

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.

DHHS/DCM Contract Administrator:	Chris Moiles / Jennifer Levesque	Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:	MECDC/Infectious Disease Surveillance
Est. Contract Amount:	\$756,950 (Orig. \$740,600 + Amend \$16,350)	Contract or RQS Number:	CT-10A-20170922*1145
		Purchasing Maine ID:	
		DHHS Agreement Number:	CDO-18-5175B
Proposed Start Date:	10/1/17	Proposed End Date:	11/30/19
Vendor/Provider Name, City, State	Abilis Solutions Corp., Portland, ME		
Short Description of Good or Service:	Informatics		
<p>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>		<p><i>To be completed by the Division of Procurement Services</i></p> <p>Posting dates on Division of <i>Procurement Services</i> website: From: <u>9/18/2019</u> To: <u>9/24/2019</u></p>	
Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:		NOI# 0920191550	
<p>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.</p>			
	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;		
	<p><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>	<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:
	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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (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; 		
	<p><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></p>		
	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;		

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	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.	
X	If a different authorization specifically allows for this non-competitive procurement, please provide that reference here:	Competitive bid adjustment.

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.

Maine CDC received federal opioid crisis funds that require specific tasks to be completed within one year (originally ending August 31, 2019). Due to the overwhelming nationwide struggles with spending down such a large amount of money in 12 months, federal CDC issued a no-cost extension for funds until November 30, 2019. This is a continuation of the existing services of this agreement. These tasks were delayed in starting due to time constraints in amending contracts as well as the time it takes to get access to the specific servers and databases that the consultants need to do their work. The consultants received access in August 2019 and work should be able to move forward at a much quicker pace now that all of the pieces are in place for them to do the tasks required by the contract.

There is specific skill needed in SQL Server Integration Services to streamline syndromic surveillance and to develop a comprehensive drug overdose dashboard. A strong working knowledge and experience with extensive datasets is needed, as well as knowledge of the surveillance data. As such, Maine CDC requires this continued consistent technical consultant help in order to effectively meet the project deadlines. The opioid crisis response is a DHHS priority.

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 department concluded that sufficient staffing, resources, or expertise is not available within the State of Maine’s government, or other governmental entities.

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 quoted consultant cost is in line with current cost in this agreement and with other consultant costs within the Department.

5. Future Competition

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

This contract is in its first renewal period of RFP 201705106.

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.

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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.

Abilis is the best option because Maine CDC already has a contract with them for informatics services so they are familiar with our program and our systems and can coordinate consultant services with existing embedded informatics staff. Leveraging existing contract staff with known contacts and expertise provided through Abilis is the effective and efficient way the Department can get the work done in the allotted timeframe.

The funds for this project are through a federal opioid crisis grant. These are limited term funds which must be spent by November 30, 2019. If these funds are not spent within this timeframe, Maine CDC will lose the money awarded to us.

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

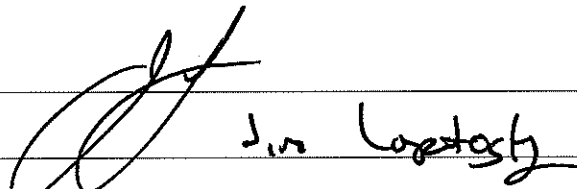
Please explain if time is of the essence and an emergency exists which requires the immediate procurement of goods or services. Describe the nature of this emergency, provide the date by which the goods or services must be delivered, and explain how that date was determined and its significance (i.e. 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:

Date:


 Jim Lapostola
 11 - Sep - 19