



STATE OF ARKANSAS

Department of Human Services
Office of Procurement
700 Main Street,
Little Rock, AR 72201

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL BID SOLICITATION DOCUMENT

SOLICITATION INFORMATION			
Bid Number:	710-21-0018	Solicitation Issued:	July 13, 2021
Description:	Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services (CSATS)		
Agency:	Division of Aging, Adults, and Behavioral Health Services (DAABHS)		
SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE			
Bid Submission:	August 13, 2021 1:00pm Central Time	Bid Opening:	August 13, 2021 2:00pm Central Time
<p>Proposals shall not be accepted after the designated bid opening date and time. In accordance with Arkansas Procurement Law and Rules, it is the responsibility of Vendors to submit proposals at the designated location on or before the bid opening date and time. Proposals received after the designated bid opening date and time shall be considered late and shall be returned to the Vendor without further review. It is not necessary to return "no bids" to the Office of Procurement (OP).</p>			
DELIVERY OF RESPONSE DOCUMENTS			
Drop off Address:	Arkansas Department of Human Services Attn: Office of Procurement 700 Main Street Slot W345 Little Rock, AR 72201		
United States mail (USPS):	Arkansas Department of Human Services Attn: Office of Procurement P.O. Box 1437 Slot W345 Little Rock, AR 72203-1437		
Commercial Carrier (UPS, FedEx or USPS Exp):	Arkansas Department of Human Services Attn: Office of Procurement 112 West 8 th Street, Slot W345 Little Rock, AR 72201		
	Delivery providers, USPS, UPS, and FedEx deliver mail to OP's street address on a schedule determined by each individual provider. These providers will deliver to OP based solely on the street address. Vendors assume all risk for timely, properly submitted deliveries.		
Proposal's Outer Packaging:	<p>Outer packaging must be sealed and should be properly marked with the following information. If outer packaging of proposal submission is not properly marked, the package may be opened for bid identification purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bid number • Date and time of bid opening • Vendor's name and return address 		
OFFICE OF STATE PROCUREMENT CONTACT INFORMATION			
OP Buyer:	Chorsie Burns	Phone Number:	501-682-6327
Email Address:	chorsie.burns@dhs.arkansas.gov	OP's Main Number:	501-396-6045
DHS Website:	http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/Pages/default.aspx		
OPS Website:	http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement/bids/index.php		

SECTION 1 - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

Do not provide responses to items in this section unless specifically and expressly required.

1.1 PURPOSE

The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Aging, Adults, and Behavioral Health Services (DAABHS) is seeking to contract with qualified vendors to provide statewide Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services (CSATS) within designated DAABHS catchment areas in the state of Arkansas.

These services are inclusive of adult services (e.g., residential, partial day treatment, intensive outpatient services, regular outpatient services, observational detoxification, case management, care coordination, and interim services (e.g., residential and outpatient)).

1.2 INTERGOVERNMENTAL/COOPERATIVE USE OF PROPOSAL AND CONTRACT

In accordance with Arkansas Code §19-11-249, this proposal and resulting contract is available to any State Agency or Institution of Higher Education that wishes to utilize the services of the selected proposer, and the proposer agrees, they may enter into an agreement as provided in this solicitation.

1.3 TYPE OF CONTRACT

- A. A Term contract will be awarded to one Contractor in each catchment area.
- B. Any resultant contract of this *Bid Solicitation* **shall** be subject to State approval processes which may include Legislative Review
- C. The term of this contract **shall** be for up to one (1) year. The anticipated starting date for the contract is 12/01/2021. Upon mutual agreement by the Contractor and agency, the contract may be renewed by OP on a year-to-year basis, for up to six (6) additional one-year terms or a portion thereof. By submitting a signed proposal in response to the RFP, the Prospective Contractor represents and warrants that it will honor its proposal as being held open as irrevocable for this period.
- D. The total contract terms **shall not** be more than seven (7) years.

1.4 ISSUING AGENCY

The Office of Procurement, as the issuing office, is the sole point of contact throughout this solicitation.

1.5 BID OPENING LOCATION

Proposals received by the opening time and date **shall** be opened at the following location:

Department of Human Services
Office of Procurement
700 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Vendors wishing to attend the bid opening must report to the main entrance of the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Donaghey Plaza South, 700 Main Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 and check in with the receptionist. All attendees are required to obtain security clearance upon entrance to the building by submitting a current, valid photo ID, preferably a driver's license, to the Security Officer at the reception area. The Security Officer will issue a visitor's badge which must be worn at all times. Before leaving the bid opening, visitors are required to return the visitor's badge to the Security Officer and retrieve their ID.

The receptionist is to contact the buyer for more detailed directions to the bid opening location.

When circumstances warrant, DHS may elect to conduct the bid opening entirely via video conference. If DHS makes this election, DHS shall post a link to the video conference on its website. If the bid opening will be conducted entirely via video conference, individuals will not be permitted to attend in-person.

1.6 ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIREMENTS

- A. The words "**must**" and "**shall**" signify a Requirement of this solicitation and that vendor's agreement to and compliance with that item is mandatory.

- B. Exceptions taken to any Requirement in this *Bid Solicitation*, whether submitted in the vendor's response or in subsequent correspondence, **shall** cause the vendor's response to be disqualified.
- C. Vendor may request exceptions to NON-mandatory items. Any such request **must** be declared on, or as an attachment to, the appropriate section's *Agreement and Compliance Page* in the *Response Packet*. Vendor **must** clearly explain the requested exception and should reference the specific solicitation item number to which the exception applies. (See *Agreement and Compliance Page*.)

1.7 **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

- A. The State Procurement Official has made every effort to use industry-accepted terminology in this *Bid Solicitation* and will attempt to further clarify any point of an item in question as indicated in *Clarification of Bid Solicitation*.
- B. Unless otherwise defined herein, all terms defined in Arkansas Procurement Law and used herein have the same definitions herein as specified therein.
- C. "Contractor" or "Vendor" means a person who sells or contracts to sell commodities and/or services.
- D. The terms "Request for Proposal", "RFP" and "Bid Solicitation" are used synonymously in this document.
- E. "State" means the State of Arkansas. When the term "State" is used herein to reference any obligation of the State under a contract that results from this solicitation, that obligation is limited to the State agency using such a contract.

1.8 **RESPONSE DOCUMENTS**

- A. Original Technical Proposal Packet
 - 1. A hard copy of the original *Technical Proposal Packet* **must** be received on or before the bid submittal date and time.
 - 2. The Proposal Packet should be clearly marked "Original" and **must** include the following:
 - a. Original signed *Proposal Signature Page*. (See *Proposal Signature Page*.)
 - b. Original signed *Agreement and Compliance Pages*. (See *Agreement and Compliance Pages*.)
 - c. Original signed *Proposed Subcontractors Form*. (See *Subcontractors*.)
 - d. *Technical Proposal* response to the *Information for Evaluation* section included in the *Technical Proposal Packet*.
 - e. Other documents and/or information as may be expressly required in this *Bid Solicitation*.
 - 3. The following items should be submitted in the original *Technical Proposal Packet*.
 - a. EO 98-04 Disclosure Form, Attachment A. (See *Standard Terms and Conditions*, #27. *Disclosure*.)
 - b. Copy of Vendor's *Equal Opportunity Policy*. (See *Equal Opportunity Policy*.)
 - c. *Voluntary Product Accessibility Template* (VPAT), if applicable. (See *Technology Access*.)
 - 4. **DO NOT** include any other documents or ancillary information, such as a cover letter or promotional/marketing information.
- B. Official Bid Price Sheet. (See *Pricing*.)
 - 1. Vendor's original *Official Bid Price Sheet* **must** be submitted in hard copy format.
 - 2. Vendor should also submit one (1) electronic copy of the *Official Bid Price Sheet*, preferably on a flash drive. A CD will also be acceptable.

3. The *Official Bid Price Sheet*, including the hard copy and electronic copy, **must** be separately sealed from the *Technical Proposal Packet* and should be clearly marked as "Pricing". Vendor **must not** include any pricing in the hard copies or electronic copies of their *Technical Proposal Packet*.

C. Additional Copies and Redacted Copy of the *Technical Proposal Packet*

In addition to the original *Technical Proposal Packet* and the *Official Bid Price Sheet*, the following items should be submitted:

1. Additional Copies of the *Technical Proposal Packet*
 - a. Three (3) complete hard copies (marked "COPY") of the *Technical Proposal Packet*.
 - b. Four (4) electronic copies of the *Technical Proposal Packet*, preferably on flash drives. CDs will also be acceptable.
 - c. All additional hard copies and electronic copies **must** be identical to the original hard copy. In case of a discrepancy, the original hard copy **shall** govern.
 - d. If OP requests additional copies of the proposal, the copies **must** be delivered within twenty-four (24) hours of request.

1.9 LIMITED BID SUBMISSION ACCOMMODATION DURING COVID-19

The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Procurement (OP) extends the following bid submission accommodation to our Prospective Vendors in order to mitigate some of the difficulties presented by the current COVID-19 outbreak.

Prospective Contractors may elect to submit electronic bids via thumb drive only as long as the following conditions are met.

- A. All bids must be received by the Bid Submission deadline specified on page 1 of the Bid Solicitation Document.
- B. All required response documents must be submitted on a USB flash drive clearly labeled "Response Packet" and sealed in a separate envelope from pricing.
- C. Pricing must be submitted on a separate, clearly marked USB flash drive and sealed in an envelope separate from the Response Packet and clearly marked "Pricing."
- D. By signing the Electronic Submission Signature Page [and Section 1 Vendor Agreement and Compliance page in the Response Packet], Vendor acknowledges and agrees that if the USB flash drives are damaged, malfunction, or the information on them is incompatible with DHS computers or electronic devices or otherwise cannot be accessed or is unusable, the submission will be considered non-responsive and will be disqualified.
- E. In order to mitigate this risk, Vendor may elect to submit bids according to the requirements specified in section 1.8 "Response Documents" of the Bid Solicitation Document or submit additional USB flash drives as backup.

1.10 ORGANIZATION OF RESPONSE DOCUMENTS

- A. It is strongly recommended that Vendors adhere to the following format and suggestions when preparing their Technical Proposal response.
- B. The original *Technical Proposal Packet* and all copies should be arranged in the following order:
 - *Proposal Signature Page.*
 - *All Agreement and Compliance Pages.*
 - *Proposed Subcontractors Form.*
 - Signed Addenda, if applicable.
 - E.O. 98-04 – *Contract Grant and Disclosure Form.*
 - *Equal Opportunity Policy.*
 - Other documents and/or information as may be expressly required in this *Bid Solicitation*. Label documents and/or information so as to reference the *Bid Solicitation's* item number.
 - Technical Proposal response to the *Information for Evaluation* section of the *Technical Proposal Packet*.

CLARIFICATION OF BID SOLICITATION

- C. Vendor may submit written questions requesting clarification of information contained in this *Bid Solicitation*. Written questions should be submitted by 4:00 p.m., Central Time on July 21, 2021. Submit written questions by email to the buyer as shown on page one (1) of this *Bid Solicitation*.
- D. The attached response template (*Attachment B*) **must** be used for submission of all written questions. All questions should include the information specified in the response template. Written questions submitted in a different format may not be answered by DHS.
- E. Vendor's written questions will be consolidated and responded to by the State. The State's consolidated written response is anticipated to be posted to the OP website by the close of business on July 30, 2021.
- F. Answers to verbal questions may be given as a matter of courtesy and **must** be evaluated at vendor's risk.

1.11 PROPOSAL SIGNATURE PAGE

- A. An official authorized to bind the Vendor(s) to a resultant contract **must** sign the *Proposal Signature Page* included in the *Technical Proposal Packet*.
- B. Vendor's signature on this page **shall** signify vendor's agreement that either of the following **shall** cause the vendor's proposal to be disqualified:
 - 1. Additional terms or conditions submitted intentionally or inadvertently.
 - 2. Any exception that conflicts with a Requirement of this *Bid Solicitation*.

1.12 AGREEMENT AND COMPLIANCE PAGES

- A. Vendor **must** sign all *Agreement and Compliance Pages* relevant to each section of the *Bid Solicitation Document*. The *Agreement and Compliance Pages* are included in the *Technical Proposal Packet*.
- B. Vendor's signature on these pages **shall** signify agreement to and compliance with all Requirements within the designated section.

1.13 SUBCONTRACTORS

- A. Vendor must complete, sign and submit the *Proposed Subcontractors Form* included in the *Technical Proposal Packet* to indicate vendor's intent to utilize, or to not utilize, subcontractors.
- B. Additional subcontractor information may be required or requested in following sections of this *Bid Solicitation* or in the *Information for Evaluation* section provided in the *Technical Proposal Packet*. **Do not** attach any additional information to the *Proposed Subcontractors Form*.
- C. The utilization of any proposed subcontractor is subject to approval by the State agency.

1.14 PRICING

- A. Vendor(s) shall include all pricing on the Official Price Bid Sheet only. Any cost not identified by the successful vendor but subsequently incurred in order to achieve successful operation **shall** be borne by the Vendor. The *Official Bid Price Sheet* is provided as a separate PDF file posted with this *Bid Solicitation*.
- B. To allow time to evaluate proposals, prices **must** be valid for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days following the bid opening.
- C. The *Official Bid Price Sheet*, including the hard copy and electronic copy, **must** be separately sealed from the *Technical Proposal Packet* and should be clearly marked as "Pricing". DO NOT submit any ancillary information not related to actual pricing in the sealed pricing package.
- D. Vendor **must not** include any pricing in the hard copies or electronic copies of their *Technical Proposal Packet*. Should hard copies or electronic copies of their *Response Packet* contain any pricing, the response **shall** be disqualified.
- E. Failure to complete and submit the *Official Bid Price Sheet* **shall** result in disqualification.

- F. All proposal pricing **must** be in United States dollars and cents.
- G. The Official Bid Price Sheet may be reproduced as needed.

1.15 **PRIME CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. A joint proposal submitted by two or more vendor is acceptable. However, a single vendor **must** be identified as the prime Contractor.
- B. The prime Contractor **shall** be held responsible for the contract and **shall** be the sole point of contact. The prime Contractor shall be held responsible for the contract and jointly and severally liable with any of its subcontractors, affiliates, or agents to the State for the performance thereof.

1.16 **INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION**

- A. By submission of this proposal, the Vendor certifies, and in the case of a joint proposal, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, that in connection with this proposal:
 - The prices in the proposal have been arrived at independently, without collusion; and
 - No prior information concerning these prices has been received from, or given to, a competitive company.
- B. Evidence of collusion **shall** warrant consideration of this proposal by the Office of the Attorney General. All Vendors **shall** understand that this paragraph may be used as a basis for litigation.

1.17 **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

- A. Submission documents pertaining to this *Bid Solicitation* become the property of the State and are subject to the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- B. In accordance with FOIA and to promote maximum competition in the State competitive bidding process, the State may maintain the confidentiality of certain types of information described in FOIA. Such information may include trade secrets defined by FOIA and other information exempted from the Public Records Act pursuant to FOIA.
- C. Vendor may designate appropriate portions of its response as confidential, consistent with and to the extent permitted under the Statutes and Rules set forth above, by submitting a redacted copy of the response.
- D. By so redacting any information contained in the response, the Vendor warrants that it has formed a good faith opinion having received such necessary or proper review by counsel and other knowledgeable advisors that the portions redacted meet the requirements of the Rules and Statutes set forth above.
- E. Under no circumstances will pricing information be designated as confidential.
- F. One (1) complete copy of the submission documents from which any proprietary information has been redacted should be submitted on a flash drive in the *Technical Proposal Packet*. A CD is also acceptable. Do not submit documents via e-mail or fax.
- G. Except for the redacted information, the redacted copy **must** be identical to the original hard copy, reflecting the same pagination as the original and showing the space from which information was redacted.
- H. The Vendor is responsible for identifying all proprietary information and for ensuring the electronic copy is protected against restoration of redacted data.
- I. The redacted copy **shall** be open to public inspection under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) without further notice to the Vendor.
- J. If a redacted copy of the submission documents is not provided with Vendor's response packet, a copy of the non-redacted documents, with the exception of financial data (other than pricing), **will** be released in response to any request made under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).
- K. If the State deems redacted information to be subject to FOIA, the Vendor will be notified of the State's determination prior to release of the documents.

- L. The State has no liability to a Vendor with respect to the disclosure of Vendor's confidential information ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to FOIA or other applicable law.

1.18 **CAUTION TO VENDORS**

- A. Prior to any contract award, all communication concerning this *Bid Solicitation* **must** be addressed through OP.
- B. Vendor **must not** alter any language in any solicitation document provided by the State.
- C. Vendor **must not** alter the Official Bid Price Sheet.
- D. All official documents and correspondence related to this solicitation **shall** be included as part of the resultant contract.
- E. Proposals **must** be submitted only the English language.
- F. The State **shall** have the right to award or not award a contract, if it is in the best interest of the State to do so.
- G. Vendor **must** provide clarification of any information in their response documents as requested by OP.
- H. Qualifications and proposed services **must** meet or exceed the required specifications as set forth in this *Bid Solicitation*.
- I. Vendors may submit multiple proposals. Each proposal shall be submitted separately and must include all documents and information required under this RFP in order to advance to evaluation.

1.19 **REQUIREMENT OF ADDENDUM**

- A. This *Bid Solicitation* **shall** be modified only by an addendum written and authorized by OP.
- B. Vendors are cautioned to ensure that they have received or obtained, and have responded to, any and all addenda to the Bid Solicitation prior to submission of response.
- C. An addendum posted within three (3) calendar days prior to the bid opening **shall** extend the bid opening and may or may not include changes to the Bid Solicitation.
- D. The vendor **shall** be responsible for checking the following Office of State Procurement (OSP) and DHS websites for any and all addenda up to the bid opening:

<http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/about-dhs/op/procurement-announcements>
<http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement/bids/index.php>

1.20 **AWARD PROCESS**

A. Award Determination

The Grand Total Score for each Vendor, which **shall** be a sum of the Technical Score and Cost Score, **shall** be used to determine the ranking of proposals. The State may move forward to negotiations, pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 19-11-230, with those responsible Vendors determined, based on the ranking of the proposals, to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

1. A contract will be awarded to a single Vendor in each catchment area of the state (See Attachment G).
2. DHS intends to award at most one (1) region of the state to a single Vendor. If insufficient responsive responsible bids are submitted to achieve full coverage of the state, DHS may award more than one region to a single vendor, as needed.
3. The total Score for each Vendor per region will be used to determine the ranking of responses per region.
4. The highest scoring Vendor in each region will be offered a contract or will enter into contract discussions with DHS, at the sole discretion of DHS, as described below in Section 1.21(B).

5. Contracts that are awarded to vendors must be awarded to vendors whose proposals are determined to be most advantageous to DHS based on the selection criteria.
6. DHS reserves the right to award multiple contracts.

B. Discussions and Negotiations

1. If the agency so chooses, it **shall** also have the right to enter into discussion with the qualifying vendor(s), to further define contractual details. All such discussions **shall** be conducted at the sole discretion of the State and may be conducted at any lawful time of the State's choosing. The State **shall** solely determine the items to be discussed or negotiated.
2. If discussions or negotiations fail to result in a contract, the negotiation process may be repeated until an anticipated successful vendor(s) has been determined or an award made, or until such time the State decides not to move forward with an award.
3. At the sole discretion of the State, the State may elect to request best and final offers discussions, per region, with responsible vendors that fall within the competitive range for a certain region. The competitive range shall be defined as the four (4) highest ranked vendors pursuant to Section 1.21(A) above.

C. Anticipation to Award

1. Once the anticipated successful Vendor has been determined, the anticipated award will be posted on the DHS and OSP websites at:

<http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/about-dhs/op/procurement-announcements>
<http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/procurement/bids/index.php>

2. The anticipated award will be posted for a period of fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the issuance of a contract. Vendors and agencies are cautioned that these are preliminary results only, and a contract will not be issued prior to the end of the fourteen-day posting period.
3. OP **shall** have the right to waive the fourteen (14) day anticipated award posting period when it is in the best interest of the State.
4. It is the Vendor's responsibility to check the OP website for the posting of an anticipated award.

D. Issuance of Contract

1. Any resultant contract of this *Bid Solicitation* **shall** be subject to State approval processes which may include Legislative review.
2. A State Procurement Official will be responsible for award and administration of any resulting contract.

1.21 MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS POLICY

A. A minority-owned business is defined by Arkansas Code Annotated § 15-4-303 as a business that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by a lawful permanent resident of this State who is:

- African American
- American Indian
- Asian American
- Hispanic American
- Pacific Islander American
- A Service-disabled Veteran as designated by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs

B. A woman-owned business is defined by Arkansas Code Annotated § 15-4-303(9) as a business that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by one (1) or more women who are lawful permanent residents of this State.

- C. The Arkansas Economic Development Commission conducts a certification process for minority-owned and women-owned businesses. If certified, the Prospective Vendor's Certification Number should be included on the *Proposal Signature Page*.

1.22 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

- A. In compliance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 19-11-104, the State is required to have a copy of the anticipated Vendor's *Equal Opportunity (EO) Policy* prior to issuing a contract award.
- B. *EO Policies* should be included as a hardcopy accompanying the solicitation response.
- C. The submission of an *EO Policy* to the State is a one-time Requirement. Vendors are responsible for providing updates or changes to their respective policies, and for supplying *EO Policies* upon request to other State agencies that must also comply with this statute.
- D. Vendors who are not required by law by to have an *EO Policy* **must** submit a written statement to that effect.

1.23 PROHIBITION OF EMPLOYMENT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

- A. Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 19-11-105, prior to the award of a contract, selected Vendor(s) **must** have a current certification on file with OSP stating that they do not employ or contract with illegal immigrants. If selected, the Vendor certifies that they will not employ or contract with illegal immigrants during the aggregate term of a contract.
- B. OSP will notify the selected vendor(s) prior to award if their certification has expired or is not on file. Instructions for completing the certification process will be provided to the vendor(s) at that time.

1.24 RESTRICTION OF BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

- A. Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-1-503, a public entity **shall not** enter into a contract with a company unless the contract includes a written certification that the person or company is not currently engaged in and agrees for the duration of the contract not to engage in, a boycott of Israel.
- B. This prohibition does not apply to a company which offers to provide the goods or services for at least twenty percent (20%) less than the lowest certifying business.
- C. By checking the designated box on the Proposal Signature Page of the response packet, a Vendor agrees and certifies that they do not, and will not for the duration of the contract, boycott Israel.

1.25 PAST PERFORMANCE

In accordance with provisions of State Procurement Law, specifically OSP Rule R5:19-11-230(b)(1), a Vendor's past performance with the State may be used to determine if the Vendor is "responsible." Proposals submitted by Vendors determined to be non-responsible **shall** be disqualified.

1.26 TECHNOLOGY ACCESS

- A. When procuring a technology product or when soliciting the development of such a product, the State of Arkansas is required to comply with the provisions of Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-26-201 et seq., as amended by Act 308 of 2013, which expresses the policy of the State to provide individuals who are blind or visually impaired with access to information technology purchased in whole or in part with state funds. The Contractor expressly acknowledges and agrees that state funds may not be expended in connection with the purchase of information technology unless that technology meets the statutory Requirements found in 36 C.F.R. § 1194.21, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (software applications and operating ICSs) and 36 C.F.R. § 1194.22, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (web-based intranet and internet information and applications), in accordance with the State of Arkansas technology policy standards relating to accessibility by persons with visual impairments.
- B. ACCORDINGLY, THE CONTRACTOR EXPRESSLY REPRESENTS AND WARRANTS to the State of Arkansas through the procurement process by submission of a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) for 36 C.F.R. § 1194.21, as it existed on January 1, 2013 (software applications and operating ICSs) and 36 C.F.R. § 1194.22, that the technology provided to the State for purchase is capable, either by virtue of features included within the technology, or because it is readily adaptable by use with other technology, of:

1. Providing, to the extent required by Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-26-201 et seq., as amended by Act 308 of 2013, equivalent access for effective use by both visual and non-visual means;
 2. Presenting information, including prompts used for interactive communications, in formats intended for non-visual use;
 3. After being made accessible, integrating into networks for obtaining, retrieving, and disseminating information used by individuals who are not blind or visually impaired;
 4. Providing effective, interactive control and use of the technology, including without limitation the operating system, software applications, and format of the data presented is readily achievable by nonvisual means;
 5. Being compatible with information technology used by other individuals with whom the blind or visually impaired individuals interact;
 6. Integrating into networks used to share communications among employees, program participants, and the public; and
 7. Providing the capability of equivalent access by nonvisual means to telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons who are not blind or visually impaired.
- C. State agencies cannot claim a product as a whole is not reasonably available because no product in the marketplace meets all the standards. Agencies **must** evaluate products to determine which product best meets the standards. If an agency purchases a product that does not best meet the standards, the agency must provide written documentation supporting the selection of a different product, including any required reasonable accommodations.
- D. For purposes of this section, the phrase “equivalent access” means a substantially similar ability to communicate with, or make use of, the technology, either directly, by features incorporated within the technology, or by other reasonable means such as assistive devices or services which would constitute reasonable accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or similar state and federal laws. Examples of methods by which equivalent access may be provided include, but are not limited to, keyboard alternatives to mouse commands or other means of navigating graphical displays, and customizable display appearance. As provided in Arkansas Code Annotated § 25-26-201 et seq., as amended by Act 308 of 2013, if equivalent access is not reasonably available, then individuals who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided a reasonable accommodation as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 12111(9), as it existed on January 1, 2013.
- E. If the information manipulated or presented by the product is inherently visual in nature, so that its meaning cannot be conveyed non-visually, these specifications do not prohibit the purchase or use of an information technology product that does not meet these standards.

1.27 COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE SHARED TECHNICAL ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

The Vendor’s solution **must** comply with the State’s shared Technical Architecture Program which is a set of policies and standards that can be viewed at: <http://dis.publishpath.com/policies-standards>. Only those standards which are fully promulgated or have been approved by the Governor’s Office apply to this solution.

1.28 VISA ACCEPTANCE

- A. Awarded Contractor should have the capability of accepting the State’s authorized VISA Procurement Card (p-card) as a method of payment.
- B. Price changes or additional fee(s) **shall not** be levied against the State when accepting the p-card as a form of payment.
- C. VISA is not the exclusive method of payment.

1.29 PUBLICITY

- A. Vendors **shall not** issue a news release pertaining to this *Bid Solicitation* or any portion of the project without OP’s prior written approval.

B. Failure to comply with this Requirement **shall** be cause for a Vendor’s proposal to be disqualified or for the contract to be terminated.

1.30 RESERVATION

The State **shall not** pay costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal.

1.31 DATA LOCATION

Vendor shall under no circumstances allow Arkansas data to be relocated, transmitted, hosted or stored outside the continental United States in connection with any services provided under this contract entered into under this RFP, either directly by the Vendor or by its subcontractors.

1.32 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Public Notice of RFP	July 13, 2021
Deadline for Receipt of Written Questions	July 21, 2021
Response to Written Questions, On or About	July 30, 2021
Date for Bid Submission	August 13, 2021
Date and time for Opening Bid	August 13, 2021 @ 2:00pm
Selection of Contractor, On or About	September 30, 2021
Intent to Award Announced, On or About	October 1, 2021
Contract Start, (Subject to State Approval)	December 1, 2021

1.33 STATE HOLIDAYS

Holidays are those days as declared legal state holidays by authority of Act 304 of 2001. Those days are as follows:

New Year’s Day	January 1
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s Birthday	Third Monday in January
George Washington Birthday	Third Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Veteran’s Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November
Christmas Eve	December 24
Christmas Day	December 25

Additional days can be proclaimed as holidays by the Governor through executive proclamation. State offices are normally closed on holidays; however, there are occasions (i.e. during legislative sessions) when it may become necessary to keep state offices open on holidays. The Vendor **shall** maintain adequate staff on such working holidays.

SECTION 2 – MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Do not provide responses to items in this section unless expressly required.

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Aging, Adults, and Behavioral Health Services (DAABHS) is seeking to contract with qualified vendors to provide statewide Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services (CSATS) within designated DAABHS catchment areas in the state of Arkansas (See Attachment G: Catchment Areas).

- For State Fiscal Year 2019, 5,869 Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services (CSATS) clients were served statewide.
- For State Fiscal Year 2020, 4,703 Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services (CSATS) clients were served statewide.

*Note: The service levels statewide from 2019 onward were likely affected by the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, which had major impacts on a variety of medical and social services. Given the unprecedented nature of this global health crisis, prediction of ongoing effects and the time course in which they are resolved is extremely difficult if not impossible.

These numbers are provided for information purposes only. DAABHS does not guarantee a minimum or a maximum number of clients to be served under this contract statewide or by catchment area.

Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services consist of Adult services (ages eighteen (18) and over) including without limitation: interim services, observational detoxification, residential services, outpatient services, partial day treatment, case management, and care coordination.

2.2 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Vendor **must** be registered to do business in the State of Arkansas. For verification purposes, Vendor **must** submit official documentation of their active registration from the Arkansas Secretary of State's Office.
- B. Vendor **must** be a Behavioral Health Agency enrolled as a service provider in the Arkansas Medicaid Program. For verification purposes, Vendor **must** provide Vendor's Medicaid Provider number or documentation for verification of application to become a service provider in the Arkansas Medicaid Program.
- C. Vendor **must** be licensed by the Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Provider Services and Quality Assurance (DPSQA). For verification purposes, Vendor and all subcontractors **must** submit license issued by DPSQA. See *Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs* https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/dbhs/Licensure_Standards_for_Alcohol_other_Drug_Abuse_Tx_programs.pdf and *DAABHS Rules of Practice and Procedure*.
- D. Vendor **must** be nationally accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC), Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) or Council on Accreditation (COA). The Vendor **must** provide evidence of the most current national accreditation status. Accreditation **must** include all appropriate substance abuse treatment service areas provided by the Vendor and include all sites providing substance abuse treatment services.
- E. Vendor **must** ensure all services (client-related or non-client related) are provided by appropriate qualified or credentialed staff and **shall** maintain the required licensure or certification for the duration of the contract period. For verification purposes, Vendor and all subcontractors **must** submit a staffing plan with licensure and or certification required for all staff proposed to carry out the scope of work.
- F. Vendor **shall** have sufficient facilities located in the state of Arkansas. Vendor **must** provide addresses for its facilities. If Vendor does not currently have facilities, Vendor **must** provide addresses for proposed facilities Vendor will acquire upon contract award along with a copy of all relevant lease/purchase agreements.
- G. Vendor **must** have a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)-compliant electronic health records (EHR) system that **shall** be accessible to DAABHS and DPSQA staff during on-site monitoring for client records for compliance. Vendor **shall** provide documentation of HIPAA compliance for EHR system.

2.3 **SCOPE OF WORK**

Comprehensive Substance Abuse Treatment Services **shall** include:

- A. Interim Services: Vendor **shall** provide interim outpatient comprehensive substance abuse treatment services until an individual is admitted to a substance abuse treatment program. The Vendor **must** provide and document the provision of Interim Services to individuals placed on a waiting list for entrance to a substance abuse treatment program in their designated catchment area.
1. At a minimum, interim services **shall** include:
 - a. Outpatient comprehensive Substance Abuse treatment services.
 - b. Counseling and education about human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and tuberculosis (TB);
 - c. Counseling and education about the risks of needle-sharing, the risks of transmission to sexual partners and infants;
 - d. Counseling and education about steps that can be taken to ensure that HIV and TB transmission does not occur;
 - e. Referrals for HIV or TB services, if necessary;
 - f. For sex offenders, interim services **must** include access to all services under this contract for any person who must, by status and/or court order, register himself or herself as a sex offender under the Ark Code §§ 12-12-905 and 12-12-906, if the individual's assessed community notification level is not higher than a level 2, and the individual would otherwise be eligible for those services.
 - g. The above minimum services specified do not preclude or prohibit provision, at the provider's discretion, of additional counseling and/or education specific to the individual's assessed problems and treatment needs (e.g., information on misused drugs, recovery resources, etc.).
 2. All requirements for Interim Services identified in the most current version of the *DAABHS Rules of Practice and Procedure* **must** be met. This includes specific criteria outlined for any identified priority population.
 3. Detailed documentation for Interim Services offerings and administration **must** be maintained by the Vendor.
- B. Observational Detoxification Services: Vendor **shall** provide services designed to enable the client physically dependent upon alcohol and/or drugs to undergo withdrawal from those substances and a safe environment for the client in the midst of a crisis, the nature of which might lead to harm to the client or others unless the client is not in a controlled environment. The Vendor **must** ensure access to Observational Detoxification Services to individuals in their designated catchment area.
1. Observational Detoxification Services **must** include documented evidence of pre-admission screening, intake/assessment, which at a minimum includes financial eligibility, evidence-based screening tools for substance abuse and co-occurring problems, American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)-based determination of treatment modality, a withdrawal risk assessment, and a stabilization plan.
 2. Clients **must** be screened prior to admittance to service to determine eligibility and appropriateness of placement.
 3. Documentation of vitals and food/fluid intake as indicated in the most current version of the *Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs*, progress notes, and discharge/aftercare planning are required. The discharge/aftercare planning **must** outline, at a minimum, referral for ongoing counseling, treatment, and/or recovery-oriented support services.
 4. Regional Alcohol and Drug Detoxification (RADD) services **must** be provided by qualified staff as outlined in the most current version of *DAABHS Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs*.

5. RADD programs **must** comply with physical plant requirements specific to RADD areas as outlined in the most current version of the *DAABHS Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs*.
- C. Adult Residential Treatment Services: Vendor **shall** provide care to a substance abuse client who is not ill enough to need admission to medical detoxification or observational detoxification, but who needs more intensive care in the therapeutic setting with supportive living arrangements.
1. Residential Treatment Services **must** include documented evidence of a pre-admission screening and an intake/assessment, which at a minimum includes financial eligibility, evidence-based screening tools for substance abuse and co-occurring problems, American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)-based determination of treatment modality, an initial treatment plan, and a comprehensive treatment plan.
 2. Individuals in residential treatment services **must** receive:
 - Individual counseling
 - Group counseling
 - Support network involvement/Family counseling
 - Psychoeducation
 - Care coordination
 - Discharge/Aftercare planning
 - Intake
 - Room and board
 3. Residential treatment services may also include periodic drug testing.
 4. A unit of service **shall** be a day. Clients **must** be physically present at the facility for a minimum twelve (12) hours of any day billed. Exceptions require prior DAABHS approval.
 5. Residential services **must** be provided seven (7) days per week, twenty-four (24) hours per day and provide:
 - a minimum of twenty-eight (28) hours of structured treatment weekly,
 - a minimum of five (5) hours daily (Monday through Friday), and
 - a minimum of three (3) hours daily on Saturday and/or Sunday.

Structured Treatment activities are facilitated by a staff member, appropriate volunteer, or representative from an outside agency at minimum may include: intake, individual and group therapy, family counseling, crisis intervention, interdisciplinary treatment services, case management, drug testing, medical care (non-detoxification), and/or "other appropriate services."

- D. Outpatient Services: Vendor **shall** provide care to a substance abuse client, family member and/or significant other in an outpatient environment.
1. A pre-admission screening and intake/assessment **must** be performed for all individuals participating in all outpatient treatment services. At a minimum, this includes a financial eligibility determination, evidence-based screening tools for substance abuse and co-occurring problems, ASAM-based determination of treatment modality, initial treatment plan, and a comprehensive treatment plan.
 2. Individuals in Outpatient Treatment programs **must** be provided services listed below:
 - Individual counseling
 - Family/Support network counseling
 - Group counseling
 - Care coordination
 - Psychosocial education
 - Discharge/Aftercare planning
 3. Services to all members of the family or significant other may be reimbursed.

4. A unit of service **shall** be fifteen (15) minutes or any part thereof.
- E. Partial Day Outpatient Services: Vendor **shall** provide care to a substance abuse client who is not ill enough to need admission to medical detoxification or observational detoxification but who has need of more intensive care in the therapeutic setting.
1. Individuals in Partial Day Treatment Programs **must** be provided the services listed below, as determined to be medically necessary:
 - Individual counseling
 - Group counseling
 - Care coordination
 - Psychosocial education
 - Discharge/Aftercare planning
 2. Partial Day Outpatient Services may include periodic drug testing and support network involvement/family counseling.
 3. Partial day treatment **shall** be a minimum of (4) four hours per day for (5) five days per week and **must** include at least one (1) hot meal a day. A unit of service **shall** be four hours for partial day treatment per calendar day.
- F. Case Management Services (Outpatient): Vendor **shall** provide outpatient programs that implement case management as defined by DAABHS. The Case Management program **shall**:
1. Arrange and facilitate the provision of all services as documented in the treatment plan.
 2. Hold regular and as-needed meetings with the client to monitor and reevaluate the individualized comprehensive plan.
 3. Hold regular and as-needed meetings with the program staff and others involved in the delivery of services to the client to monitor and evaluate progress.
 4. Maintain records of other documentation of all services delivered to the client.
 5. Develop an aftercare plan with the client prior to discharge.
- G. Care Coordination (Residential): Vendor **shall** assist the client and family in gaining access to needed medical, social, educational, and other services. Care Coordination **shall** be provided using a wrap-around model meeting the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria and **shall** include the following activities:
- Input into the treatment planning process
 - Coordination of the treatment planning team
 - Referral to services and resources identified in the treatment plan
 - Facilitating linkages between levels of care
 - Monitoring and follow-up activities necessary to ensure the goals identified in the treatment plan are met or revised as needed
 - Assisting with transitioning between levels of care and/or integrating back into the community
- H. Currently Existing Programs and Populations: Currently existing programs and populations may be added after award of this procurement. At such time, the selected Vendor and DHS will discuss scope and costs. Such currently existing programs may include, but are not limited to:
1. Specialized Women's Services (SWS);
 2. Adolescent Services; and
 3. Act 10 Court Ordered Residential Treatment.

Up-to-date quality measures will be provided when discussions regarding the quality review of these programs occur.

- I. **Future Programs and Populations:** Additional programs may be developed or added after award of this procurement to address existing or newly added populations. At such time, the selected Vendor and DHS will discuss scope and costs.
- J. **Emergencies:** In the case of a federal, state, local emergency declaration or in the event that human life or health is endangered or imminently endangered if not for services being immediately initiated, such services may be provided under contracts established by this solicitation at the initiation of DHS.

2.4 **STANDARD OF CARE**

The Vendor **shall**:

- A. Ensure clients funded by DAABHS meet eligibility guidelines. The Vendor will receive payment from DAABHS for necessary services provided to individuals whose income is at or below one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the Federal Poverty Level as issued in the Federal Register by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The poverty guidelines are also available online at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/2021-poverty-guidelines>. Income **must** be evaluated over the course of the last twelve (12) months.
- B. Ensure evidence-based practices are utilized. The materials used **must** be relevant to the modality of treatment.
 1. Evidence-based materials **must** be selected from the following Substance Abuse and mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) link: <https://www.samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center>.
 2. Vendor **must** ensure that staff providing services have documented training in the identified evidence-based curriculum.
 3. The clinical documentation in client files **must** indicate that the evidence-based materials are being implemented appropriately.
 4. Policies and procedures **must** be in place regarding the training and continuing education required of staff, as well as the required use of evidence-based programs
- C. The Vendor **must** ensure that treatment services are strengths-based, trauma-informed, holistic, culturally relevant, educational, individualized, and recovery-oriented.
 1. Clients' strengths **must** be identified during the screening/intake/assessment process. Identification should continue throughout the course of treatment and until the time of discharge. Clinical documentation **must** reflect that strengths are utilized when appropriate and are considered a key part of the treatment process.
 2. Treatment **must** include documented educational/informational activities relevant to enhancing the quality of life, prevention, resiliency, and recovery.
 3. There **must** be clear evidence that clients are involved in the development of treatment goals and objectives, revisions of goals and objectives, and in the development of an aftercare plan.
 4. All documentation **must** be individualized and client specific.
 5. Aftercare and discharge planning **must** be individualized and include identification of appropriate referrals to specific and relevant community resources, and specific plans on how to maintain or exceed progress achieved during the course of treatment. The Vendor **shall** ensure that discharged clients with such referrals have corresponding appointments upon discharge.

2.5 **PRIORITY POPULATION**

- A. The Vendor **must** comply with service provision for priority populations and comply with required timeframes as identified by SAMHSA and in the most current version of the *DAABHS Rules of Practice and Procedures*.
- B. The Vendor **must** establish policies and procedures to prioritize the following populations identified by SAMHSA in the order listed below:

1. Intravenous drug users **must** receive services within fourteen (14) calendar days.
 2. Clients with the greatest clinical need.
 3. Clients from the catchment areas as specified by DAABHS.
 4. Clients from the state of Arkansas.
 5. Clients from other states.
- C. Priority populations placed on waiting lists **must** be offered Interim Services within timeframes established in the most current version of the *DAABHS Rules of Practice and Procedures*. Interim services **must** include counseling and education about the risks of HIV, TB, the risks of needle-sharing, risks of transmission to sexual partners and infants, steps to ensure transmission doesn't occur, and referred for HIV or TB services if necessary.
- D. Interim Services **must** be made available to all persons on the waiting list to enter a substance abuse treatment program.
- E. The Vendor **must** contact an individual receiving Interim Services at least every fourteen (14) calendar days and document efforts to keep the client engaged in seeking treatment services.
- F. DAABHS **must** be notified immediately if a priority population client cannot be admitted to the Vendor's program within the required timeframes. DAABHS will assist with locating a clinically appropriate placement.
- G. Detailed documentation for Interim Services offerings and administration **must** be maintained by the Vendor.
- H. The Vendor **must** ensure access to Residential Treatment Services when indicated as the necessary level of care by ASAM.
- I. Individuals in need of Residential Care, per Licensure Standards and Rules of Practice and Procedure **must** be admitted or referred to an available bed within greater than fourteen (14) calendar days of determination of need,
- J. The Vendor **must** ensure access to substance abuse treatment services throughout the entirety of the contract period.
- K. The Vendor **shall** act as a mandatory receiving facility for voluntary admissions and involuntary commitments in compliance with Act 1268 of 1995 or its successor.

2.6 RECORDS AND REPORTING

- A. In a manner and timeframe prescribed by DAABHS, the Vendor **must** provide regular and special reports or plans. The Vendor **must** ensure all reporting information is submitted to DAABHS within designated time frames.
- B. All DAABHS-funded services provided by the Vendor and their subcontractor(s) **must** be entered into the DAABHS Data Information System by the Vendor by the fifth (5th) business day of the following month. Client information includes waiting list duration, admissions reports, environment change reports, discharge reports, and continuing care tracking. This includes services to clients, Admission Reports, Environmental Change Reports, and Discharge Reports. Late submission of required information may result in penalties assessed on future months' payments.
- C. The Vendor **must** submit the Wait List and Capacity Management reports as directed by DAABHS. A template of the Wait List and Capacity Management Reports will be provided to each vendor upon award.
- D. The Vendor **must** submit an Annual Program Report by June 15th of the preceding contract year. DAABHS will send out the mandatory format to providers no later than April 30th of each year.
- E. The Vendor **must** submit an annual independent financial and compliance audit that conforms to the "Guidelines for Financial and Compliance Audits of Programs Funded by the Arkansas Department of Human

Services.” The copies of all audit reports conducted under these guidelines **must** be submitted to the Department of Human Services as follows:

1. If a Government Auditing Standards Audit is performed, the Audit Report **must** be submitted within one-hundred twenty (120) calendar days following the fiscal year end of a Provider.
2. If a Uniform Guidance Audit is performed, the Audit Report **must** be submitted within nine (9) months following the fiscal year end of a Provider.

Submission **shall** be made directly to each of the following:

By mail:

Director of Audits
Office of Payment Integrity and Audit (OPIA)- Audit Section Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 1437, Slot 270
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437

AND

By email:

ContactDHSAudit@arkansas.gov.

AND

An additional copy of the audit **must** be submitted electronically by e-mail as a Word Document, attachment to DAABHS designated staff member.

- F. The Vendor **must** ensure compliance with the DAABHS Incident Reporting Policy, including time frames for submission.
- G. The Vendor **must** ensure compliance with any other reporting information requested by DAABHS within the timeframe established for that reporting purpose.
- H. The Vendor **shall** participate in trainings and meetings as required by DAABHS.

2.7 STAFFING

- A. The Vendor **must** ensure all services (client-related or non-client related) are provided by appropriate qualified or credentialed persons.
- B. Staff providing treatment-related services **must** have current licenses or certifications with supporting documentation located in their personnel file.
- C. The Vendor **must** ensure the minimum number of staff providing treatment-related services, or support staff if utilized, have current certification in crisis prevention intervention (CPI), cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and first aid.
- D. For detoxification programs, staff monitoring clients **must** be a currently certified RDS, or a RADD Qualified Staff (physician, registered nurse (RN), or licensed practical nurse (LPN)).
- E. The Vendor **must** have at least one (1) person on staff certified in Motivational Interviewing for all treatment programs funded by DAABHS.
- F. Evidence of criminal background checks on all staff with direct contact with clients, or with access to client records, **must** be in personnel files. Maltreatment background checks **must** also be completed and in personnel files for any staff with direct contact with children, adolescents, or adults. Criminal background checks are to be completed upon hire, and at least every five (5) years thereafter. Maltreatment background checks **must** be completed at least every two (2) years.

- G. There **must** be evidence of annual performance evaluations on all staff that have been employed for a year, including contracted staff.
- H. The Vendor **must** ensure that staff providing services have documented training supporting their ongoing certification in current evidence-based treatments. Evidence of training **must** be maintained in the personnel file.
- I. The Vendor must ensure that staff requiring supervision (e.g., Counselors-in-Training (CITS)) based on their certification or licensure **must** have on-going supervision and documentation of its provision.
- J. All staff, interns, or volunteers **must** be qualified for their positions or responsibilities based on job-descriptions and **must** also undergo appropriate background checks relevant to the population served.
- K. Policies and procedures **must** be in place regarding the training, continuing education required of staff, as well as the required use of evidence-based programs.
- L. The Vendor and staff **shall** participate in trainings and meetings as required by DAABHS.

2.8 **SUBCONTRACTORS**

- A. The Vendor may choose to engage subcontractors to assist in providing the full array of services. If the Vendor is unable to provide the full array of services independently, they **must** engage subcontractor(s) to ensure the full array of services is available. However, the Vendor **must** provide at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the full array of services.
- B. Vendor **shall** provide DAABHS with written notification of all subcontractors and the specific services they are providing. Vendor **shall** notify DAABHS within forty-eight (48) hours of the subcontract being implemented in accordance with RFP 1.14 (c). If subcontracts are terminated for any reason(s), Vendor **shall** notify DAABHS within forty-eight (48) hours with a written explanation as to how the full array of services will be maintained.
- C. If the Vendor completes the assessment and initial or comprehensive treatment plan for the client and then refers the client to a subcontractor for the direct services, the Vendor **must** share the assessment and other relevant client information with the applicable subcontractor within twenty-four (24) hours to ensure appropriate treatment services can be initiated in a timely manner.
- D. The Vendor and subcontractor(s) **must** be entered in the DAABHS Data Information System by the Vendor by the fifth (5th) working day of the following month.
- E. All subcontractors are subject to the same requirements as the Primary Vendor regarding the contract requirements, national accreditation status, compliance with the most current version of the *Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs*, and the most current version of the *DAABHS Rules of Practice and Procedures*. The Primary Vendor will be held responsible for noncompliance on the part of a subcontractor, as the Primary Vendor is accountable for oversight of any/all subcontractor activities.
- F. The Vendor **must** develop and implement a monitoring process for all subcontractors with reviews completed at least quarterly.

2.9 **COMPLIANCE**

The Vendor **shall**:

- A. Be prepared to render all services under the Scope of Work by the contract start date as indicated in Section 1.3 item C.
- B. Determine financial eligibility and conduct the clinical screening/assessment and recommend the appropriate program and level of service on all clients.
- C. Maintain national accreditation to provide substance abuse outpatient and residential treatment programs. Acceptable national accreditation includes JCHAO, CARF, and COA. Programs **must** report any adverse actions taken by accrediting boards to DAABHS within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of finds. A copy of the adverse action and corrective actions plans **shall** be sent to the DAABHS Treatment Coordinator or designee

once approved by the accrediting board. The Vendor **must** send DAABHS copies of all correspondence related to national accreditation within five (5) business days of being sent or received. This **shall** include national accreditation reporting requirements, including without limitation: Annual Conformation to Quality Reports, Maintenance of Accreditation, or Intra-Cycle Monitoring Profiles (if applicable based on accreditation type). Upon completion of any survey by a national accrediting body, the Vendor **must** forward final reports to DAABHS immediately upon receipt.

- D. Maintain compliance with all regulatory agencies applicable to these services and the most current versions of the *Division of Aging Adult and Behavioral Health Services (DAABHS) Alcohol and Drug Abuse Rules of Practice & Procedure* and the *DAABHS Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs*.
- E. Maintain enrollment as a service provider in the Arkansas Medicaid Program throughout the contracted term.
- F. Inform DAABHS and the Division of Provider Services and Quality Assurance (DPSQA) staff prior to any changes in management staff, contact information, site moves, additional sites, or changes in ownership within five (5) business days. New sites **must** be inspected and licensed before services are provided.

2.10 **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- A. The Vendor **must** maintain a fully functioning electronic health records (EHR) system.
- B. The Vendor **must** ensure that all required clinical documentation, consents, notifications, receipts, etc., are available upon request.
- C. Technology **must** ensure adequate security, confidentiality, back-up, and disaster recovery preparedness. Any data storage or transmission **shall** be secure and comply with all state and federal laws, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- D. The Vendor **must** maintain a twenty-four (24) hour emergency phone number, operable seven (7) days a week for each individual catchment area to assist with emergency situations and access to services. Calls to the emergency line must be answered by live staff. These staff shall provide the caller necessary resources to assist the caller until the next business day. The phone number **must** be provided to clients, visible at entries, and provided on answering machines. Policies and procedures **must** be in place outlining the training and management of this process.

2.11 **PHYSICAL PLANT REQUIREMENTS**

- A. The Vendor **must** ensure all services are provided in a safe, secure, and health environment in compliance with relevant licensure standards set by the Division of Provider Services and Quality Assurance (DPSQA).
- B. The Vendor **must** maintain compliance with all physical plant requirements as specified in the most current version of the *Licensure Standards for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment Programs*. Compliance **must** include areas relevant to any and all services provided.
- C. The Vendor **must** ensure that all service site utilities (e.g., gas, electricity, water, plumbing, etc.) are maintained in proper working condition. The Vendor shall notify DAABHS within twenty-four (24) hours of any issues with facility utilities.
- D. Physical facility repairs **must** be completed by appropriately qualified persons or technicians.
- E. The Vendor **must** ensure that all utilities are properly repaired within seventy-two (72) hours of a determination that a deficiency exists (except when repair is responsibility of utility company).

2.12 **BILLING**

- A. Vendor **shall** bill other available payors (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, insurance provider) first instead of billing the State for services rendered on a fee-for-service basis. If a client is found after the fact to have coverage by a third-party payor for services reimbursed through this contract, DHS may deny, or recoup corresponding payment amounts from future billing.

- B. Additionally, Vendor **shall** demonstrate ongoing staff development and recruitment processes to ensure good stewardship of state and federal funds.

2.13 **PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

- A. State law requires that all contracts for services include Performance Standards for measuring the overall quality of services provided. *Attachment C: Performance Standards* identifies expected deliverables, performance measures, or outcomes; and defines the acceptable standards the Contractor **must** meet in order to avoid assessment of damages.
- B. The State may be open to negotiations of Performance Standards prior to contract award, prior to the commencement of services, or at times throughout the contract duration.
- C. The State **shall** have the right to modify, add, or delete Performance Standards throughout the term of the contract, should the State determine it is in its best interest to do so. Any changes or additions to performance standards will be made in good faith following acceptable industry standards, and, may include the input of the Contractor so as to establish standards that are reasonably achievable.
- D. All changes made to the Performance Standards **shall** become an official part of the contract.
- E. Performance Standards **shall** continue throughout the term of the contract.
- F. Failure to meet the minimum Performance Standards as specified **may** result in the assessment of damages.
- G. In the event a Performance Standard is not met, the Contractor will have the opportunity to defend or respond to the insufficiency. The State **may** waive damages if it determines there were extenuating factors beyond the control of the Contractor that hindered the performance of services or if it is in the best interest of the State to do so. In these instances, the State **shall** have final determination of the performance acceptability.
- H. Should any compensation be owed to the agency due to the assessment of damages, Contractor **shall** follow the direction of the agency regarding the required compensation process.

SECTION 3 – CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Do not provide responses to items in this section unless expressly required.

3.1 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SCORE

- A. OP will review each *Technical Proposal Packet* to verify submission Requirements have been met. *Technical Proposals Packets* that do not meet submission Requirements **shall** be disqualified and **shall not** be evaluated.

- B. An agency-appointed Evaluation Committee will evaluate and score qualifying Technical Proposals. Evaluation will be based on Vendor’s response to the *Information for Evaluation* section included in the *Technical Proposal Packet*.
 - 1. Members of the Evaluation Committee will individually review and evaluate proposals and complete an Individual Score Worksheet for each proposal. Individual scoring for each Evaluation criteria will be based on the following Scoring Description.

Quality Rating	Quality of Response	Description	Confidence in Proposed Approach
5	Excellent	When considered in relation to the RFP evaluation factor, the proposal squarely meets the requirement and exhibits outstanding knowledge, creativity, ability or other exceptional characteristics. Extremely good.	Very High
4	Good	When considered in the relation to the RFP evaluation factor, the proposal squarely meets the requirement and is better than merely acceptable.	High
3	Acceptable	When considered in relation to the RFP evaluation factor, the proposal is of acceptable quality.	Moderate
2	Marginal	When considered in relation to the RFP evaluation factor, the proposal’s acceptability is doubtful.	Low
1	Poor	When considered in relation to the RFP evaluation factor, the proposal is inferior.	Very Low
0	Unacceptable	When considered in relation to the RFP evaluation factor, the proposal clearly does not meet the requirement, either because it was left blank or because the proposal is unresponsive.	No Confidence

- 2. After initial individual evaluations are complete, the Evaluation Committee members will meet to discuss their individual ratings in a consensus scoring meeting. At this consensus scoring meeting, each evaluator will be afforded an opportunity to discuss his or her rating for each evaluation criteria.

- 3. After committee members have had an opportunity to discuss the scores recorded on the preliminary Individual Score Worksheet with the group, the individual committee members will be given the opportunity to adjust the score contained on the initial Individual Score Worksheet, if they feel that is appropriate.

- 4. The final individual scores of the evaluators will be recorded on the Consensus Score Sheets and averaged to determine the group or consensus score for each proposal. For purposes of scoring, only the final scores of the evaluators reflected on the Consensus Score Sheet will be used. Each evaluator shall sign the Consensus Score Sheet affirming that the score noted is the score intended by the evaluator.

5. Other agencies, consultants, and experts may also examine documents at the discretion of the Agency.

C. The *Information for Evaluation* section has been divided into sub-sections.

1. In each sub-section, items/questions have each been assigned a maximum point value of five (5) points. The total point value for each sub-section is reflected in the table below as the Maximum Raw Score Possible.
2. The agency has assigned Weighted Percentages to each sub-section according to its significance.
3. The Financial Disclosure section points will be added to the final subtotal score to arrive at the total.

Information for Evaluation Sub-Sections	Maximum Raw Points Possible	Sub-Section's Weighted Percentage	* Maximum Weighted Score Possible
E.1 Minimum Qualifications	10	15	105
E.2 Scope of Work	5	25	140
E.3 Standard of Care	25	20	140
E.4 Priority Population	10	10	105
E.5 Records and Reporting	5	5	35
E.6.Staffing	5	10	70
E.7 Subcontractors	5	5	35
E.8 Technology Requirements	5	5	35
E.9 Physical Plant	5	5	35
Total Technical Score	75	100%	700

D. The Vendor's weighted score for each sub-section will be determined using the following formula:

$$(A/B)*C = D$$

A = Actual Raw Points received for sub-section in evaluation
 B = Maximum Raw Points possible for sub-section
 C = Maximum Weighted Score possible for sub-section
 D = Weighted Score received for sub-section

E. Vendor's weighted scores for sub-sections will be added to determine the Total Technical Score for the Proposal.

F. Technical Proposals that do not receive a minimum weighted score of four hundred fifty (350) shall not move forward in the solicitation process. The pricing for proposals which do not move forward **shall not** be opened or scored.

3.2 COST SCORE

A. When pricing is opened for scoring, the maximum amount of cost points will be given to the Vendor with the lowest grand total as shown on the Official Bid Price Sheet. (See *Grand Total Score* for maximum points possible for cost score.)

B. The amount of cost points given to the remaining Vendors will be allocated by using the following formula:

$$(A/B)*(C) = D$$

A = Lowest Total Cost
 B = Second (third, fourth, etc.) Lowest Total Cost
 C = Maximum Points for Lowest Total Cost
 D = Total Cost Points Received

3.3 GRAND TOTAL SCORE

The Technical Score and Cost Score will be added together to determine the Grand Total Score for the proposal. The Vendor’s proposal with the highest Grand Total Score will be selected as the apparent successful Vendor. (See *Award Process*.)

	Maximum Points Possible
Technical Proposal	700
Cost	300
Maximum Possible Grand Total Score	1,000

3.4 VENDOR ACCEPTANCE OF EVALUATION TECHNIQUE

- A. Vendor **must** agree to all evaluation processes and procedures as defined in this solicitation.
- B. The submission of a *Technical Proposal Packet* **shall** signify the Vendor’s understanding and agreement that subjective judgments **shall** be made during the evaluation and scoring of the Technical Proposals.

SECTION 4 – GENERAL CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS

Do not provide responses to items in this section unless expressly required.

4.1 PAYMENT AND INVOICE PROVISIONS

- A. Payment will be made in accordance with applicable State of Arkansas accounting procedures upon acceptance goods and services by the agency.
- B. The State **shall not** be invoiced in advance of delivery and acceptance of any goods or services.
- C. Payment will be made only after the Contractor has successfully satisfied the agency as to the reliability and effectiveness of the goods or services purchased as a whole.
- D. The Contractor should invoice the agency by an itemized list of charges. The agency's Purchase Order Number and/or the Contract Number should be referenced on each invoice.
- E. Other sections of this *Bid Solicitation* may contain additional Requirements for invoicing.
- F. Selected Contractor **must** be registered to receive payment and future *Bid Solicitation* notifications. Contractors may register on-line at <https://www.ark.org/contractor/index.html>.

4.2 GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The State **shall not** lease any equipment or software for a period of time which continues past the end of a fiscal year unless the contract allows for cancellation by the State Procurement Official upon a thirty (30) calendar day written notice to the Contractor/lessor in the event funds are not appropriated.
- B. The State **shall not** pay damages, legal expenses or other costs and expenses of any other party.
- C. The State **shall not** continue a contract once any equipment has been repossessed.
- D. Any litigation involving the State **must** take place in Pulaski County, Arkansas.
- E. The State **shall not** agree to any provision of a contract which violates the laws or constitution of the State of Arkansas.
- F. The State **shall not** enter a contract which grants to another party any remedies other than the following:
 - 1. The right to possession.
 - 2. The right to accrued payments.
 - 3. The right to expenses of de-installation.
 - 4. The right to expenses of repair to return the equipment to normal working order, normal wear and tear excluded.
 - 5. The right to recover only amounts due at the time of repossession and any unamortized nonrecurring cost as allowed by Arkansas Law.
- G. The laws of the State of Arkansas **shall** govern this contract.
- H. A contract **shall not** be effective prior to award being made by a State Procurement Official.
- I. In a contract with another party, the State will accept the risk of loss of the equipment or software and pay for any destruction, loss or damage of the equipment or software while the State has such risk, when:
 - 1. The extent of liability for such risk is based upon the purchase price of the equipment or software at the time of any loss, and
 - 2. The contract has required the State to carry insurance for such risk.

4.3 **CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**

- A. The Contractor **shall** at all times observe and comply with federal and State of Arkansas laws, local laws, ordinances, orders, and regulations existing at the time of, or enacted subsequent to the execution of a resulting contract which in any manner affect the completion of the work.
- B. The Contractor **shall** indemnify and save harmless the agency and all its officers, representatives, agents, and employees against any claim or liability arising from or based upon the violation of any such law, ordinance, regulation, order or decree by an employee, representative, or subcontractor of the Contractor.
- C. The Contractor agrees to the Performance Based Contracting standards as presented in Attachment C, DHS Standard Terms and Conditions as presented in Attachment D, a pro forma contract as presented in Attachment E, the Business Associate Agreement as presented in Attachment F, and the Organizational or Personal Conflict of Interest policy as presented in Attachment G.

4.4 **STATEMENT OF LIABILITY**

- A. The State will demonstrate reasonable care but will not be liable in the event of loss, destruction or theft of Contractor-owned equipment or software and technical and business or operations literature to be delivered or to be used in the installation of deliverables and services. The Contractor will retain total liability for equipment, software and technical and business or operations literature. The State **shall** not at any time be responsible for or accept liability for any Contractor-owned items.
- B. The Contractor's liability for damages to the State **shall** be limited to the value of the Contract or \$5,000,000, whichever is higher. The foregoing limitation of liability **shall not** apply to claims for infringement of United States patent, copyright, trademarks or trade secrets; to claims for personal injury or damage to property caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Contractor; to claims covered by other specific provisions of the Contract calling for damages; or to court costs or attorney's fees awarded by a court in addition to damages after litigation based on the Contract. The Contractor and the State **shall not** be liable to each other, regardless of the form of action, for consequential, incidental, indirect, or special damages. This limitation of liability **shall not** apply to claims for infringement of United States patent, copyright, trademark or trade secrets; to claims for personal injury or damage to property caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Contractor; to claims covered by other specific provisions of the Contract calling for damages; or to court costs or attorney's fees awarded by a court in addition to damages after litigation based on the Contract.
- C. Language in these terms and conditions **shall not** be construed or deemed as the State's waiver of its right of sovereign immunity. The Contractor agrees that any claims against the State, whether sounding in tort or in contract, **shall** be brought before the Arkansas Claims Commission as provided by Arkansas law, and **shall** be governed accordingly.

4.5 **RECORD RETENTION**

- A. The Contractor **shall** maintain all pertinent financial and accounting records and evidence pertaining to the contract in accordance with generally accepted principles of accounting and as specified by the State of Arkansas Law. Upon request, access **shall** be granted to State or Federal Government entities or any of their duly authorized representatives.
- B. Financial and accounting records **shall** be made available, upon request, to the State of Arkansas's designee(s) at any time during the contract period and any extension thereof, and for five (5) years from expiration date and final payment on the contract or extension thereof.
- C. Other sections of this *Bid Solicitation* may contain additional Requirements regarding record retention.

4.6 **PRICE ESCALATION**

- A. Price increases will be considered at the time of contract renewal.
- B. The Contractor **must** provide to OP a written request for the price increase. The request **must** include supporting documentation demonstrating that the increase in contract price is based on an increase in market price. OP has the right to require additional information pertaining to the requested increase.
- C. Increases will not be considered to increase profit or margins.

D. OP has the right to approve or deny the request.

4.7 CONFIDENTIALITY

- A. The Contractor, Contractor's subsidiaries, and Contractor's employees **shall** be bound to all laws and to all Requirements set forth in this *Bid Solicitation* concerning the confidentiality and secure handling of information of which they may become aware of during the course of providing services under a resulting contract.
- B. Consistent and/or uncorrected breaches of confidentiality may constitute grounds for cancellation of a resulting contract, and the State **shall** have the right to cancel the contract on these grounds.
- C. Previous sections of this *Bid Solicitation* may contain additional confidentiality Requirements.

4.8 CONTRACT INTERPRETATION

Should the State and Contractor interpret specifications differently, either party may request clarification. However, if an agreement cannot be reached, the determination of the State **shall** be final and controlling.

4.9 CANCELLATION

- a. For Cause. The State may cancel any contract resulting from this solicitation for cause at the discretion of DHS. The State shall give the vendor written notice of cancellation, specifying the terms and the effective date of contract termination.
- b. For Convenience. The State may cancel any contract resulting from the solicitation by giving the Contractor written notice of such cancellation no less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date of cancellation.
- c. If upon cancellation the Contractor has provided commodities or services which the State of Arkansas has accepted, and there are no funds legally available to pay for the commodities or services, the Contractor may file a claim with the Arkansas Claims Commission under the laws and regulations governing the filing of such claims.

4.10 SEVERABILITY

If any provision of the contract, including items incorporated by reference, is declared or found to be illegal, unenforceable, or void, then both the agency and the Contractor will be relieved of all obligations arising under such provision. If the remainder of the contract is capable of performance, it **shall not** be affected by such declaration or finding and **shall** be fully performed.

SECTION 5 – STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Do not provide responses to items in this section.

1. **GENERAL:** Any special terms and conditions included in this solicitation **shall** override these Standard Terms and Conditions. The Standard Terms and Conditions and any special terms and conditions **shall** become part of any contract entered into if any or all parts of the bid are accepted by the State of Arkansas.
2. **ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION:** The State **shall** have the right to accept or reject all or any part of a bid or any and all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to award the bid to best serve the interest of the State.
3. **BID SUBMISSION:** Original Proposal Packets **must** be submitted to the Office of State Procurement on or before the date and time specified for bid opening. The Proposal Packet **must** contain all documents, information, and attachments as specifically and expressly required in the *Bid Solicitation*. The bid **must** be typed or printed in ink. The signature **must** be in ink. Unsigned bids **shall** be disqualified. The person signing the bid should show title or authority to bind his firm in a contract. Multiple proposals **must** be placed in separate packages and should be completely and properly identified. Late bids **shall not** be considered under any circumstances.
4. **PRICES:** Bid unit price F.O.B. destination. In case of errors in extension, unit prices **shall** govern. Prices **shall** be firm and **shall not** be subject to escalation unless otherwise specified in the *Bid Solicitation*. Unless otherwise specified, the bid **must** be firm for acceptance for thirty calendar days from the bid opening date. "Discount from list" bids are not acceptable unless requested in the *Bid Solicitation*.
5. **QUANTITIES:** Quantities stated in a *Bid Solicitation* for term contracts are estimates only and are not guaranteed. Contractor **must** bid unit price on the estimated quantity and unit of measure specified. The State may order more or less than the estimated quantity on term contracts. Quantities stated on firm contracts are actual Requirements of the ordering agency.
6. **BRAND NAME REFERENCES:** Unless otherwise specified in the *Bid Solicitation*, any catalog brand name or manufacturer reference used in the *Bid Solicitation* is descriptive only, not restrictive, and used to indicate the type and quality desired. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered. If bidding on other than referenced specifications, the bid **must** show the manufacturer, brand or trade name, and other descriptions, and should include the manufacturer's illustrations and complete descriptions of the product offered. The State **shall** have the right to determine whether a substitute offered is equivalent to and meets the standards of the item specified, and the State may require the Contractor to supply additional descriptive material. The Contractor **shall** guarantee that the product offered will meet or exceed specifications identified in this *Bid Solicitation*. Contractors not bidding an alternate to the referenced brand name or manufacturer **shall** be required to furnish the product according to brand names, numbers, etc., as specified in the solicitation.
7. **GUARANTY:** All items bid **shall** be newly manufactured, in first-class condition, latest model and design, including, where applicable, containers suitable for shipment and storage, unless otherwise indicated in the *Bid Solicitation*. The Contractor hereby guarantees that everything furnished hereunder **shall** be free from defects in design, workmanship and material, that if sold by drawing, sample or specification, it **shall** conform thereto and **shall** serve the function for which it was furnished. The Contractor **shall** further guarantee that if the items furnished hereunder are to be installed by the Contractor, such items **shall** function properly when installed. The Contractor **shall** guarantee that all applicable laws have been complied with relating to construction, packaging, labeling and registration. The Contractor's obligations under this paragraph **shall** survive for a period of one year from the date of delivery, unless otherwise specified herein.
8. **SAMPLES:** Samples or demonstrators, when requested, **must** be furnished free of expense to the State. Each sample should be marked with the Contractor's name and address, bid or contract number and item number. If requested, samples that are not destroyed during reasonable examination will be returned at Contractor's expense. After reasonable examination, all demonstrators will be returned at Contractor's expense.
9. **TESTING PROCEDURES FOR SPECIFICATIONS COMPLIANCE:** Tests may be performed on samples or demonstrators submitted with the bid or on samples taken from the regular shipment. In the event products tested fail to meet or exceed all conditions and Requirements of the specifications, the cost of the sample used and the reasonable cost of the testing **shall** be borne by the Contractor.
10. **AMENDMENTS:** Contractor's proposals cannot be altered or amended after the bid opening except as permitted by regulation.
11. **TAXES AND TRADE DISCOUNTS:** Do not include State or local sales taxes in the bid price. Trade discounts should be deducted from the unit price and the net price should be shown in the bid.
12. **AWARD:** Term Contract: A contract award will be issued to the successful Contractor. It results in a binding obligation without further action by either party. This award does not authorize shipment. Shipment is authorized by the receipt of a purchase order from the ordering agency. Firm Contract: A written State purchase order authorizing shipment will be furnished to the successful Contractor.
13. **DELIVERY ON FIRM CONTRACTS:** This solicitation shows the number of days to place a commodity in the ordering agency's designated location under normal conditions. If the Contractor cannot meet the stated delivery, alternate delivery schedules may become a factor in an award. The Office of State Procurement **shall** have the right to extend delivery if reasons appear valid. If the date is not acceptable, the agency may buy elsewhere, and any additional cost **shall** be borne by the Contractor.

- 14. DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS:** No substitutions or cancellations are permitted without written approval of the Office of State Procurement. Delivery **shall** be made during agency work hours only 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time, unless prior approval for other delivery has been obtained from the agency. Packing memoranda **shall** be enclosed with each shipment.
- 15. STORAGE:** The ordering agency is responsible for storage if the Contractor delivers within the time required and the agency cannot accept delivery.
- 16. DEFAULT:** All commodities furnished **shall** be subject to inspection and acceptance of the ordering agency after delivery. Back orders, default in promised delivery, or failure to meet specifications **shall** authorize the Office of State Procurement to cancel this contract or any portion of it and reasonably purchase commodities elsewhere and charge full increase, if any, in cost and handling to the defaulting Contractor. The Contractor **must** give written notice to the Office of State Procurement and ordering agency of the reason and the expected delivery date. Consistent failure to meet delivery without a valid reason may cause removal from the Contractors list or suspension of eligibility for award.
- 17. VARIATION IN QUANTITY:** The State assumes no liability for commodities produced, processed or shipped in excess of the amount specified on the agency's purchase order.
- 18. INVOICING:** The Contractor **shall** be paid upon the completion of all of the following: (1) submission of an original and the specified number of copies of a properly itemized invoice showing the bid and purchase order numbers, where itemized in the *Bid Solicitation*, (2) delivery and acceptance of the commodities and (3) proper and legal processing of the invoice by all necessary State agencies. Invoices **must** be sent to the "Invoice To" point shown on the purchase order.
- 19. STATE PROPERTY:** Any specifications, drawings, technical information, dies, cuts, negatives, positives, data or any other commodity furnished to the Contractor hereunder or in contemplation hereof or developed by the Contractor for use hereunder **shall** remain property of the State, **shall** be kept confidential, **shall** be used only as expressly authorized, and **shall** be returned at the Contractor's expense to the F.O.B. point provided by the agency or by OSP. Contractor **shall** properly identify items being returned.
- 20. PATENTS OR COPYRIGHTS:** The Contractor **must** agree to indemnify and hold the State harmless from all claims, damages and costs including attorneys' fees, arising from infringement of patents or copyrights.
- 21. ASSIGNMENT:** Any contract entered into pursuant to this solicitation **shall not** be assignable nor the duties thereunder delegable by either party without the written consent of the other party of the contract.
- 22. CLAIMS:** Any claims the Contractor may assert under this Agreement shall be brought before the Arkansas State Claims Commission ("Commission"), which shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any and all claims that the Contractor may have arising from or in connection with this Agreement. Unless the Contractor's obligations to perform are terminated by the State, the Contractor shall continue to provide the Services under this Agreement even in the event that the Contractor has a claim pending before the Commission.
- 23. CANCELLATION:** In the event, the State no longer needs the commodities or services specified for any reason, (e.g., program changes; changes in laws, rules or regulations; relocation of offices; lack of appropriated funding, etc.), the State **shall** have the right to cancel the contract or purchase order by giving the Contractor written notice of such cancellation thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date of cancellation.
- Any delivered but unpaid for goods will be returned in normal condition to the Contractor by the State. If the State is unable to return the commodities in normal condition and there are no funds legally available to pay for the goods, the Contractor may file a claim with the Arkansas Claims Commission under the laws and regulations governing the filing of such claims. If upon cancellation the Contractor has provided services which the State has accepted, the Contractor may file a claim. **NOTHING IN THIS CONTRACT SHALL BE DEEMED A WAIVER OF THE STATE'S RIGHT TO SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.**
- 24. DISCRIMINATION:** In order to comply with the provision of Act 954 of 1977, relating to unfair employment practices, the Contractor agrees that: (a) the Contractor **shall not** discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, sex, color, age, religion, handicap, or national origin; (b) in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, the Contractor **shall** state that all qualified applicants **shall** receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, handicap, or national origin; (c) the Contractor will furnish such relevant information and reports as requested by the Human Resources Commission for the purpose of determining compliance with the statute; (d) failure of the Contractor to comply with the statute, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder and this nondiscrimination clause **shall** be deemed a breach of contract and it may be cancelled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part; (e) the Contractor **shall** include the provisions of above items (a) through (d) in every subcontract so that such provisions **shall** be binding upon such subcontractor or Contractor.
- 25. CONTINGENT FEE:** The Contractor guarantees that he has not retained a person to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business.
- 26. ANTITRUST ASSIGNMENT:** As part of the consideration for entering into any contract pursuant to this solicitation, the Contractor named on the *Proposal Signature Page* for this solicitation, acting herein by the authorized individual or its duly authorized agent, hereby assigns, sells and transfers to the State of Arkansas all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under the antitrust laws of the United States or this State for price fixing, which causes of action have accrued prior to the date of this assignment and which relate solely to the particular goods or services purchased or produced by this State pursuant to this contract.

27. DISCLOSURE: Failure to make any disclosure required by Governor's Executive Order 98-04, or any violation of any rule, regulation, or policy adopted pursuant to that order, **shall** be a material breach of the terms of this contract. Any Contractor, whether an individual or entity, who fails to make the required disclosure or who violates any rule, regulation, or policy **shall** be subject to all legal remedies available to the agency.