

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:	Arlene Jones Chris Moiles	Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:	DHHS/Rural Health and Primary Care Program/ Nicole Breton
Est. Contract Amount:	\$ 50,000.00	Contract or RQS Number:	CT 10A 20190523*3563
		Purchasing Maine ID:	
		DHHS Agreement Number:	CDO-20-2251
Proposed Start Date:	9/1/2019	Proposed End Date:	8/31/2021
Vendor/Provider Name, City, State	New England Rural Health Association (NERHA) Meredith, New Hampshire		
Short Description of Good or Service:	New England Performance Improvement Healthcare Collaborative and education and training for health professionals in rural areas		
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.		<i>To be completed by the Division of Procurement Services</i> Posting dates on Division of <i>Procurement Services</i> website: From: <u>10/29/2019</u> To: <u>11/4/2019</u>	
Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:		NOI# 1020191794	
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:
	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;		

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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:	Grant Partner

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.

The Department received on 7/24/2019 federal grant funding (HRSA-19-024 for 9/1/2019 – 8/31/2024) to specifically address multi-state rural healthcare challenges, such as the Hospital and Clinic financial transition to value-based purchasing and the development of telehealth services. The NERHA provides technical assistance to include the development of evidence-based strategies for improving small and rural hospital operational performance, collects rural healthcare data across the New England states and coordinates educational opportunities to support a volume license for professional certifications of health professionals working in rural areas.

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.

Sufficient staffing, resources, or expertise is not available within the State of Maine’s government that would meet unique expertise required for this New England States collaboration.

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 administrative and operational costs of the NERHA are divided among the New England states. This collaborative reduces per State costs while increasing resources that are available to Maine’s healthcare providers and other stakeholders that would otherwise be unavailable in a single-state project. The NERHA reduces duplication of limited resources and improves efficiency to accomplish its work across the State.

5. Future Competition

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

The Department does not intend to competitively bid these services.

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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As a grant partner the NERHA coordinates the many activities for this multi-state collaboration including an Annual Symposium, coordination of the New England Performance Improvement Collaborative (NEPI), and Critical Access Hospital (CAH) professional education/certification for Quality Improvement/Infection Control/Patient Safety/Value-Based Purchasing through the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Open School. No other entity within the New England States has the unique business attributes as well as the stated mission or expertise to provide these services to the HRSA-19-024 Flex Program recipients from the New England States.

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

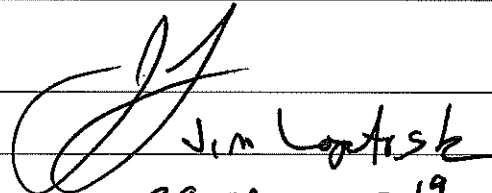
Please explain if time is of the essence and an emergency exists which requires the immediate procurement of goods or services. Describe the nature of this emergency, provide the date by which the goods or services must be delivered, and explain how that date was determined and its significance (i.e.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

Printed Name:

Date:

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


 Jim Lopatosh
 29-Aug - 19