

State of Maine Waiver of Competitive Bidding Request Form

Form Instructions: Please provide the requested information in the white boxes below. This form is to precede all contract requests that are not the direct result of a competitive bid process.

Requesting Department's Contract Administrator:	Rhonda Ainslie	Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:	Department of Admin and Finance, Maine Revenue Services
Est. Contract Amount:	\$228,500	Contract or RQS Number:	20130816*0766
Proposed Start Date:	July 1, 2019	Proposed End Date:	June 30, 2021
Vendor/Provider Name, City, State	Revenue Solutions Inc. 42 Winter Street, Suite 36 Pembroke, MA 02359		
Short Description of Good or Service:	Modernized Efile maintenance, support and annual software license renewal.		
Please note, for transparency purposes, Waivers of Competitive Bidding will be publicly posted. Public postings are placed on the Division of Procurement Services website for a period of seven consecutive calendar days.		To be completed by the Division of Procurement Services Posting dates on Division of <i>Procurement Services</i> website: From: <u>5/17/2019</u> To: <u>5/24/2019</u>	
Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:		NOI# 0520190662	
1. Statutory Justification State of Maine statute (5 M.R.S. §1825-B(2)) allows waivers of competitive bidding only for the specific reasons listed below. Please mark the appropriate box (X) next to the justification which applies to this specific request.			
A.	The procurement of goods or services by the State for county commissioners pursuant to Title 30-A, section 124, involves the expenditure of \$2,500 or less, and the interests of the State would best be served;		
B.	The Director of the Bureau of General Services is authorized by the Governor, or the Governor's designee, to make purchases without competitive bidding because, in the opinion of the Governor or the Governor's designee, an emergency exists that requires the immediate procurement of goods or services;		
	<i>If citing the above justification for this Waiver of Competitive Bidding request, please have the requesting Department's Commissioner or Chief Executive (as the Governor's "designee") sign and date on the right.</i>	<i>By signing below, I signify as the Governor's designee there is an emergency that necessitates this non-competitive procurement.</i> Signature:	
		Printed Name:	Date:
X	C. After reasonable investigation by the Director of the Bureau of General Services, it appears that any required unit or item of supply, or brand of that unit or item, is procurable by the State from only one source;		
	D. It appears to be in the best interest of the State to negotiate for the procurement of petroleum products;		
	E. The purchase is part of a cooperative project between the State and the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy, or a private, nonprofit, regionally accredited institution of higher education with a main campus in this State involving: (1) An activity assisting a state agency and enhancing the ability of the university system, community college system, Maine Maritime Academy, or a private, nonprofit, regionally accredited institution of higher education with a main campus in this State to fulfill its mission of teaching, research, and public service; (2) A sharing of project responsibilities and, when appropriate, costs;		
	<i>If citing the above justification for this sole source request, please note that the specific approval of the Governor's Office is required, in accordance with Executive Order 26 FY 11/12, "An Order to Enhance Competitive Bidding". The approval must be documented on DAFS/BGS/Division of Procurement Services "GOVCOOP" form, found here: http://www.maine.gov/purchases/info/forms/govcoop.doc.</i>		
	F. The procurement of goods or services involves expenditures of \$10,000 or less, in which case the Director of the Bureau of General Services may accept oral proposals or bids;		
	G. The procurement of goods or services involves expenditures of \$10,000 or less, and procurement from a single		

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	source is the most economical, effective and appropriate means of fulfilling a demonstrated need.	
	If a different authorization specifically allows for this non-competitive procurement, please provide that reference here:	

Please note that the following four points below (#2 through 5) all require a response.

2. Description of Specific Need

Please identify, and fully describe, the specific problem, requirement, or need the resulting non- competitive contract would address and which makes the goods or services necessary. Explain how the requesting Department determined that the goods or services are critical and/or essential to agency responsibilities or operations.

Annual software license renewal for Modernized E-file system and Modernized Efile maintenance and support.

The Modernized E-file system (MeF) is a COTS product that receives tax returns from the IRS tax portal, uploads them to MERITS for processing and archives them to FORTIS. The use of this electronic filing service was mandated by the IRS several years ago, and MRS continues to use this product to support those filing requirements. The majority of individual 1040 returns are received through the MeF gateway, as well as corporate, partnership and fiduciary returns.

3. Availability of other Public Resources

Please explain how the requesting Department concluded that sufficient staffing, resources, or expertise is not available within the State of Maine’s government, or other governmental entities (local, other state, or federal agencies) external to the requesting Department, which would be able to address the identified need more efficiently and effectively than the identified vendor.

There is no expertise in either MRS or OIT ApDev to support these products without assistance from the vendor. Modernized E-file (MeF) is a proprietary COTS product, the vendor is responsible for maintenance and support, which is included in the annual maintenance agreement.

4. Cost

Since a waiver of competitive bidding is being requested for this procurement, please explain how the requesting Department concluded the negotiated costs, fees, or rates are **fair and reasonable**.

The annual maintenance costs for these products is consistent with previous charges for maintenance.

5. Future Competition

Please describe potential opportunities which may be available to foster competition for these goods or services in the future.

This is a COTS product, there is limited opportunity for competition, even if there were comparable products in the marketplace. Since this product still provides the functionality that MRS requires, the time, effort and cost required to replace them far outweighs any price difference that might be available for other products.

Please note that only one of the two points below (“Uniqueness” or “Timeframe”) requires a response. Requesting Departments are not required to respond to both points.

State of Maine Waiver of Competitive Bidding Request Form

6. Uniqueness

Please explain if the goods or services required are unique to a specific vendor. Describe the unique qualifications, abilities, and/or expertise of the vendor and how those particular unique factors address the specific need identified above. If the vendor has unique equipment, facilities, or proprietary data, also explain the necessity of these particular unique assets.

This COTS product has been developed and is supported by Revenue Solutions Inc. (RSI) as part of their tax system offerings that are utilized in many states. RSI is one of the primary developers of tax software in the marketplace, and is closely aligned with IRS requirements and certifications.

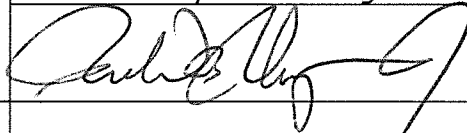
In particular, the MeF product supports an IRS mandate, and has operated successfully for tax return processing for several years.

7. Timeframe (Complete only if B. is the Statutory Justification marked on Page 1)

Please explain if time is of the essence and an emergency exists which requires the immediate procurement of goods or services. Describe the nature of this emergency, provide the date by which the goods or services must be delivered, and explain how that date was determined and its significance (i.e. impact if delayed beyond this date). Also, provide information as to how it was determined this vendor is the best option to address this time-sensitive procurement.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner or Chief Executive (or designee within the Commissioner's Office):

By signing below, I signify that my Department requests, and I approve of, this Waiver of Competitive Bidding.



Printed Name:

Richard B. Thompson, Jr., Deputy Commissioner of Operations

Date:

5/16/19