

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
ADDENDUM # 1

ISSUED: January 22, 2010

RFP NUMBER: CSP905210
INDEX NUMBER: DAS065
UNSPSC CODE: 85101700

The state of Ohio, through the Department of Administrative Services, Office of Procurement Services, for the Benefits Administration Services Office, is requesting proposals for:

BENEFITS CONSULTING SERVICES

Reason for Addendum: This Addendum is issued to notify of modifications to the State's Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action language and provide updated hyperlinks on pages 24, 28, and 48.

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: February 8, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

OPENING LOCATION: Department of Administrative Services
Office of Procurement Services
4200 Surface Rd.
Columbus, OH 43228-1395

- j. A statement that the Contractor shall not substitute, at Project start-up, different personnel from those evaluated by the State except when a candidate's unavailability is no fault of the Contractor (e.g., Candidate is no longer employed by the Contractor, is deceased, etc.).
- k. A statement that the Offeror is not now, and will not become subject to an "unresolved" finding for recovery under Revised Code Section 9.24, prior to the award of a Contract arising out of this RFP, without notifying DAS of such finding.
- l. A statement that all the Offerors personal and business associates are in compliance with Chapter 3517 of the Revised Code regarding limitations on political contributions and will remain in compliance for the duration of the Contract and with all applicable provisions that extend beyond the expiration of the Contract. Refer to the Political Contributions paragraph in Attachment Three, Part Seven of this RFP document.
- * m. All contractors from whom the State or any of its political subdivisions make purchases in excess of \$2500.00 shall have a written affirmative action program for the employment and effective utilization of economically disadvantaged persons, as referred to in division (E)(1) of section 122.71 of the Revised Code. Annually, each such contractor shall file a description of the affirmative action program and a progress report on its implementation with the Equal Employment Opportunity office of the Department of Administrative Services. Provide a statement that the offeror has been approved through this affirmative action program. You must visit the Web site at <http://www.das.ohio.gov/Eod/AAEEO.htm> to make the submission for approval.

All Offerors who seek to be considered for a contract award must submit a response that contains an affirmative statement using the language in paragraph(s) a. through m. above.

2. **CERTIFICATION.** Each Proposal must include the following certification signed by the individual Offeror.

(Insert Company name) affirms they are the prime Offeror.

(Insert Company name) affirms it shall not and shall not allow others to perform work or take data outside the United States without express written authorization from the Agency Project Representative.

(Insert Company name) affirms that all personnel provided for the Project, who are not United States citizens, will have executed a valid I-9 form and presented valid employment authorization documents.

(Insert Company name) affirms that any small business program participants will provide necessary data to ensure program reporting and compliance.

(Insert Company name) agrees that it is a separate and independent enterprise from the state of Ohio, the Agency, and the Department of Administrative Services. *(Insert Company name)* has a full opportunity to find other business and has made an investment in its business. Moreover *(Insert Company name)* will retain sole and absolute discretion in the judgment of the manner and means of carrying out its obligations and activities under the Contract. This Contract is not to be construed as creating any joint employment relationship between *(Insert Company name)* or any of the personnel provided by *(Insert Company name)*, the Agency, or the Department of Administrative Services.

(Insert Company name) affirms that the individuals supplied under the Contract are either: (1) employees of *(Insert Company name)* with *(Insert Company name)* withholding all appropriate taxes, deductions, or contributions required under law; or (2) independent contractors to *(Insert Company name)*.

If the Offeror's personnel are independent Contractors to the Offeror, the certification must also contain the following sentence:

(Insert Company name) affirms that it has obtained a written acknowledgement from its independent Contractors that they are separate and independent enterprises from the state of Ohio and the Department of Administrative Services and the Agency for all purposes including the application of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Social Security Act, Federal Unemployment Tax Act, Federal Insurance Contributions Act, the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, Ohio tax law, worker's compensation law and unemployment insurance law.

3. **OFFEROR DISCLOSURE OF LOCATION OF SERVICES AND DATA.** As part of the Proposal, the Offeror must disclose the following:

- a. The location(s) where all services will be performed.
- b. The location(s) where any State data applicable to the Contract will be maintained or made available.
- c. The principal location of business for the Contractor.

During the performance of this Contract, the Offeror must not change the location(s) of the country where the services are performed, change the location(s) of the country where the data are maintained, or made available without prior written approval of the Department of Administrative Services.

* Indicates modifications to the State's Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action language and updates hyperlinks.

Failure to complete the certification may result in the Offeror being deemed not responsive and/or may invalidate any Contract award. If not submitted with the proposal response, the Offeror will have seven (7) calendar days, after notification, to submit the form.

16. **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION.** Before a contract can be awarded or renewed, an Affirmative Action Program Verification Form must be completed using:

<http://das.ohio.gov/Divisions/EqualOpportunity/AffirmativeActionProgramVerification/tabid/133/Default.aspx>;

or via the Ohio business Gateway Electronic Filing Web site <http://business.ohio.gov/efiling/>. Approved Affirmative Action Plans can be found by going to the Equal Opportunity Department's Web site:

<http://eodreporting.oit.ohio.gov/searchAffirmativeAction.aspx>

Documentation from the State shall be supplied as part of the Proposal or an attestation to the fact that the process has been completed and is pending approval by the EOD office.

17. **COST SUMMARY FORM.** The Cost Summary Form (Attachment Ten) must be submitted with the Offeror's Proposal. The Offeror's total cost for the entire Project must be represented as the firm fixed price, for a not-to-exceed fiscal year cost. Offerors shall provide a comprehensive cost analysis; this cost must include all ancillary costs. All costs for furnishing the services must be included in the Cost Proposals as requested. No mention of or reference to, the Cost Proposals may be made in responses to the general, technical, performance, or support requirements of this RFP.

All prices, costs, and conditions outlined in the proposal shall remain fixed and valid for acceptance for 120 days, starting on the due date for proposals. The awarded contractor must hold the accepted prices and/or costs for the entire contract period. No price change shall be effective without prior written consent from DAS, OPS.

NOTE: Offeror's should ensure Cost Proposals are submitted separately from the Technical Proposals, as indicated the Proposal Submittal paragraph of this RFP (see Attachment Three). This information should not be included in the Technical Proposal.

The State shall not be liable for any costs the Offeror does not identify in its Proposal.

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EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY. The Contractor will comply with all state and federal laws regarding equal employment opportunity, including Ohio Revised Code Section 125.111 and all related Executive Orders.

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INJUNCTIVE RELIEF. Nothing in this Contract is intended to limit the State's right to injunctive relief if such is necessary to protect its interests or to keep it whole.

ASSIGNMENT. The Contractor may not assign this Contract or any of its rights or obligations under this Contract without the prior, written consent of the State.

GOVERNING LAW. This Contract will be governed by the laws of Ohio, and venue for any disputes will lie exclusively with the appropriate court in Franklin County, Ohio.

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