

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:	Matt Galletta	Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:	DHHS/OFI/FSET
Est. Contract Amount:	\$ 87,915.65	Contract or RQS Number:	10A 20190904*0722
		Purchasing Maine ID:	
		DHHS Agreement Number:	OFI-20-002
Proposed Start Date:	October 1, 2019	Proposed End Date:	September 30, 2020
Vendor/Provider Name, City, State	Christopher Boynton University of Maine System Office of Research Administration Maine Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC) Orono, Maine		
Short Description of Good or Service:	Food Supplement Employment and Training services (FSET)		
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>12/4/2019</u> To: <u>12/10/2019</u>	
Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:		NOI# 1220191955	
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>		

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	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.	
X	If a different authorization specifically allows for this non-competitive procurement, please provide that reference here:	Willing and Qualified Provider

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 Food Supplement program is required by federal guidelines to provide Employment and Training Services for Food Supplement recipients to assist them in finding sustainable employment. This agreement will assist FSET Participants in enrolling in post-secondary educational programs leading toward that employment goal.

MEOC will provide employment and training services, specifically assisting Participants to enroll in post-secondary educational programs and providing case management to them while they are enrolled, statewide. Maine DHHS selected this vendor that is uniquely qualified to provide these services. The educational services delivered by this Provider are mandated by federal statute for all states administering the SNAP (Food Supplement) program and as such, are mandated by Maine statute.

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 OFI does not provide employment and training services or provide post-secondary education. This is a specialized service that requires expertise that is not available with the DHHS. The Department is also seeking out other employment and training providers who may be able to expand services.

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 Department reviewed the budgets presented by the Provider and finds them reasonable and necessary to support the employment and training needs of its Food Supplement clients who are seeking employment. The services will be funded and/or matched by the United States Department of Agriculture- Food and Nutrition Services. There are no state dollars funded by this agreement.

5. Future Competition

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

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The Department is accepting Providers who are willing and qualified to provide the services required. The Department does not intend to RFP 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.

Employment and Training services for low-income populations are specialized services, and MEOC has unique capacity and experience to provide these services for the intended population statewide. The Office for Family Independence (OFI) has determined that Axion is qualified to provide this service.

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

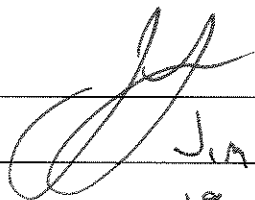
Please explain if time is of the essence and an emergency exists which requires the immediate procurement of goods or services. Describe the nature of this emergency, provide the date by which the goods or services must be delivered, and explain how that date was determined and its significance (i.e. 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 Lopodsky
 12 - 24 - 19