

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:	Annette Stevens	Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:	Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Est. Contract Amount:	+ \$ 35,000.00	Contract or RQS Number:	20180621*4042
Proposed Start Date:	July 1, 2019	Proposed End Date:	June 30, 2020
Vendor/Provider Name, City, State:	University of Southern Maine/ Maine Small Business Development Center University of Southern Maine 55 Exeter St., PO Box 9300 Portland, ME 04104-9300		
Short Description of Good or Service:	Business Consultation Services		
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.	<p>To be completed by the Division of Procurement Services</p> <p>Posting dates on Division of Procurement Services website: From: <u>8/13/2019</u> To: <u>8/19/2019</u></p>		
Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:	NOI# 0820191356		
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>	<p><i>By signing below, I signify as the Governor's designee there is an emergency that necessitates this non-competitive procurement.</i></p> <p>Signature:</p>		
	Printed Name:	Date:	

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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 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) <u>all</u> 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.		
<p>The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services serves many individuals with disabilities each year who request assistance in starting their own small business, which is deemed as a viable employment option by the Rehabilitation Services Administration for some people with disabilities. Many BRS counselors are highly skilled in the area of disability and rehabilitation, but do not have the resources or the knowledge needed to successfully help potential entrepreneurs launch sustainable businesses. Through this contract, BRS offers a pathway for individuals that engages critical business expertise through the long-term process of business feasibility determination, start-up and growth, and continues beyond the time-limited services available through BRS.</p>		

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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.

The University of Maine/Maine Small Business Development Centers has offices located throughout Maine and offers statewide coverage and services not available through other small business resources. BRS has not been successful in engaging a consistent level of service, expertise and access across the state prior to this contract.

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**.

Fee was negotiated to include a per person cap to limit and manage expenditures. Since this service is provided statewide, it makes the costs fair and reasonable.

5. Future Competition

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

No RFP was done. No other vendor offers the necessary statewide services.

If there are qualified individuals and/or agencies that are interested in and capable of providing these necessary services in the future, we would do an RFP

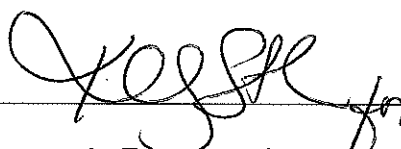
Please note that only one of the two points below ("Uniqueness" or "Timeframe") requires a response. Requesting Departments are not required to respond to both points.

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.

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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.	
N/A	
Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner or Chief Executive (or designee within the Commissioner's Office):	<i>By signing below, I signify that my Department requests, and I approve of, this Waiver of Competitive Bidding.</i>
Printed Name:	 Laura A. Fortman, Commissioner
Date:	8/8/2019