using a Non-MBE or is self-performing the Identified Items of Work. Provide the Identified Items Work, indicate whether the work will be self-performed or performed by a Non-MBE, and if applicable, state the name of the Non-MBE. Also include the names of all MBE and Non-MBE Firms that provided a quote and the amount of each quote.

| Describe Identified Items of Work Not Being Performed by MBE (Include spec/section number from Proposal) | Self-performing or Using Non-MBE (Provide name) | Amount of Non-MBE Quote | Name of Other Firms who Provided Quotes & Whether MBE or Non-MBE | Amount Quoted | Indicate Reason Why MBE Quote Rejected & Briefly Explain |
|---|--|--------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non-MBE _____ | \$ _____ - | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non-MBE | \$ _____ - | <input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non-MBE _____ | \$ _____ - | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE | \$ _____ - | <input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non-MBE _____ | \$ _____ - | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE | \$ _____ - | <input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non- MBE _____ | \$ _____ - | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE | \$ _____ - | <input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non- MBE _____ | \$ _____ - | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE | \$ _____ - | <input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-performing <input type="checkbox"/> Using Non- MBE _____ | \$ _____ - | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> Non- MBE | \$ _____ - | <input type="checkbox"/> Price <input type="checkbox"/> Capabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Please check if Additional Sheets are attached.

MBE ATTACHMENT D-2
OUTREACH EFFORTS COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Complete and submit this form within 10 Business Days of notification of apparent award or actual award, whichever is earlier.

In conjunction with the Proposal submitted in response to Solicitation No. _____, I state the following:

1. Offeror identified subcontracting opportunities in these specific work categories:

2. Attached to this form are copies of written solicitations (with bidding/proposal instructions) used to solicit certified MBE firms for these subcontract opportunities.

3. Offeror made the following attempts to personally contact the solicited MDOT-certified MBE firms:

4. **Please Check One:**

- This project does not involve bonding requirements.
- Offeror assisted MDOT-certified MBE firms to fulfill or seek waiver of bonding requirements. (DESCRIBE EFFORTS): _____

5. **Please Check One:**

- Offeror did attend the pre-proposal conference.
- No pre-Proposal meeting/conference was held.
- Offeror did not attend the pre-Proposal conference.

Company Name

Signature of Representative

Address

Printed Name and Title

City, State and Zip Code

Date

MBE ATTACHMENT D-3A
MBE SUBCONTRACTOR PROJECT PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT ONE FORM FOR EACH CERTIFIED MBE FIRM LISTED ON THE MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE (ATTACHMENT D-1A) WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF NOTIFICATION OF APPARENT AWARD. IF THE OFFEROR FAILS TO RETURN THIS AFFIDAVIT WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME, THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY DETERMINE THAT THE PROPOSAL IS NOT SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING SELECTED FOR CONTRACT AWARD.

Provided that _____ (Prime Contractor's Name) is awarded the State Contract in conjunction with Solicitation No. _____, such Prime Contractor intends to enter into a subcontract with _____ (Subcontractor's Name) committing to participation by the MBE firm _____ (MBE Name) with MDOT Certification Number _____ which will receive at least \$_____ which equals to ___% of the Total Contract Amount for performing the following products/services for the Contract:

| NAICS CODE | WORK ITEM, SPECIFICATION NUMBER, LINE ITEMS OR WORK CATEGORIES (IF APPLICABLE) | DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES |
|------------|--|--|
| | | |
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| | | |
| | | |

Each of the Contractor and Subcontractor acknowledges that, for purposes of determining the accuracy of the information provided herein, the Procurement Officer may request additional information, including, without limitation, copies of the subcontract agreements and quotes. Each of the Contractor and Subcontractor solemnly affirms under the penalties of perjury that: (i) the information provided in this MBE Subcontractor Project Participation Affidavit is true to the best of its knowledge, information and belief, and (ii) it has fully complied with the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, State Finance and Procurement Article §14-308(a)(2), Annotated Code of Maryland which provides that, except as otherwise provided by law, a contractor may not identify a certified minority business enterprise in a Proposal and:

- (1) fail to request, receive, or otherwise obtain authorization from the certified minority business enterprise to identify the certified Minority Business Enterprise in its Proposal;
- (2) fail to notify the certified Minority Business Enterprise before execution of the Contract of its inclusion of the Proposal;
- (3) fail to use the certified Minority Business Enterprise in the performance of the Contract; or
- (4) pay the certified Minority Business Enterprise solely for the use of its name in the Proposal.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>PRIME CONTRACTOR Signature of Representative: _____ Printed Name and Title: _____ Firm's Name: _____ Federal Identification Number: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: _____ Date: _____</p> | <p>SUBCONTRACTOR Signature of Representative: _____ Printed Name and Title: _____ Firm's Name: _____ Federal Identification Number: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: _____ Date: _____</p> |
|--|---|

MBE ATTACHMENT D-3B
MBE PRIME - PROJECT PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS FORM TO ATTEST EACH SPECIFIC ITEM OF WORK THAT YOUR MBE FIRM HAS LISTED ON THE MBE PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE (ATTACHMENT D-1A) FOR PURPOSES OF MEETING THE MBE PARTICIPATION GOALS. THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF NOTIFICATION OF APPARENT AWARD. IF THE OFFEROR FAILS TO RETURN THIS AFFIDAVIT WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME, THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY DETERMINE THAT THE THE PROPOSAL IS NOT SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING SELECTED FOR CONTRACT AWARD.

Provided that _____ (Prime Contractor's Name) with Certification Number _____ is awarded the State contract in conjunction with Solicitation No. _____, such MBE Prime Contractor intends to perform with its own forces at least \$_____ which equals to ___% of the Total Contract Amount for performing the following products/services for the Contract:

| NAICS CODE | WORK ITEM, SPECIFICATION NUMBER, LINE ITEMS OR WORK CATEGORIES (IF APPLICABLE). FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, GENERAL CONDITIONS MUST BE LISTED SEPARATELY. | DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES | VALUE OF THE WORK |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| | | | |
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|---|
| <p>MBE PRIME CONTRACTOR</p> <p>Signature of Representative: _____</p> <p>Printed Name and Title: _____</p> <p>Firm's Name: _____</p> <p>Federal Identification Number: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> |
|---|

MBE ATTACHMENT D-4A
Minority Business Enterprise Participation
MBE Prime Contractor Paid/Unpaid Invoice Report

| | |
|--|--|
| Report #: _____ Reporting Period (Month/Year): _____ Prime Contractor: Report is due to the MBE Liaison by the 10th of the month following the month the services were provided. Note: Please number reports in sequence | Contract #: _____ Contracting Unit: _____ Contract Amount: _____ MBE Subcontract Amt: _____ Project Begin Date: _____ Project End Date: _____ Services Provided: _____ |
|--|--|

| Prime Contractor: | | Contact Person: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----|--|--|----|--|--|----|--|--|----|--|--|-------------------------------|--|-------|--|--|--|------------------|---------------|----|--|--|----|--|--|----|--|--|----|--|--|---------------------------------|--|-------|
| Address: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City: | | State: | ZIP: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phone: | Fax: | E-mail: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MBE Subcontractor Name: | | Contact Person: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phone: | Fax: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Subcontractor Services Provided: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| List all payments made to MBE subcontractor named above during this reporting period: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice#</u></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total Dollars Paid: \$</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | <u>Invoice#</u> | <u>Amount</u> | 1. | | | 2. | | | 3. | | | 4. | | | Total Dollars Paid: \$ | | _____ | List dates and amounts of any outstanding invoices: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice #</u></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total Dollars Unpaid: \$</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | <u>Invoice #</u> | <u>Amount</u> | 1. | | | 2. | | | 3. | | | 4. | | | Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ | | _____ |
| | <u>Invoice#</u> | <u>Amount</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Total Dollars Paid: \$ | | _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Invoice #</u> | <u>Amount</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ | | _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

- If more than one MBE subcontractor is used for this contract, you must use separate D-4A forms for each subcontractor.
- Information regarding payments that the MBE prime will use for purposes of meeting the MBE participation goals must be reported separately in Attachment D-4B
- **Return one copy (hard or electronic) of this form to the following addresses (electronic copy with signature and date is preferred):**

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| Contract Monitor: _____ |
| Contracting Unit and Address: _____ |
| _____ |

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
 (Required)

MBE ATTACHMENT D-4B
Minority Business Enterprise Participation
MBE Prime Contractor Report

| | |
|--|--|
| MBE Prime Contractor: Certification Number: Report #: _____ Reporting Period (Month/Year): _____ MBE Prime Contractor: Report is due to the MBE Liaison by the ___ of the month following the month the services were provided. Note: Please number reports in sequence | Contract #: _____ Contracting Unit: _____ Contract Amount: _____ Total Value of the Work to the Self-Performed for purposes of Meeting the MBE participation goal/subgoals: _____ Project Begin Date: _____ Project End Date: _____ |
|--|--|

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|---------|
| Contact Person: | | |
| Address: | | |
| City: | State: | ZIP: |
| Phone: | Fax: | E-mail: |

| Invoice Number | Value of the Work | NAICS Code | Description of the Work |
|----------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|
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Return one copy (hard or electronic) of this form to the following addresses (electronic copy with signature and date is preferred):

| |
|---|
| Contract Monitor: _____ Contracting Unit and Address: _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|---|

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
 (Required)

MBE ATTACHMENT D-5
Minority Business Enterprise Participation
MBE Subcontractor Paid/Unpaid Invoice Report

| | |
|--|---|
| Report #: _____ Reporting Period (Month/Year): _____ Report is due by the ___ of the month following the month the services were performed. | Contract #: _____ Contracting Unit: _____ MBE Subcontract Amount: _____ Project Begin Date: _____ Project End Date: _____ Services Provided: _____ |
|--|---|

| MBE Subcontractor Name: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|----|--|--|----|--|--|----|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--------------------|-------------|----|--|--|----|--|--|----|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| MDOT Certification #: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contact Person: | | E-mail: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Address: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City: | State: | ZIP: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phone: | Fax: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Subcontractor Services Provided: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| List all payments received from Prime Contractor during reporting period indicated above. <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice Amt</u></th> <th style="width: 55%; text-align: center;"><u>Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Total Dollars Paid: \$ _____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | <u>Invoice Amt</u> | <u>Date</u> | 1. | | | 2. | | | 3. | | | Total Dollars Paid: \$ _____ | | | List dates and amounts of any unpaid invoices over 30 days old. <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>Invoice Amt</u></th> <th style="width: 55%; text-align: center;"><u>Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ _____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | <u>Invoice Amt</u> | <u>Date</u> | 1. | | | 2. | | | 3. | | | Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ _____ | | |
| | <u>Invoice Amt</u> | <u>Date</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Total Dollars Paid: \$ _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <u>Invoice Amt</u> | <u>Date</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Total Dollars Unpaid: \$ _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime Contractor: | | Contact Person: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Return one copy (hard or electronic) of this form to the following addresses (electronic copy with signature and date is preferred):

| |
|---|
| Contract Monitor: _____ Contracting Unit and Address: _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|---|

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
 (Required)

ATTACHMENTS E – VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

This solicitation does not include a Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise goal.

Living Wage Requirements for Service Contracts

- A. This contract is subject to the Living Wage requirements under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, and the regulations proposed by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry (Commissioner). The Living Wage generally applies to a Contractor or Subcontractor who performs work on a State contract for services that is valued at \$100,000 or more. An employee is subject to the Living Wage if he/she is at least 18 years old or will turn 18 during the duration of the contract; works at least 13 consecutive weeks on the State Contract and spends at least one-half of the employee's time during any work week on the State Contract.
- B. The Living Wage Law does not apply to:
- (1) A Contractor who:
 - (a) Has a State contract for services valued at less than \$100,000, or
 - (b) Employs 10 or fewer employees and has a State contract for services valued at less than \$500,000.
 - (2) A Subcontractor who:
 - (a) Performs work on a State contract for services valued at less than \$100,000,
 - (b) Employs 10 or fewer employees and performs work on a State contract for services valued at less than \$500,000, or
 - (c) Performs work for a Contractor not covered by the Living Wage Law as defined in B(1)(b) above, or B(3) or C below.
 - (3) Service contracts for the following:
 - (a) Services with a Public Service Company;
 - (b) Services with a nonprofit organization;
 - (c) Services with an officer or other entity that is in the Executive Branch of the State government and is authorized by law to enter into a procurement ("Unit"); or
 - (d) Services between a Unit and a County or Baltimore City.
- C. If the Unit responsible for the State contract for services determines that application of the Living Wage would conflict with any applicable federal program, the Living Wage does not apply to the contract or program.
- D. A Contractor must not split or subdivide a State contract for services, pay an employee through a third party, or treat an employee as an independent Contractor or assign work to employees to avoid the imposition of any of the requirements of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18.
- E. Each Contractor/Subcontractor, subject to the Living Wage Law, shall post in a prominent and easily accessible place at the work site(s) of covered employees a notice of the Living Wage Rates, employee rights under the law, and the name, address, and telephone number of the Commissioner.

- F. The Commissioner shall adjust the wage rates by the annual average increase or decrease, if any, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the Washington/Baltimore metropolitan area, or any successor index, for the previous calendar year, not later than 90 days after the start of each fiscal year. The Commissioner shall publish any adjustments to the wage rates on the Division of Labor and Industry's website. An employer subject to the Living Wage Law must comply with the rate requirements during the initial term of the contract and all subsequent renewal periods, including any increases in the wage rate, required by the Commissioner, automatically upon the effective date of the revised wage rate.
- G. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's share of the health insurance premium, as provided in Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §18-103(c), shall not lower an employee's wage rate below the minimum wage as set in Md. Code Ann., Labor and Employment Article, §3-413. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's share of health insurance premium shall comply with any record reporting requirements established by the Commissioner.
- H. A Contractor/Subcontractor may reduce the wage rates paid under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §18-103(a), by no more than 50 cents of the hourly cost of the employer's contribution to an employee's deferred compensation plan. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's contribution to an employee's deferred compensation plan shall not lower the employee's wage rate below the minimum wage as set in Md. Code Ann., Labor and Employment Article, §3-413.
- I. Under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, if the Commissioner determines that the Contractor/Subcontractor violated a provision of this title or regulations of the Commissioner, the Contractor/Subcontractor shall pay restitution to each affected employee, and the State may assess liquidated damages of \$20 per day for each employee paid less than the Living Wage.
- J. Information pertaining to reporting obligations may be found by going to the Division of Labor and Industry website <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/labor/prev/livingwage.shtml>.

Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement

(submit with Proposal)

Contract No. _____

Name of Contractor _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If the Contract Is Exempt from the Living Wage Law

The Undersigned, being an authorized representative of the above named Contractor, hereby affirms that the Contract is exempt from Maryland’s Living Wage Law for the following reasons (check all that apply):

- Offeror is a nonprofit organization
- Offeror is a public service company
- Offeror employs 10 or fewer employees and the proposed contract value is less than \$500,000
- Offeror employs more than 10 employees and the proposed contract value is less than \$100,000

If the Contract Is a Living Wage Contract

A. The Undersigned, being an authorized representative of the above-named Contractor, hereby affirms its commitment to comply with Title 18, State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland and, if required, submit all payroll reports to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry with regard to the above stated contract. The Offeror agrees to pay covered employees who are subject to living wage at least the living wage rate in effect at the time service is provided for hours spent on State contract activities, and ensure that its Subcontractors who are not exempt also pay the required living wage rate to their covered employees who are subject to the living wage for hours spent on a State contract for services. The Contractor agrees to comply with, and ensure its Subcontractors comply with, the rate requirements during the initial term of the contract and all subsequent renewal periods, including any increases in the wage rate established by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, automatically upon the effective date of the revised wage rate.

B. _____ (initial here if applicable) The Offeror affirms it has no covered employees for the following reasons: (check all that apply):

- The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract will spend less than one-half of the employee’s time during any work week on the contract

- The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract is 17 years of age or younger during the duration of the contract; or
- The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract will work less than 13 consecutive weeks on the State contract.

The Commissioner of Labor and Industry reserves the right to request payroll records and other data that the Commissioner deems sufficient to confirm these affirmations at any time.

Name of Authorized Representative: _____

Signature of Authorized Representative Date

Title

Witness Name (Typed or Printed)

Witness Signature Date

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH PROPOSAL

ATTACHMENT G- FEDERAL FUNDS ATTACHMENT

This solicitation does not include a Federal Funds Attachment.

ATTACHMENT H – CONFLICT OF INTEREST AFFIDAVIT AND DISCLOSURE

Reference COMAR 21.05.08.08

A. “Conflict of interest” means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the State, or the person’s objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage.

B. “Person” has the meaning stated in COMAR 21.01.02.01B(64) and includes a Offeror, Contractor, consultant, or subcontractor or sub-consultant at any tier, and also includes an employee or agent of any of them if the employee or agent has or will have the authority to control or supervise all or a portion of the work for which a Proposal is made.

C. The Offeror warrants that, except as disclosed in §D, below, there are no relevant facts or circumstances now giving rise or which could, in the future, give rise to a conflict of interest.

D. The following facts or circumstances give rise or could in the future give rise to a conflict of interest (explain in detail — attach additional sheets if necessary):

E. The Offeror agrees that if an actual or potential conflict of interest arises after the date of this affidavit, the Offeror shall immediately make a full disclosure in writing to the Procurement Officer of all relevant facts and circumstances. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Offeror has taken and proposes to take to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict of interest. If the contract has been awarded and performance of the contract has begun, the Contractor shall continue performance until notified by the Procurement Officer of any contrary action to be taken.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____ By: _____
(Authorized Representative and Affiant)

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH PROPOSAL

ATTACHMENT I – NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

This solicitation does not require a Non-Disclosure Agreement.

ATTACHMENT J – HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

This solicitation does not require a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement.

ATTACHMENT K – MERCURY AFFIDAVIT

This solicitation does not include the procurement of products known to likely include mercury as a component.

ATTACHMENT L – LOCATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES DISCLOSURE

This solicitation does not require a Location of the Performance of Services Disclosure.

ATTACHMENT M – CONTRACT

INVESTMENT AND DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS CONTRACT (the “Contract”) is made this ____ day of _____, 2017 by and between _____ (EIN _____) and the STATE OF MARYLAND, acting through the BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE MARYLAND TEACHERS AND STATE EMPLOYEES SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLANS (the “Board”).

In consideration of the promises and the covenants herein contained, the adequacy and sufficiency of which is duly acknowledged by the parties, the parties agree as follows:

1. Definitions

In this Contract, the following words have the meanings indicated:

- 1.1 “COMAR” means Code of Maryland Regulations.
- 1.2 “Contract” means this agreement between _____ and the State of Maryland, acting through the Board of Trustees for the Maryland Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans.
- 1.3 “Contract Monitor” means the following Board employee identified as the Contract Monitor: Michael Halpin, MSRP Executive Director, telephone 410-767-8733, Email Michael.Halpin@maryland.gov .
- 1.4 “Contractor” means _____ whose principal business address is _____ and whose principal office in Maryland is _____.
- 1.5 “Board” means the Board of Trustees for the Maryland Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans.
- 1.6 “MSRP” or “the Plans” means the Maryland Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans.
- 1.7 “Financial Proposal” means the Contractor’s Financial Proposal dated _____.
- 1.8 “Procurement Officer” means the following Board employee identified as the Procurement Officer: Richard Arthur, MSRP Director of Operations and Technology, telephone 410-767-0457, Email Richard.Arthur@maryland.gov .
- 1.9 “RFP” means the Request for Proposals for Investment and Defined Contribution Plan Consulting Services, Solicitation #G50R7400001, and any addenda thereto issued in writing by the State.
- 1.10 “State” means the State of Maryland.
- 1.11 “Technical Proposal” means the Contractor’s Technical Proposal dated _____.

2. Scope of Contract

- 2.1 The Contractor shall provide deliverables, programs, goods, and services specific to the Contract for Investment and Defined Contribution Plan Consulting Services awarded in accordance with Exhibits A-C listed in this section and incorporated as part of this Contract. If there is any conflict between this Contract

and the Exhibits, the terms of the Contract shall govern. If there is any conflict among the Exhibits, the following order of precedence shall determine the prevailing provision:

Exhibit A – The RFP

Exhibit B – State Contract Affidavit, executed by the Contractor and dated _____.

Exhibit C – The Proposal (Technical and Financial)

- 2.2 The Procurement Officer may, at any time, by written order, make changes in the work within the general scope of the Contract or the RFP. No other order, statement, or conduct of the Procurement Officer or any other person shall be treated as a change or entitle the Contractor to an equitable adjustment under this section. Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, if any change under this section causes an increase or decrease in the Contractor's cost of, or the time required for, the performance of any part of the work, whether or not changed by the order, an equitable adjustment in the Contract price shall be made and the Contract modified in writing accordingly. The Contractor must assert in writing its right to an adjustment under this section within thirty (30) days of receipt of written change order and shall include a written statement setting forth the nature and cost of such claim. No claim by the Contractor shall be allowed if asserted after final payment under this Contract. Failure to agree to an adjustment under this section shall be a dispute under the Disputes clause. Nothing in this section shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the Contract as changed.
- 2.3 While the Procurement Officer may, at any time, by written change order, make unilateral changes in the work within the general scope of the Contract as provided in Section 2.2 above, the Contract may be modified by mutual agreement of the parties, provided: (a) the modification is made in writing; (b) all parties sign the modification; and (c) all approvals by the required agencies as described in COMAR Title 21, are obtained.
- 2.4 The Contractor's advice to MSRP pursuant to this Contract is limited to providing data, analysis of such data, reports and recommendations. MSRP retains absolute discretion over, and responsibility for, deciding what, if any, action to take with respect to any report or recommendation and for the implementation of any such decisions. The Contractor will make its recommendations and prepare its reports based upon information obtained by it from a wide variety of public and private sources, including, in the case of investment managers, copies of their Form ADVs and periodic questionnaires, and commercially marketed databases in which investment managers participate. Although the information collected by the Contractor is believed to be reliable, the Contractor cannot verify or guarantee the accuracy or validity of such information or the uniformity of the manner in which such information was prepared. MSRP understands that the prior performance of an investment manager or a mutual fund is not necessarily indicative of such investment manager or mutual fund's future results.

If MSRP requests that the Contractor provide assistance in the selection of an investment manager, commingled investment fund or a mutual fund, the Contractor may recommend investment managers or mutual funds which appear to be suitable for MSRP. The Contractor shall not be liable for the conduct or investment performance of any investment manager, investment fund or mutual fund recommended by the Contractor in good faith and selected by MSRP.

The Contractor shall have only those responsibilities set forth in this Contract and shall have no responsibility to manage MSRP's assets or exercise any investment discretion with respect to MSRP's assets. In addition, the Contractor and its employees shall not be responsible for rendering any legal advice to MSRP or prepare for MSRP any legal, accounting or actuarial document.

MSRP acknowledges that the Contractor's recommendations are not binding on MSRP or the Board.

3. Period of Performance.

- 3.1 The term of this Contract begins on the date the Contract is signed by the Board following any required approvals of the Contract, including approval by the Board of Public Works, if such approval is required. The Contractor shall provide services under this Contract as of the Go-Live date contained in the written Notice to Proceed. From this Go-Live date, the Contract shall be for a period of approximately five (5) years beginning _____, 2017 and ending _____, 2022.
- 3.2 Audit, confidentiality, document retention, and indemnification obligations under this Contract shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

4. Consideration and Payment

- 4.1 In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the work set forth in this Contract, the Board shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this Contract and at the prices quoted in the Financial Proposal.
- 4.2 Payments to the Contractor shall be made no later than thirty (30) days after the Board’s receipt of a proper invoice for services provided by the Contractor, acceptance by the Board of services provided by the Contractor, and pursuant to the conditions outlined in Section 4 of this Contract. Each invoice for services rendered must include the Contractor’s Federal Tax Identification which is _____. Charges for late payment of invoices other than as prescribed at Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §15-104 are prohibited. Invoices shall be submitted to the Contract Monitor. Electronic funds transfer shall be used by the State to pay Contractor pursuant to this Contract and any other State payments due Contractor unless the State Comptroller’s Office grants Contractor an exemption.
- 4.3 In addition to any other available remedies, if, in the opinion of the Contract Monitor, the Contractor fails to perform in a satisfactory and timely manner, the Contract Monitor may refuse or limit approval of any invoice for payment, and may cause payments to the Contractor to be reduced or withheld until such time as the Contractor meets performance standards as established by the Contract Monitor.
- 4.4 Payment of an invoice by the Board is not evidence that services were rendered as required under this Contract.
- 4.5 Contractor’s eMaryland Marketplace vendor ID number is _____.

5. Rights to Records

- 5.1 The Contractor agrees that all documents and materials including, but not limited to, software, reports, drawings, studies, specifications, estimates, tests, maps, photographs, designs, graphics, mechanical, artwork, computations, and data prepared by the Contractor for purposes of this Contract shall be the sole property of the State and shall be available to the State at any time. The State shall have the right to use the same without restriction and without compensation to the Contractor other than that specifically provided by this Contract.
- 5.2 The Contractor agrees that at all times during the term of this Contract and thereafter, works created as a deliverable under this Contract, and services performed under this Contract shall be “works made for hire” as that term is interpreted under U.S. copyright law. To the extent that any products created as a deliverable under this Contract are not works made for hire for the State, the Contractor hereby relinquishes, transfers, and assigns to the State all of its rights, title, and interest (including all intellectual property rights) to all such products created under this Contract, and will cooperate reasonably with the State in effectuating and registering any necessary assignments.
- 5.3 The Contractor shall report to the Contract Monitor, promptly and in written detail, each notice or claim of copyright infringement received by the Contractor with respect to all data delivered under this Contract.

- 5.4 The Contractor shall not affix any restrictive markings upon any data, documentation, or other materials provided to the State hereunder and if such markings are affixed, the State shall have the right at any time to modify, remove, obliterate, or ignore such warnings.
- 5.5 Upon termination of the Contract, the Contractor, at its own expense, shall deliver any equipment, software or other property provided by the State to the place designated by the Procurement Officer.

6. Exclusive Use

- 6.1 The State shall have the exclusive right to use, duplicate, and disclose any data, information, documents, records, or results, in whole or in part, in any manner for any purpose whatsoever, that may be created or generated by the Contractor in connection with this Contract. If any material, including software, is capable of being copyrighted, the State shall be the copyright owner and Contractor may copyright material connected with this project only with the express written approval of the State.
- 6.2 Except as may otherwise be set forth in this Contract, Contractor shall not use, sell, sub-lease, assign, give, or otherwise transfer to any third party any other information or material provided to Contractor by the Board or developed by Contractor relating to the Contract, except that Contractor may provide said information to any of its officers, employees and subcontractors who Contractor requires to have said information for fulfillment of Contractor's obligations hereunder. Each officer, employee and/or subcontractor to whom any of the Board's confidential information is to be disclosed shall be advised by Contractor of and bound by confidentiality and intellectual property terms substantively equivalent to those of this Contract.

7. Patents, Copyrights, and Intellectual Property

- 7.1 If the Contractor furnishes any design, device, material, process, or other item, which is covered by a patent, trademark or service mark, or copyright or which is proprietary to, or a trade secret of, another, the Contractor shall obtain the necessary permission or license to permit the State to use such item or items.
- 7.2 The Contractor will defend or settle, at its own expense, any claim or suit against the State alleging that any such item furnished by the Contractor infringes any patent, trademark, service mark, copyright, or trade secret. If a third party claims that a product infringes that party's patent, trademark, service mark, trade secret, or copyright, the Contractor will defend the State against that claim at Contractor's expense and will pay all damages, costs, and attorneys' fees that a court finally awards, provided the State: (a) promptly notifies the Contractor in writing of the claim; and (b) allows Contractor to control and cooperates with Contractor in, the defense and any related settlement negotiations. The obligations of this paragraph are in addition to those stated in Section 7.3 below.
- 7.3 If any products furnished by the Contractor become, or in the Contractor's opinion are likely to become, the subject of a claim of infringement, the Contractor will, at its option and expense: (a) procure for the State the right to continue using the applicable item; (b) replace the product with a non-infringing product substantially complying with the item's specifications; or (c) modify the item so that it becomes non-infringing and performs in a substantially similar manner to the original item.

8. Confidential or Proprietary Information and Documentation

- 8.1 Subject to the Maryland Public Information Act and any other applicable laws including, without limitation, HIPAA, the HI-TECH Act, and the Maryland Medical Records Act and the implementation of regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, all confidential or proprietary information and documentation relating to either party (including without limitation, any information or data stored within the Contractor's computer systems) shall be held in absolute confidence by the other party. Each party shall, however, be permitted to disclose relevant confidential information to its officers, agents, and employees to the extent that such disclosure is

necessary for the performance of their duties under this Contract, provided that the data may be collected, used, disclosed, stored, and disseminated only as provided by and consistent with the law. The provisions of this section shall not apply to information that: (a) is lawfully in the public domain; (b) has been independently developed by the other party without violation of this Contract; (c) was already in the possession of such party; (d) was supplied to such party by a third party lawfully in possession thereof and legally permitted to further disclose the information; or (e) which such party is required to disclose by law.

8.2 This Section 8 shall survive expiration or termination of this Contract.

9. Loss of Data

In the event of loss of any State data or records where such loss is due to the intentional act or omission or negligence of the Contractor or any of its subcontractors or agents, the Contractor shall be responsible for recreating such lost data in the manner and on the schedule set by the Contract Monitor. The Contractor shall ensure that all data is backed up and recoverable by the Contractor. Contractor shall use its best efforts to assure that at no time shall any actions undertaken by the Contractor under this Contract (or any failures to act when Contractor has a duty to act) damage or create any vulnerabilities in data bases, systems, platforms, and/or applications with which the Contractor is working hereunder.

10. Indemnification

10.1 The Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State and the Board of Trustees, jointly and severally, from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, judgements, liabilities, fines or penalties of any nature whatsoever (any and all of which is/are referred to as "Damages"), to which the State or Board of Trustees may become subject, insofar as such Damages are caused by or arise directly out of the negligence, willful misconduct, breach of trust, breach of confidentiality, breach of contract, or violation of any Legal Requirements on the part of the Contractor and its agents acting in connection with this Agreement.

10.2 This indemnification clause shall not be construed to mean that the Contractor shall indemnify the State against liability for any losses, damages, claims, suits, actions, liabilities, and/or expenses that are attributable to the sole negligence of the State or the State's employees.

10.3 The State of Maryland has no obligation to provide legal counsel or defense to the Contractor or its subcontractors in the event that a suit, claim, or action of any character is brought by any person not party to this Contract against the Contractor or its subcontractors as a result of or relating to the Contractor's performance under this Contract.

10.4 The State has no obligation for the payment of any judgments or the settlement of any claims against the Contractor or its subcontractors as a result of or relating to the Contractor's performance under this Contract.

10.5 The Contractor shall immediately notify the Procurement Officer of any claim or lawsuit made or filed against the Contractor or its subcontractors regarding any matter resulting from, or relating to, the Contractor's obligations under the Contract, and will cooperate, assist, and consult with the State in the defense or investigation of any claim, lawsuit, or action made or filed against the State as a result of, or relating to, the Contractor's performance under this Contract.

10.6 This Section 10 shall survive termination of this Contract.

11. Non-Hiring of Employees

No official or employee of the State, as defined under Md. Code Ann., General Provisions Article, § 5-101, whose duties as such official or employee include matters relating to or affecting the subject matter of this

Contract, shall, during the pendency and term of this Contract and while serving as an official or employee of the State, become or be an employee of the Contractor or any entity that is a subcontractor on this Contract.

12. Disputes

This Contract shall be subject to the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 15, Subtitle 2, and COMAR 21.10 (Administrative and Civil Remedies). Pending resolution of a claim, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in accordance with the Procurement Officer's decision. Unless a lesser period is provided by applicable statute, regulation, or the Contract, the Contractor must file a written notice of claim with the Procurement Officer within thirty (30) days after the basis for the claim is known or should have been known, whichever is earlier. Contemporaneously with or within thirty (30) days of the filing of a notice of claim, but no later than the date of final payment under the Contract, the Contractor must submit to the Procurement Officer its written claim containing the information specified in COMAR 21.10.04.02.

13. Maryland Law

- 13.1 This Contract shall be construed, interpreted, and enforced according to the laws of the State of Maryland.
- 13.2 The Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (Commercial Law Article, Title 22 of the Annotated Code of Maryland), does not apply to this Contract or any purchase order or Notice to Proceed issued under this Contract, or any software, or any software license required hereunder.
- 13.3 Any and all references to the Maryland Code, Annotated contained in this Contract shall be construed to refer to such Code sections as are from time to time amended.

14. Nondiscrimination in Employment

The Contractor agrees: (a) not to discriminate in any manner against an employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification, marital status, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, or any otherwise unlawful use of characteristics, or disability of a qualified individual with a disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude the performance of the employment, or the individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test; (b) to include a provision similar to that contained in subsection (a), above, in any underlying subcontract except a subcontract for standard commercial supplies or raw materials; and (c) to post and to cause subcontractors to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the substance of this clause.

15. Contingent Fee Prohibition

The Contractor warrants that it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency working for the business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of this Contract.

16. Non-Availability of Funding

If the General Assembly fails to appropriate funds or if funds are not otherwise made available for continued performance for any fiscal period of this Contract succeeding the first fiscal period, this Contract shall be canceled automatically as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which funds were not appropriated or

otherwise made available; provided, however, that this will not affect either the State's or the Contractor's rights under any termination clause in this Contract. The effect of termination of the Contract hereunder will be to discharge both the Contractor and the State from future performance of the Contract, but not from their rights and obligations existing at the time of termination. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any nonrecurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the Contract. The State shall notify the Contractor as soon as it has knowledge that funds may not be available for the continuation of this Contract for each succeeding fiscal period beyond the first.

17. Termination for Default

If the Contractor fails to fulfill its obligations under this Contract properly and on time, or otherwise violates any provision of the Contract, the State may terminate the Contract by written notice to the Contractor. The notice shall specify the acts or omissions relied upon as cause for termination. All finished or unfinished work provided by the Contractor shall, at the State's option, become the State's property. The State shall pay the Contractor fair and equitable compensation for satisfactory performance prior to receipt of notice of termination, less the amount of damages caused by the Contractor's breach. If the damages are more than the compensation payable to the Contractor, the Contractor will remain liable after termination and the State can affirmatively collect damages. Termination hereunder, including the termination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.11B.

18. Termination for Convenience

The performance of work under this Contract may be terminated by the State in accordance with this clause in whole, or from time to time in part, whenever the State shall determine that such termination is in the best interest of the State. The State will pay all reasonable costs associated with this Contract that the Contractor has incurred up to the date of termination, and all reasonable costs associated with termination of the Contract; provided, however, the Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits that have not been earned up to the date of termination. Termination hereunder, including the determination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.12A(2).

19. Delays and Extensions of Time

- 19.1 The Contractor agrees to prosecute the work continuously and diligently and no charges or claims for damages shall be made by it for any delays, interruptions, interferences, or hindrances from any cause whatsoever during the progress of any portion of the work specified in this Contract.
- 19.2 Time extensions will be granted only for excusable delays that arise from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor, including but not restricted to, acts of God, acts of the public enemy, acts of the State in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of another Contractor in the performance of a contract with the State, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, or delays of subcontractors or suppliers arising from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of either the Contractor or the subcontractors or suppliers.

20. Suspension of Work

The State unilaterally may order the Contractor in writing to suspend, delay, or interrupt all or any part of its performance for such period of time as the Procurement Officer may determine to be appropriate for the convenience of the State.

21. Pre-Existing Regulations

In accordance with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, § 11-206, the regulations set forth in Title 21 of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR 21) in effect on the date of execution of this Contract are applicable to this Contract.

22. Financial Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, § 13-221, which requires that every person that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate, \$100,000 or more, shall within thirty (30) days of the time when the aggregate value of these contracts, leases or other agreements reaches \$100,000, file with the Secretary of the State certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

23. Political Contribution Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with Md. Code Ann., Election Law Article, Title 14, which requires that every person that enters into a contract for a procurement with the State, a county, or a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year in which the person receives a contract with a governmental entity in the amount of \$200,000 or more, shall, file with the State Board of Elections statements disclosing: (a) any contributions made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election; and (b) the name of each candidate to whom one or more contributions in a cumulative amount of \$500 or more were made during the reporting period. The statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections: (a) before execution of a contract by the State, a county, a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, and shall cover the 24 months prior to when a contract was awarded; and (b) if the contribution is made after the execution of a contract, then twice a year, throughout the contract term, on or before: (i) May 31, to cover the six (6) month period ending April 30; and (ii) November 30, to cover the six (6) month period ending October 31. Additional information is available on the State Board of Elections website: http://www.elections.state.md.us/campaign_finance/index.html.

24. Documents Retention and Inspection Clause

The Contractor and subcontractors shall retain and maintain all records and documents relating to this Contract for a period of five (5) years after final payment by the State hereunder or any applicable statute of limitations or federal retention requirements (such as HIPAA), whichever is longer, and shall make them available for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of the State, including the Procurement Officer or designee, at all reasonable times. All records related in any way to the Contract are to be retained for the entire time provided under this section. In the event of any audit, the Contractor shall provide assistance to the State, without additional compensation, to identify, investigate, and reconcile any audit discrepancies and/or variances. This Section 24 shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

25. Right to Audit

- 25.1 The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion and at any time, to perform an audit of the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's performance under this Contract. An audit is defined as a planned and documented independent activity performed by qualified personnel including but not limited to State and federal auditors, to determine by investigation, examination, or evaluation of objective evidence from data, statements, records, operations and performance practices (financial or otherwise) the Contractor's compliance with the Contract, including but not limited to adequacy and compliance with established procedures and internal controls over the Contract services being performed for the State.
- 25.2 Upon three (3) Business Days' notice, the Contractor and/or any subcontractors shall provide the State reasonable access to their respective records to verify conformance to the terms of the Contract. The Board

may conduct these audits with any or all of its own internal resources or by securing the services of a third party accounting or audit firm, solely at the Board's election. The Board may copy, at its own expense, any record related to the services performed and provided under this Contract.

- 25.3 The right to audit shall include any of the Contractor's subcontractors including but not limited to any lower tier subcontractor(s) that provide essential support to the Contract services. The Contractor and/or subcontractor(s) shall ensure the Board has the right to audit such subcontractor(s).
- 25.4 The Contractor and/or subcontractors shall cooperate with Board and Board's designated accountant or auditor and shall provide the necessary assistance for the Board or Board's designated accountant or auditor to conduct the audit.
- 25.5 This Section shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

26. Compliance with Laws

The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

- 26.1 It is qualified to do business in the State and that it will take such action as, from time to time hereafter, may be necessary to remain so qualified;
- 26.2 It is not in arrears with respect to the payment of any monies due and owing the State, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of this Contract;
- 26.3 It shall comply with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances applicable to its activities and obligations under this Contract; and
- 26.4 It shall obtain, at its expense, all licenses, permits, insurance, and governmental approvals, if any, necessary to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

27. Cost and Price Certification

- 27.1 By submitting cost or price information, the Contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge that the information submitted is accurate, complete, and current as of the date of its Proposal.
- 27.2 The price under this Contract and any change order or modification hereunder, including profit or fee, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant price increases occurring because the Contractor furnished cost or price information which, as of the date of its Proposal, was inaccurate, incomplete, or not current.

28. Subcontracting; Assignment

The Contractor may not subcontract any portion of the services provided under this Contract without obtaining the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer, nor may the Contractor assign this Contract or any of its rights or obligations hereunder, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer; provided, however, that a Contractor may assign monies receivable under a contract after due notice to the State. Any subcontracts shall include such language as may be required in various clauses contained within this Contract, exhibits, and attachments. The Contract shall not be assigned until all approvals, documents, and affidavits are completed and properly registered. The State shall not be responsible for fulfillment of the Contractor's obligations to its subcontractors.

29. Liability

For breach of this Contract, negligence, misrepresentation, or any other contract or tort claim, the Contractor shall be liable as follows:

- 29.1 For infringement of patents, copyrights, trademarks, service marks, and/or trade secrets, as provided in Section 7 of this Contract;
- 29.2 Without limitation for damages for bodily injury (including death) and damage to real property and tangible personal property; and
- 29.3 For all other claims, damages, losses, costs, expenses, suits, or actions in any way related to this Contract, regardless of the form the Contractor's liability for third party claims arising under Section 10 of this Contract shall be unlimited if the State is not immune from liability for claims arising under Section 10.

30. Commercial Nondiscrimination

- 30.1 As a condition of entering into this Contract, the Contractor represents and warrants that it will comply with the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy, as described at Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 19. As part of such compliance, the Contractor may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, sexual identity, genetic information or an individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test or on the basis of disability or other unlawful forms of discrimination in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, nor shall the Contractor retaliate against any person for reporting instances of such discrimination. The Contractor shall provide equal opportunity for subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers to participate in all of its public sector and private sector subcontracting and supply opportunities, provided that this clause does not prohibit or limit lawful efforts to remedy the effects of marketplace discrimination that have occurred or are occurring in the marketplace. The Contractor understands that a material violation of this clause shall be considered a material breach of this Contract and may result in termination of this Contract, disqualification of the Contractor from participating in State contracts, or other sanctions. This clause is not enforceable by or for the benefit of, and creates no obligation to, any third party.
- 30.2 The Contractor shall include the above Commercial Nondiscrimination clause, or similar clause approved by the Board, in all subcontracts.
- 30.3 As a condition of entering into this Contract, upon the request of the Commission on Civil Rights, and only after the filing of a complaint against the Contractor under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 19, as amended from time to time, the Contractor agrees to provide within sixty (60) days after the request a complete list of the names of all subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers that Contractor has used in the past four (4) years on any of its contracts that were undertaken within the State of Maryland, including the total dollar amount paid by Contractor on each subcontract or supply contract. Contractor further agrees to cooperate in any investigation conducted by the State pursuant to the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as set forth at Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 19, and provide any documents relevant to any investigation that are requested by the State. Contractor understands that violation of this clause is a material breach of this Contract and may result in contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions.

31. Prompt Pay Requirements

- 31.1 If the Contractor withholds payment of an undisputed amount to its subcontractor, the Board, at its option and in its sole discretion, may take one or more of the following actions:

- a. Not process further payments to the contractor until payment to the subcontractor is verified;
- b. Suspend all or some of the contract work without affecting the completion date(s) for the contract work;
- c. Pay or cause payment of the undisputed amount to the subcontractor from monies otherwise due or that may become due;
- d. Place a payment for an undisputed amount in an interest-bearing escrow account; or
- e. Take other or further actions as appropriate to resolve the withheld payment.

31.2 An “undisputed amount” means an amount owed by the Contractor to a subcontractor for which there is no good faith dispute. Such “undisputed amounts” include, without limitation:

- a. Retainage which had been withheld and is, by the terms of the agreement between the Contractor and subcontractor, due to be distributed to the subcontractor; and
- b. An amount withheld because of issues arising out of an agreement or occurrence unrelated to the agreement under which the amount is withheld.

31.3 An act, failure to act, or decision of a Procurement Officer or a representative of the Board, concerning a withheld payment between the Contractor and a subcontractor under this provision, may not:

- a. Affect the rights of the contracting parties under any other provision of law;
- b. Be used as evidence on the merits of a dispute between the Board and the contractor in any other proceeding; or
- c. Result in liability against or prejudice the rights of the Board.

31.4 The remedies enumerated above are in addition to those provided under COMAR 21.11.03.13 with respect to subcontractors that have contracted pursuant to the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) program.

31.5 To ensure compliance with certified MBE subcontract participation goals, the Board may, consistent with COMAR 21.11.03.13, take the following measures:

- a. Verify that the certified MBEs listed in the MBE participation schedule actually are performing work and receiving compensation as set forth in the MBE participation schedule. This verification may include, as appropriate:
 - i. Inspecting any relevant records of the Contractor;
 - ii. Inspecting the jobsite; and
 - iii. Interviewing subcontractors and workers.

Verification shall include a review of the:

- i. The Contractor’s monthly report listing unpaid invoices over thirty (30) days old from certified MBE subcontractors and the reason for nonpayment; and
 - ii. The monthly report of each certified MBE subcontractor, which lists payments received from the Contractor in the preceding thirty (30) days and invoices for which the subcontractor has not been paid.
- b. If the Board determines that the Contractor is not in compliance with certified MBE participation goals, then the Board will notify the Contractor in writing of its findings, and will require the Contractor to take appropriate corrective action. Corrective action may include, but is not limited to, requiring the Contractor to compensate the MBE for work performed as set forth in the MBE participation schedule.
 - c. If the Board determines that the Contractor is in material noncompliance with MBE contract provisions and refuses or fails to take the corrective action that the Board requires, then the Board may:
 - i. Terminate the contract;

- ii. Refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General for appropriate action; or
 - iii. Initiate any other specific remedy identified by the contract, including the contractual remedies required by any applicable laws, regulations, and directives regarding the payment of undisputed amounts.
- d. Upon completion of the Contract, but before final payment or release of retainage or both, the Contractor shall submit a final report, in affidavit form under the penalty of perjury, of all payments made to, or withheld from, MBE subcontractors.

32. Living Wage

If a Contractor subject to the Living Wage law fails to submit all records required under COMAR 21.11.10.05 to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the agency may withhold payment of any invoice or retainage. The agency may require certification from the Commissioner on a quarterly basis that such records were properly submitted.

33. Use of Estimated Quantities

Unless specifically indicated otherwise in the State's solicitation or other controlling documents related to the Scope of Work, any sample amounts provided are estimates only and the Board does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of units or usage in the performance of this Contract.

34. SEC Registered Investment Advisor; Independence/Conflict of Interest; code of Ethics

- 34.1 The Contractor is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and files a disclosure statement (Form ADV) with the SEC. MSRP acknowledges that not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to entering into this Contract it has received copies of Part II of the ADV for the Contractor, as amended to date or a separate brochure which the Contractor represents contains the same information as is in such Part II or should MSRP acknowledge receipt of the Form ADV Part II at upon execution of this contract, MSRP had five (5) days to cancel this Contract.
- 34.2 The Contractor has provided MSRP with a written disclosure about its potential conflicts of interest, which includes information about any material financial, referral or other relationships or arrangements (including any such relationship or arrangement with investment managers or other service providers to MSRP that create or may create a conflict of interest for the Contractor) and also describes the policies and procedures that the Contractor has in place to address these potential conflicts of interest. MSRP acknowledges that it has received confirmation that there are no conflicts of interest from the Contractor. The Contractor agrees that it will not receive compensation, directly or indirectly, from the companies the Board selects as its investment options, distribution options, investment manager, plan administrator, auditor, or any other service provider for its plans.
- 34.3 The Contractor has adopted a written code of ethics and other policies and procedures designed to avoid violations of the Advisors Act. A copy of these policies will be provided to MSRP upon request.

35. Fiduciary Status with Respect to the Board

The Contractor acknowledges that it is a fiduciary with respect to the investment advice it provides to the Board. The Contractor accepts its appointment as such fiduciary, and specifically agrees to perform its duties with respect to the Board with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of like character and with like aims. The Contractor agrees to discharge its duties with respect to the Board solely in the interest of the participants of the Plans administered by the Board, and otherwise in

accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The Board acknowledges that it retains all decision making authority with respect to the management and administration of the Plans under its jurisdiction, including the appointment and termination of investment managers and selection of investment options.

36. Contract Monitor and Procurement Officer

The work to be accomplished under this Contract shall be performed under the direction of the Contract Monitor. All matters relating to the interpretation of this Contract shall be referred to the Procurement Officer for determination.

37. Notices

All notices hereunder shall be in writing and either delivered personally or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, as follows:

If to the State: Richard Arthur, MSRP Director of Technology & Operations
Procurement Officer
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Email Richard.Arthur@maryland.gov

If to the Contractor: _____

38. Liquidated Damages

38.1 The Contract requires the Contractor to make good faith efforts to comply with the Minority Business Enterprise (“MBE”) Program and Contract provisions. The State and the Contractor acknowledge and agree that the State will incur economic damages and losses, including, but not limited to, loss of goodwill, detrimental impact on economic development, and diversion of internal staff resources, if the Contractor does not make good faith efforts to comply with the requirements of the MBE Program and pertinent MBE Contract provisions. The parties further acknowledge and agree that the damages the State might reasonably be anticipated to accrue as a result of such lack of compliance are difficult or impossible to ascertain with precision and liquidated damages represent a fair, reasonable, and appropriate estimation of damages.

Upon a determination by the State that the Contractor failed to make good faith efforts to comply with one or more of the specified MBE Program requirements or pertinent MBE Contract provisions and without the State being required to present any evidence of the amount or character of actual damages sustained, the Contractor agrees to pay liquidated damages to the State at the rates set forth below. Such liquidated damages are intended to represent estimated actual damages and are not intended as a penalty. The Contractor expressly agrees that the State may withhold payment on any invoices as an offset against liquidated damages owed. The Contractor further agrees that for each specified violation, the agreed-upon liquidated damages are reasonably proximate to the loss the State is anticipated to incur as a result of each violation.

38.1.1 Failure to submit each monthly payment report in full compliance with COMAR 21.11.03.13B(3): \$67 per day until the monthly report is submitted as required.

- 38.1.2 Failure to include in its agreements with MBE subcontractors a provision requiring submission of payment reports in full compliance with COMAR 21.11.03.13B(4): \$67 per MBE subcontractor.
- 38.1.3 Failure to comply with COMAR 21.11.03.12 in terminating, canceling, or changing the scope of work/value of a contract with an MBE subcontractor and/or amendment of the MBE participation schedule: the difference between the dollar value of the MBE participation commitment on the MBE participation schedule for that specific MBE firm and the dollar value of the work performed by that MBE firm for the Contract.
- 38.1.4 Failure to meet the Contractor's total MBE participation goal and subgoal commitments: the difference between the dollar value of the total MBE participation commitment on the MBE participation schedule and the MBE participation actually achieved.
- 38.1.5 Failure to promptly pay all undisputed amounts to a subcontractor in full compliance with the prompt payment provisions of the Contract: \$67 per day until the undisputed amount due to the subcontractor is paid.

38.2 Notwithstanding the assessment or availability of liquidated damages, the State reserves the right to terminate the Contract and exercise any and all other rights or remedies which may be available under the Contract or otherwise may be available at law or in equity.

39. Miscellaneous

- 39.1 Any provision of this Contract which contemplates performance or observance subsequent to any termination or expiration of this Contract shall survive termination or expiration of this Contract and continue in full force and effect.
- 39.2 If any term contained in this Contract is held or finally determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, in whole or in part, such term shall be severed from this Contract, and the remaining terms contained herein shall continue in full force and effect, and shall in no way be affected, prejudiced, or disturbed thereby.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract as of the date hereinabove set forth.

CONTRACTOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 MARYLAND TEACHERS & STATE EMPLOYEES
 SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLANS

By: _____

By: Michael T. Halpin
 Executive Director and Secretary to the Board

 Date

 Witness

 Date

Date
Approved for form and legal sufficiency
this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Witness

Assistant Attorney General

APPROVED BY BPW: _____
(Date) (BPW Item #)

ATTACHMENT N – CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORITY

I hereby affirm that I, _____ (name of affiant) am the _____ (title) and duly authorized representative of _____ (name of business entity) and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidavit on behalf of the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION OR QUALIFICATION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business named above is a (check applicable box):

- (1) Corporation — domestic or foreign;
- (2) Limited Liability Company — domestic or foreign;
- (3) Partnership — domestic or foreign;
- (4) Statutory Trust — domestic or foreign;
- (5) Sole Proprietorship.

and is registered or qualified as required under Maryland Law. I further affirm that the above business is in good standing both in Maryland and (IF APPLICABLE) in the jurisdiction where it is presently organized, and has filed all of its annual reports, together with filing fees, with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation. The name and address of its resident agent (IF APPLICABLE) filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is:

Name and Department ID
Number: _____ Address: _____

and that if it does business under a trade name, it has filed a certificate with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation that correctly identifies that true name and address of the principal or owner as:

Name and Department ID
Number: _____ Address: _____

C. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §13-221, Annotated Code of Maryland, which require that every business that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State of Maryland or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate \$100,000 or more shall, within 30 days of the time when the aggregate value of the contracts, leases, or other agreements reaches \$100,000, file with the Secretary of State of Maryland certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

D. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, Election Law Article, Title 14, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into a contract for a procurement with the State, a county, or a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year in which the person receives a contract with a governmental entity in the amount of \$200,000 or more, shall file with the State Board of Elections statements disclosing: (a) any contributions made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election; and (b) the name of each candidate to whom one or more contributions in a cumulative amount of \$500 or more were made during the reporting period. The statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections: (a) before execution of a contract by the State, a county, a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, and shall cover the 24 months prior to when a contract was awarded; and (b) if the contribution is made after the execution of a contract, then twice a year, throughout the contract term, on or before: (i) May 31, to cover the six (6) month period ending April 30; and (ii) November 30, to cover the six (6) month period ending October 31.

E. DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE WORKPLACE

(Applicable to all contracts unless the contract is for a law enforcement agency and the agency head or the agency head's designee has determined that application of COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification would be inappropriate in connection with the law enforcement agency's undercover operations.)

I CERTIFY THAT:

(1) Terms defined in COMAR 21.11.08 shall have the same meanings when used in this certification.

(2) By submission of its Proposal, the business, if other than an individual, certifies and agrees that, with respect to its employees to be employed under a contract resulting from this solicitation, the business shall:

(a) Maintain a workplace free of drug and alcohol abuse during the term of the contract;

(b) Publish a statement notifying its employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs, and the abuse of drugs or alcohol is prohibited in the business' workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of these prohibitions;

(c) Prohibit its employees from working under the influence of drugs or alcohol;

(d) Not hire or assign to work on the contract anyone who the business knows, or in the exercise of due diligence should know, currently abuses drugs or alcohol and is not actively engaged in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program;

(e) Promptly inform the appropriate law enforcement agency of every drug-related crime that occurs in its workplace if the business has observed the violation or otherwise has reliable information that a violation has occurred;

(f) Establish drug and alcohol abuse awareness programs to inform its employees about:

- (i) The dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace;
- (ii) The business's policy of maintaining a drug and alcohol free workplace;
- (iii) Any available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
- (iv) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees who abuse drugs and alcohol in the workplace;

(g) Provide all employees engaged in the performance of the contract with a copy of the statement required by §E(2)(b), above;

(h) Notify its employees in the statement required by §E(2)(b), above, that as a condition of continued employment on the contract, the employee shall:

- (i) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (ii) Notify the employer of any criminal drug or alcohol abuse conviction for an offense occurring in the workplace not later than 5 days after a conviction;

(i) Notify the procurement officer within 10 days after receiving notice under §E(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction;

(j) Within 30 days after receiving notice under §E(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction, impose either of the following sanctions or remedial measures on any employee who is convicted of a drug or alcohol abuse offense occurring in the workplace:

- (i) Take appropriate personnel action against an employee, up to and including termination; or
- (ii) Require an employee to satisfactorily participate in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program; and

(k) Make a good faith effort to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace through implementation of §E(2)(a)—(j), above.

(3) If the business is an individual, the individual shall certify and agree as set forth in §E(4), below, that the individual shall not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs or the abuse of drugs or alcohol in the performance of the contract.

(4) I acknowledge and agree that:

(a) The award of the contract is conditional upon compliance with COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification;

(b) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification shall be cause to suspend payments under, or terminate the contract for default under COMAR 21.07.01.11 or 21.07.03.15, as applicable; and

(c) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification in connection with the contract may, in the exercise of the discretion of the Board of Public Works, result in suspension and debarment of the business under COMAR 21.08.03.

F. CERTAIN AFFIRMATIONS VALID

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, each of the affirmations, certifications, or acknowledgements contained in that certain Proposal Affidavit dated _____, 201____, and executed by me for the purpose of obtaining the contract to which this Exhibit is attached remains true and correct in all respects as if made as of the date of this Contract Affidavit and as if fully set forth herein.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____

By: _____ (printed name of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

_____ (signature of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

ATTACHMENT O – DHR HIRING AGREEMENT

This solicitation does not require a DHR Hiring Agreement.

APPENDIX 1

Abbreviations and Definitions

For purposes of this RFP, the following abbreviations or terms have the meanings indicated below:

1. **Board, or MSRP Board** – The Board of Trustees of the Maryland Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans.
2. **Business Day(s)** – The official working days of the week to include Monday through Friday. Official working days exclude State Holidays (see definition of “Normal State Business Hours” below).
3. **COMAR** – Code of Maryland Regulations available on-line at www.dsd.state.md.us.
4. **Contract** – The Contract awarded to the successful Offeror pursuant to this RFP. The Contract will be in the form of **Attachment M**.
5. **Contract Commencement** - The date the Contract is signed by the Board following any required approvals of the Contract, including approval by the Board of Public Works, if such approval is required.
6. **Contract Monitor** – The State representative for this Contract who is primarily responsible for Contract administration functions, including issuing written direction, invoice approval, monitoring this Contract to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, monitoring MBE and VSBE compliance, and achieving completion of the Contract on budget, on time, and within scope. The Contract Monitor may authorize in writing one or more State representatives to act on behalf of the Contract Monitor in the performance of the Contract Monitor’s responsibilities.
7. **Contractor** – The selected Offeror that is awarded a Contract by the State.
8. **eMM** – eMaryland Marketplace. See RFP Section 4.2.
9. **Go-Live Date** – The date, as specified in the Notice to Proceed, when the Contractor must begin providing all services required by this solicitation. See Notice to Proceed below.
10. **Key Personnel** – All personnel identified in the solicitation as such, or personnel identified by the Offeror in its Proposal that are essential to the work being performed under the Contract. See RFP Sections 3.10 and 5.4.2.7.
11. **Local Time** – Time in the Eastern Time Zone as observed by the State of Maryland. Unless otherwise specified, all stated times shall be Local Time, even if not expressly designated as such.
12. **Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)** – Any legal entity certified as defined at COMAR 21.01.02.01B(54) which is certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation under COMAR 21.11.03.
13. **MSRP** – The Maryland Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans, and the shortened title of Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans.
14. **Normal State Business Hours** - Normal State business hours are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except State Holidays, which can be found at: www.dbm.maryland.gov – keyword: State Holidays.

15. **Notice to Proceed (NTP)** – A written notice from the Procurement Officer that, subject to the conditions of the Contract, work under the Contract is to begin as of a specified date. The start date listed in the NTP is the Go-Live Date, and is the official start date of the Contract for the actual delivery of services as described in this solicitation. After Contract Commencement, additional NTPs may be issued by either the Procurement Officer or the Board Contract Monitor regarding the start date for any service included within this solicitation with a delayed or non-specified implementation date.
16. **Offeror** – An entity that submits a Proposal in response to this RFP.
17. **Procurement Officer** – Prior to the award of any Contract, the sole point of contact in the State for purposes of this solicitation. After Contract award, the Procurement Officer has responsibilities as detailed in the Contract (Attachment M), and is the only State representative who can authorize changes to the Contract. The Board may change the Procurement Officer at any time by written notice to the Contractor.
18. **Proposal** – As appropriate, either or both of an Offeror’s Technical or Financial Proposal.
19. **Request for Proposals (RFP)** – This Request for Proposals issued by the Board, with the Solicitation Number and date of issuance indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors), including any addenda.
20. **State** – The State of Maryland.
21. **Five –Year Total Proposal Price** - The Offeror’s total proposed price for services in response to this solicitation, included in the Financial Proposal with Attachment B – Financial Proposal Form, and used in the financial evaluation of Proposals (see RFP Section 5.3).