

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

### RFP COVER SHEET

#### Administrative Information

<b>RFP Number</b>	RFP1419005108	<b>Title of RFP</b>	Interpretation and Translation Services	
<b>Agency</b>	Iowa Department of Administrative Services (DAS)			
<b>Number of years of the initial term of the contract</b>	1	<b>Number of possible annual extensions</b>	5	
<b>Available to Political Subdivisions?</b>	Yes			
<b>State Issuing Officer:</b> Kelli Sizenbach Phone: 515-725-2275 E-mail: kelli.sizenbach@iowa.gov				
<b>Mailing Address:</b> Iowa Department of Administrative Services Hoover State Office Building, Level 3 1305 East Walnut Street Des Moines, IA 50319-0105				
<b>PROCUREMENT TIMETABLE—Event or Action</b>			<b>Date/Time (Central Time)</b>	
State Posts Notice of RFP on TSB website			July 16, 2019	
State Issues RFP			July 18, 2019	
RFP written questions, requests for clarification, and suggested changes from Respondents due			July 26, 2019	
Follow-up RFP written questions, requests for clarification, and suggested changes from Respondents due (no questions accepted or responded to after this date)			August 5, 2019	
Proposals Due			August 15, 2019/3:00 P.M.	
<b>Relevant Websites</b>				
Internet website where Addenda to this RFP will be posted <a href="http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov">http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov</a>				
Internet website where contract terms and conditions are posted <a href="https://das.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/procurement/pdf/050116%20terms%20services.pdf">https://das.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/procurement/pdf/050116%20terms%20services.pdf</a>				
Number of Copies of Proposals Required to be Submitted: 1 Original, & 1 Digital				
<b>Firm Proposal Terms</b>				
The minimum number of days following the deadline for submitting proposals that the Respondent guarantees all proposal terms, including price, will remain firm is 120 Days.				

## SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit proposals from Responsible Respondents to provide the goods and/or services identified on the RFP cover sheet and further described in Section 4 of this RFP to the Agency identified on the RFP cover sheet. The Agency intends to award a Contract(s) for the initial period identified on the RFP cover sheet, and the Agency, in its sole discretion, may extend the Contract(s) for up to the number of annual extensions identified on the RFP cover sheet.

### 1.2 Definitions

For the purposes of this RFP and the resulting contract, the following terms shall mean:

**“Agency”** means the agency identified on the RFP cover sheet that is issuing the RFP and any other agency that purchases from the Contract.

**“Contract”** means the contract(s) entered into with the successful Respondent(s) as described in Section 6.1.

**“Contractor”** means the awarded business/person to provide the contractual services agreed upon.

**“Deliverable”** means the completion of a milestone or accomplishment of a task.

**“General Terms and Conditions”** means the General Terms and Conditions for Services Contracts as referenced on the RFP cover page.

**“Interpreter”** means an individual who translates orally from one language to another, including American Sign Language.

**“LEP”** means the person cannot speak, understand, read or write English at a level that allows them to interact effectively with departments within the State of Iowa.

**“Proposal”** means the Respondent’s proposal submitted in response to the RFP.

**“Respondent”** means the company, organization or other business entity submitting a proposal in response to this RFP.

**“Responsible Respondent”** means a Respondent that has the capability in all material respects to perform the scope of work and specifications of the Contract. In determining whether a Respondent is a Responsible Respondent, the Agency may consider various factors including, but not limited to, the Respondent’s competence and qualifications to provide the goods or services requested, the Respondent’s integrity and reliability, the past performance of the Respondent and the best interest of the Agency and the State.

**“Responsive Proposal”** means a Proposal that complies with the material provisions of this RFP.

**"RFP"** means this Request for Proposals and any attachments, exhibits, schedules or addenda hereto.

**"State"** means the State of Iowa, the Agency, and all state agencies, boards, and commissions, and any political subdivisions making purchases from the Contract as permitted by this RFP.

**"Translator"** means an individual capable of translating written materials from one language to another.

**"Video Remote Interpretation (VRI)"** means services provided with video conferencing equipment to provide visual language interpreting services from an off-site location to the individual requiring the visual language interpretation service for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

### **1.3 Overview of the RFP Process**

This RFP is designed to provide Respondents with the information necessary for the preparation of competitive Proposals. The RFP process is for the Agency's benefit and is intended to provide the Agency with competitive information to assist in the selection process. It is not intended to be comprehensive. Each Respondent is responsible for determining all factors necessary for submission of a comprehensive Proposal.

**Respondent should review Attachment 3, Form 22 Request for Confidentiality, for more information if its Proposal contains confidential information. Any Proposal marked "Confidential" or "Proprietary" on every page may be disqualified.**

Respondents will be required to submit their Proposals in hardcopy and on digital media (i.e. CD, USB drive, etc.). It is the Agency's intention to evaluate Proposals from all Respondents that submit timely Responsive Proposals, and award the Contract(s) in accordance with Section 5, Evaluation and Selection.

### **1.4 Objectives**

The State of Iowa objectives are:

- To provide professional interpretation and translation services for departments throughout the State of Iowa.
- To ensure interpreters and translators are available, at a minimum, during normal business hours.
- To provide interpretation and translation services in the following methods: face-to-face, conference call, video remote interpretation and written translation.
- To ensure interpretation and translation services are culturally appropriate.

### **1.5 Background**

The State of Iowa is looking for a Respondent(s) who can provide interpretation and translation services. The State currently serves people who are "Limited English Proficient" (LEP). It is imperative that communication is effective so LEP persons are not excluded from State programs or experience delays or denials of service in accordance with [Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964](#), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance.

This service will be a new service for the State of Iowa. The State of Iowa is seeking interpreters and translators who are knowledgeable about industry specific terms including, but not limited to, medical, social services and legal.

The selected Contractor(s) will provide various forms of interpretation and translation (from English to specific language or vice versa) for LEP clients in a professional manner. It is expected that the Respondents will be able to provide an accurate interpretation and translation of dialect, both verbally and written, between the State of Iowa and those seeking assistance. This RFP may result in multiple awards.

<b>SECTION 2      ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION</b>
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**2.1      Issuing Officer**

The Issuing Officer identified in the RFP cover sheet is the sole point of contact regarding the RFP from the date of issuance until a Notice of Intent to Award the Contract is issued.

**2.2      Restriction on Communication**

From the issue date of this RFP until a Notice of Intent to Award the Contract is issued, Respondents may contact only the Issuing Officer. The Issuing Officer will respond only to written questions regarding the procurement process. Questions related to the interpretation of this RFP must be submitted as provided in Section 2. Oral questions related to the interpretation of this RFP will not be accepted. Respondents may be disqualified if they contact any State employee other than the Issuing Officer about the RFP except that Respondents may contact the State Targeted Small Business Office on issues related to the preference for Targeted Small Businesses.

This section shall not be construed as restricting communications related to the administration of any contract currently in effect between a Respondent and the State.

**2.3      Downloading the RFP from the Internet**

The RFP and any addenda to the RFP will be posted at <http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov/>. The Respondent is advised to check the website periodically for addenda to this RFP, particularly if the Respondent downloaded the RFP from the Internet as the Respondent may not automatically receive addenda. It is the Respondent's sole responsibility to check daily for addenda to posted documents.

**2.4      Procurement Timetable**

The dates provided in the procurement timetable on the RFP cover sheet are provided for informational and planning purposes. The Agency reserves the right to change the dates. If the Agency changes any of the deadlines for Respondent submissions, the Agency will issue an addendum to the RFP.

**2.5      Questions, Requests for Clarification, and Suggested Changes**

Respondents are invited to submit written questions and requests for clarifications regarding the RFP. Respondents may also submit suggestions for changes to the specifications of this RFP. The questions, requests for clarifications, or suggestions must be in writing and received by the Issuing Officer on or before the date and time listed on the RFP cover sheet. Oral questions will not be permitted. If the questions, requests for clarifications, or suggestions pertain to a specific section of the RFP, Respondent shall reference the page and section number(s). The Agency will post written responses to questions, requests for clarifications, or suggestions received from Respondents. The Agency's written responses will become an addendum to the RFP. If the Agency decides to adopt a suggestion that modifies the RFP, the Agency will issue an addendum to the RFP.

The Agency assumes no responsibility for oral representations made by its officers or employees unless such representations are confirmed in writing and incorporated into the RFP through an addendum.

## **2.6 Amendment to the RFP**

The Agency reserves the right to amend the RFP at any time using an addendum. The Respondent shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda in its Proposal. If the Agency issues an addendum after the due date for receipt of Proposals, the Agency may, in its sole discretion, allow Respondents to amend their Proposals in response to the addendum.

## **2.7 Amendment and Withdrawal of Proposal**

The Respondent may amend or withdraw and resubmit its Proposal at any time before the Proposals are due. The amendment must be in writing, signed by the Respondent and received by the time set for the receipt of Proposals. Electronic mail and faxed amendments will not be accepted. Respondents must notify the Issuing Officer in writing prior to the due date for Proposals if they wish to completely withdraw their Proposals.

## **2.8 Submission of Proposals**

The Agency must receive the Proposal at the Issuing Officer's address identified on the RFP cover sheet before the "Proposals Due" date and time listed on the RFP cover sheet. **This is a mandatory specification and will not be waived by the Agency. Any Proposal received after this deadline will be rejected and returned unopened to the Respondent.** Respondents sending Proposals must allow ample mail delivery time to ensure timely receipt of their Proposals. It is the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that the Proposal is received prior to the deadline. Postmarking by the due date will not substitute for actual receipt of the Proposal. Electronic mail and faxed Proposals will not be accepted.

Respondents must furnish all information necessary to enable the Agency to evaluate the Proposal. Oral information provided by the Respondent will not be considered part of the Respondent's Proposal unless it is reduced to writing.

## **2.9 Proposal Opening**

The Agency will open Proposals after the deadline for submission of Proposals has passed. The Proposals will remain confidential until the Agency has issued a Notice of Intent to Award a Contract. See Iowa Code Section 72.3. However, the names of Respondents who submitted timely Proposals will be publicly available after the Proposal opening. The announcement of Respondents who timely submitted Proposals does not mean that an individual Proposal has been deemed technically compliant or accepted for evaluation.

## **2.10 Costs of Preparing the Proposal**

The costs of preparation and delivery of the Proposal are solely the responsibility of the Respondent.

## **2.11 No Commitment to Contract**

The Agency reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals received in response to this RFP at any time prior to the execution of the Contract. Issuance of this RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the Agency to award a contract.

## **2.12 Rejection of Proposals**

The Agency may reject outright and not evaluate a Proposal for reasons including, without limitation:

- 2.12.1** The Respondent fails to deliver the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope.
- 2.12.2** The Respondent acknowledges that a mandatory specification of the RFP cannot be met.
- 2.12.3** The Respondent's Proposal changes a material specification of the RFP or the Proposal is not compliant with the mandatory specification of the RFP.
- 2.12.4** The Respondent's Proposal limits the rights of the Agency.
- 2.12.5** The Respondent fails to include information necessary to substantiate that it will be able to meet a specification of the RFP as provided in Section 4 of the RFP.
- 2.12.6** The Respondent fails to timely respond to the Agency's request for information, documents, or references.
- 2.12.7** The Respondent fails to include proposal security, if required.
- 2.12.8** The Respondent fails to include any signature, certification, authorization, stipulation, disclosure or guarantee as provided in Section 4 of this RFP.
- 2.12.9** The Respondent presents the information requested by this RFP in a format inconsistent with the instructions of the RFP or otherwise fails to comply with the specifications of this RFP.
- 2.12.10** The Respondent initiates unauthorized contact regarding the RFP with a State employee other than the Issuing Officer.
- 2.12.11** The Respondent provides misleading or inaccurate responses.
- 2.12.12** The Respondent's Proposal is materially unbalanced. A Proposal in which line item prices are structured so that it is possible that the Respondent who appears to be low will not end up having the lowest overall cost to the State, due to high prices on particular line items.
- 2.12.13** There is insufficient evidence (including evidence submitted by the Respondent and evidence obtained by the Agency from other sources) to satisfy the Agency that the Respondent is a Responsible Respondent.
- 2.12.14** The Respondent alters the language in Attachment 1, Certification Letter or Attachment 2, Authorization to Release Information letter.
- 2.12.15** The Respondent is a "scrutinized company" included on a "scrutinized company list" created by a public fund pursuant to Iowa Code section 12J.3.

**2.13 Nonmaterial Variances**

The Agency reserves the right to waive or permit cure of nonmaterial variances in the Proposal if, in the judgment of the Agency, it is in the State's best interest to do so. Nonmaterial variances include but are not limited to, minor failures to comply that: do not affect overall responsiveness, are merely a matter of form or format, do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other Respondents, do not change the meaning or scope of the RFP, or do not reflect a material change in the specifications of the RFP. In the event the Agency waives or permits cure of nonmaterial variances, such waiver or cure will not modify the RFP specifications or excuse the Respondent from full compliance with RFP specifications or other Contract specifications if the Respondent is awarded the Contract. The determination of materiality is in the sole discretion of the Agency.

**2.14 Reference Checks**

The Agency reserves the right to contact any reference to assist in the evaluation of the Proposal, to verify information contained in the Proposal and to discuss the Respondent's qualifications and the qualifications of any subcontractor identified in the Proposal.

**2.15 Information from Other Sources**

The Agency reserves the right to obtain and consider information from other sources concerning a Respondent, such as the Respondent's capability and performance under other contracts, the qualifications of any subcontractor identified in the Proposal, the Respondent's financial stability, past or pending litigation, and other publicly available information.

**2.16 Verification of Proposal Contents**

The content of a Proposal submitted by a Respondent is subject to verification. If the Agency determines in its sole discretion that the content is in any way misleading or inaccurate, the Agency may reject the Proposal.

**2.17 Proposal Clarification Process**

The Agency reserves the right to contact a Respondent after the submission of Proposals for the purpose of clarifying a Proposal. This contact may include written questions, interviews, site visits, a review of past performance if the Respondent has provided goods and/or services to the State or any other political subdivision wherever located, or requests for corrective pages in the Respondent's Proposal. The Agency will not consider information received from or through Respondent if the information materially alters the content of the Proposal or the type of goods and/or services the Respondent is offering to the Agency. An individual authorized to legally bind the Respondent shall sign responses to any request for clarification. Responses shall be submitted to the Agency within the time specified in the Agency's request. Failure to comply with requests for additional information may result in rejection of the Proposal.

**2.18 Disposition of Proposals**

All Proposals become the property of the State and shall not be returned to the Respondent. Once the Agency issues a Notice of Intent to Award the Contract, the contents of all Proposals will be public records and be available for inspection by interested parties, except for information for which Respondent properly requests confidential treatment according to exceptions provided in *Iowa Code Chapter 22* or other applicable law.



**2.19 Public Records and Requests for Confidential Treatment**

The Agency's release of public records is governed by Iowa Code chapter 22. Respondents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with Chapter 22 before submitting a Proposal. The Agency will copy and produce public records upon request as required to comply with Chapter 22 and will treat all information submitted by a Respondent as non-confidential records unless Respondent requests specific parts of the Proposal be treated as confidential at the time of the submission as set forth herein **AND the information is confidential under Iowa or other applicable law.**

**2.20 Form 22 Request for Confidentiality**

***FORM 22 MUST BE COMPLETED AND INCLUDED WITH RESPONDENT'S PROPOSAL. COMPLETION AND SUBMITTAL OF FORM 22 IS REQUIRED WHETHER THE PROPOSAL DOES OR DOES NOT CONTAIN INFORMATION FOR WHICH CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT WILL BE REQUESTED. FAILURE TO SUBMIT A COMPLETED FORM 22 WILL RESULT IN THE PROPOSAL BEING CONSIDERED NON-RESPONSIVE AND ELIMINATED FROM EVALUATION.***

**2.21 Copyright Permission**

By submitting a Proposal, the Respondent agrees that the Agency may copy the Proposal for purposes of facilitating the evaluation of the Proposal or to respond to requests for public records. By submitting a Proposal, the Respondent consents to such copying and warrants that such copying will not violate the rights of any third party. The Agency shall have the right to use ideas or adaptations of ideas that are presented in Proposals.

**2.22 Release of Claims**

By submitting a Proposal, the Respondent agrees that it will not bring any claim or cause of action against the Agency or the State based on Respondent's misunderstanding concerning the information provided in the RFP or concerning the Agency's or the State's failure, negligent or otherwise, to provide the Respondent with complete, pertinent, or accurate information in this RFP, or for any failure to provide information that any Respondent might consider relevant for purposes of making a decision to submit a Proposal or to enter into any Contract resulting from this RFP.

**2.23 Respondent Presentations**

Respondents may be required to make a presentation. The determination as to need for presentations, and the location, order, and schedule of the presentations is at the sole discretion of the Agency. The presentation may include slides, graphics and other media selected by the Respondent to illustrate the Respondent's Proposal. The presentation shall not materially change the information contained in the Proposal.

**2.24 Evaluation of Proposals Submitted**

Proposals that are timely submitted and are not rejected will be reviewed in accordance with Section 5 of the RFP. The Agency will not necessarily award a Contract resulting from this RFP to the Respondent offering the lowest cost. Instead, the Agency will award the Contract(s) to the Responsible Respondent(s) whose Responsive Proposal the agency believes will provide the best value to the Agency and the State.

**2.25 Award Notice and Acceptance Period**

Notice of Intent to Award the Contract(s) will be sent to all Respondents submitting a timely Proposal and may be posted at the website shown on the RFP cover sheet. Negotiation and

execution of the Contract(s) shall be completed no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Notice of Intent to Award or such other time as designated by Agency. If the successful Respondent fails to negotiate and deliver an executed Contract by that date, the Agency, in its sole discretion, may cancel the award and award the Contract to the remaining Respondent the Agency believes will provide the best value to the State.

**2.26 No Contract Rights until Execution**

No Respondent shall acquire any legal or equitable rights regarding the Contract unless and until the Contract has been fully executed by the successful Respondent and the Agency.

**2.27 Choice of Law and Forum**

This RFP and the Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Iowa. Changes in applicable laws and rules may affect the award process or the Contract. Respondents are responsible for ascertaining pertinent legal requirements and restrictions. Any and all litigation or actions commenced in connection with this RFP shall be brought in the appropriate Iowa forum.

**2.28 Preference**

By virtue of statutory authority, a preference will be given to products and provisions grown and coal produced within the state of Iowa. Preference application: Tied responses to solicitations, regardless of the type of solicitation, are decided in favor of Iowa products and Iowa-based businesses per 11 IAC 117.5(1)-(2), 117.12(4).

**2.29 Restrictions on Gifts and Activities**

*Iowa Code Chapter 68B* restricts gifts which may be given or received by State employees and requires certain individuals to disclose information concerning their activities with State government. Respondents are responsible to determine the applicability of this Chapter 68B to their activities and to comply with its requirements. In addition, pursuant to *Iowa Code section 722.1*, it is a felony offense to bribe or attempt to bribe a public official.

**2.30 No Minimum Guaranteed**

The Agency does not guarantee any minimum level of purchases under the Contract.

**2.31 Post Solicitation Debriefing**

A debriefing is available to any Respondent who submitted a proposal in response to this RFP. Respondent shall submit a written request for a debriefing to the Issuing Officer via email or other delivery method. All Respondents will be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to its opportunity for debriefing. The debriefing shall be scheduled by the Agency as soon as practicable after the receipt of debriefing request.

**2.32 Appeals**

A Respondent whose Proposal has been timely filed and who is aggrieved by the Notice of Intent to Award of the Department may appeal the decision by filing a written notice of appeal (in accordance with 11—Chapter 117.20, Iowa Administrative Code) to: The Director of the Department of Administrative Services, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0104 and a copy to the Issuing Officer. The notice must be filed within five (5) days of the date of the Notice of Intent to Award issued by the Department, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal state holidays. The written notice may be filed by fax transmission to 515.725.2064. The notice of appeal must clearly and fully identify all issues being contested by reference to the page,

section and line number(s) of the RFP and/or the Notice of Intent to Award. A notice of appeal may not stay negotiations with the apparent successful Respondent.

<b>SECTION 3      FORM AND CONTENT OF PROPOSALS</b>
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**3.1 Instructions**

These instructions describe and define the format and content of the Proposal. They are designed to facilitate a uniform review process. Failure to adhere to the Proposal format may result in the rejection of the Proposal.

- 3.1.1** The Proposal shall be typewritten on 8.5" x 11" paper and sent in sealed envelope. The Proposal shall be divided into two parts: (1) the Technical Proposal and (2) the Cost Proposal. The Technical Proposal and the Cost Proposal shall be labeled as such and placed in separate sealed envelopes. The envelopes shall be labeled with the following information:

**RFP Number: RFP1419005108**  
**RFP Title: Interpretation and Translation Services**  
**Kelli Sizenbach**  
**Iowa Department of Administrative Services**  
**Hoover State Office Building, Level 3**  
**1305 East Walnut Street**  
**Des Moines, IA 50319-0105**

The Agency shall not be responsible for misdirected packages or premature opening of Proposals if a Proposal is not properly labeled.

- 3.1.2** 1 Original & 1 Digital Copy of the Technical Proposal shall be timely submitted to the Issuing Officer in a sealed envelope. The Cost Proposal shall be submitted in a separate sealed envelope.

Technical Proposal Envelope Contents

Original Technical Proposal and any copies  
Public Copy (if submitted)  
Technical Proposal on digital media  
Electronic Public Copy on same digital media (if submitted)

Cost Proposal Envelope Contents

Original Cost Proposal  
Cost Proposal on digital media

- 3.1.3** If the Respondent designates any information in its Proposal as confidential pursuant to Section 2, the Respondent must also submit one (1) copy of the Proposal from which confidential information has been excised as provided in Section 2 and which is marked "Public Copy".

- 3.1.4** Proposals shall not contain promotional or display materials.

- 3.1.5** Attachments shall be referenced in the Proposal.

- 3.1.6** If a Respondent proposes more than one solution to the RFP specifications, each shall be labeled and submitted in a separate Proposal and each will be evaluated separately.

### **3.2 Technical Proposal**

Any information provided in the Technical Proposal is subject to consideration for consideration, evaluation, and scoring. The following documents and responses shall be included in the Technical Proposal in the order given below:

#### **Exhibit 1 - Transmittal Letter (Required)**

An individual authorized to legally bind the Respondent shall sign the transmittal letter. The letter shall include the Respondent's mailing address, electronic mail address, fax number, and telephone number.

#### **Exhibit 2 - Executive Summary**

The Respondent shall prepare an executive summary and overview of the goods and/or services it is offering, including all of the following information:

- Statements that demonstrate that the Respondent has read and understands the terms and conditions of the RFP including the Contract provisions in Section 6.
- An overview of the Respondent's plans for complying with the specifications of this RFP.
- Any other summary information the Respondent deems to be pertinent.

#### **Exhibit 3 - Firm Proposal Terms**

The Respondent shall guarantee in writing the goods and/or services offered in the Proposal are currently available and that all Proposal terms, including price, will remain firm for the number days indicated on the RFP cover sheet following the deadline for submitting Proposals.

#### **Exhibit 4 - Respondent Background Information**

The Respondent shall provide the following general background information:

- Does your state have a preference for instate Contractors? Yes or No. If yes, please include the details of the preference.
- Name, address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address of the Respondent including all d/b/a's or assumed names or other operating names of the Respondent and any local addresses and phone numbers.
- Form of business entity, e.g., corporation, partnership, proprietorship, or LLC.
- Copy of W-9.
- State of incorporation, state of formation, or state of organization.
- The location(s) including address and telephone numbers of the offices and other facilities that relate to the Respondent's performance under the terms of this RFP.
- Number of employees.
- Type of business.
- Name, address and telephone number of the Respondent's representative to contact regarding all contractual and technical matters concerning the Proposal.
- Name, contact information and qualifications of any subcontractors who will be involved with this project the Respondent proposes to use and the nature of the goods and/or services the subcontractor would perform.
- Respondent's accounting firm.
- Awarded Respondent will be required to register to do business in Iowa before payments can be made.
- For Contractor registration documents, go to:  
<https://das.iowa.gov/procurement/vendors/how-do-business>

**Exhibit 5 - Experience**

The Respondent must provide the following information regarding its experience:

- Number of years in business.
- Number of years of experience with providing the types of services sought by the RFP.
- The level of technical experience in providing the types of services sought by the RFP.
- A list of all goods and/or services similar to those sought by this RFP that the Respondent has provided to other businesses or governmental entities.
- Letters of reference from three (3) previous or current customers or clients knowledgeable of the Respondent's performance in providing goods and/or services similar to the goods and/or services described in this RFP and a contact person and telephone number for each reference.

**Exhibit 6 - Termination, Litigation, and Debarment**

The Respondent must provide the following information for the past five (5) years:

- Has the Respondent had a contract for goods and/or services terminated for any reason? If so, provide full details regarding the termination.
- Describe any damages or penalties assessed against or dispute resolution settlements entered into by Respondent under any existing or past contracts for goods and/or services. Provide full details regarding the circumstances, including dollar amount of damages, penalties and settlement payments.
- Describe any order, judgment or decree of any Federal or State authority barring, suspending or otherwise limiting the right of the Respondent to engage in any business, practice or activity.
- A list and summary of all litigation or threatened litigation, administrative or regulatory proceedings, or similar matters to which the Respondent or its officers have been a party.
- Any irregularities discovered in any of the accounts maintained by the Respondent on behalf of others. Describe the circumstances and disposition of the irregularities. Failure to disclose these matters may result in rejection of the Proposal or termination of any subsequent Contract. The above disclosures are a continuing requirement of the Respondent. Respondent shall provide written notification to the Agency of any such matter commencing or occurring after submission of a Proposal, and with respect to the successful Respondent, following execution of the Contract.

**Exhibit 7 - Criminal History and Background Investigation**

The Respondent hereby explicitly authorizes the Agency to conduct criminal history and/or other background investigation(s) of the Respondent, its officers, directors, shareholders, partners and managerial and supervisory personnel who will be involved in the performance of the Contract.

**Exhibit 8 - Acceptance of Terms and Conditions**

By submitting a Proposal, Respondent acknowledges its acceptance of the terms and conditions of the RFP and the General Terms and Conditions without change except as otherwise expressly stated in its Proposal. If the Respondent takes exception to a provision, it must identify it by page and section number, state the reason for the exception, and set forth in its Proposal the specific RFP or General Terms and Conditions language it proposes to include in place of the provision. If Respondent's exceptions or responses materially alter the RFP, or if the Respondent submits its own terms and conditions or otherwise fails to follow the process described herein, the Agency may reject the Proposal, in its sole discretion.

**Exhibit 9 - Certification Letter**

The Respondent shall sign and submit with the Proposal, the document included as Attachment #1 (Certification Letter) in which the Respondent shall make the certifications included in Attachment #1.

**Exhibit 10 - Authorization to Release Information**

The Respondent shall sign and submit with the Proposal the document included as Attachment #2 (Authorization to Release Information Letter) in which the Respondent authorizes the release of information to the Agency.

**Exhibit 11 – Mandatory Specifications**

The Respondent shall answer whether or not it will comply with each specification in Section 4 of the RFP. Where the context requires more than a yes or no answer or the specific specifications so indicates, Respondent shall explain how it will comply with the specification. Merely repeating the Section 4 specifications may be considered non-responsive and result in the rejection of the Proposal. Proposals must identify any deviations from the specifications of the RFP or specifications the Respondent cannot satisfy. If the Respondent deviates from or cannot satisfy the specification(s) of this section, the Agency may reject the Proposal.

**Exhibit 12 – Interpretation and Translation Services**

- Describe the Respondent's ability to provide face-to-face, conference call, video remote and written interpretation or translation services.
- Describe the Respondent's ability to ensure interpretation and translation services are delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.
- Describe the response times for each of the following types of interpretation or translation services provided by the respondent: face-to-face, conference call, video remote and written.
- Describe the Respondent's process to keep information confidential.
- Describe the Respondent's ability to meet HIPAA, FERPA, ADA and any other applicable laws.
- Describe how end users place an order for interpretation or translation services.
- Provide screenshots of any online system which allows agencies to order interpretation or translation services.
- Describe how orders for interpretation or translation services are cancelled.
- Describe any reports available to the State of Iowa.
- Describe the ability to order expedited interpretation or translation services.

**Exhibit 12 – Interpretation and Translation Mediums****Face to Face**

- Describe the Respondent's ability to provide interpreters for onsite meetings and hearings.
- Describe the Respondent's face-to-face interpretation process.
- Provide a map outlining the areas within the State of Iowa that are covered by the Respondent for face-to-face services.

**Conference Call**

- Describe the type of phone system that the Respondent will use for conference calls.
- Describe how the interpreters will operate from a professional workspace that provides for a secure and quiet call environment.
- Describe how secure connections are maintained.
- Describe the ability to provide the department with a recorded version of the interpretation.

**Video Remote**

- Describe the Respondent's video remote interpretation process.
- Describe how the interpreters will operate from a professional workspace.
- Describe the ability to use the interpreter service with existing laptop, desktop or tablet and internet service.
- Describe how secure connections are maintained.
- Describe the ability to provide the department with a recorded version of the interpretation.

**Written**

- Describe the Respondent's written translation process.
- Provide a sample translated document, include the original and the final translated document.
- Describe how the Respondent will ensure the translation of written documents are accurate and based on content, not just translated word for word
- Describe how the Respondent will ensure proper terminology is used based on age/education level of the audience/target population identified by the Agency.
- Describe the Respondent's ability to provide written translations in the same format as the original document sent by the Agency.
- Describe the ability to translate other formats, such as booklets or brochures. Include the ability to format these items the same as the original document.

**Exhibit 13 – Languages**

- Provide a list of languages the Respondent is able to interpret or translate.
- Describe the ability to provide interpretation or translation to and from the following languages. This list is not an exhaustive list, other languages may be needed throughout the contract period.
  - American Sign Language
  - Amharic
  - Arabic
  - Bosnian
  - Burmese
  - Chin – Mizo Dialect
  - Danish
  - French
  - German
  - Hindi
  - Karen
  - Karenni
  - Kayan
  - Kinyarwana
  - Kirundi
  - Kunama
  - Laotian
  - Nepali
  - Russian
  - Somali
  - Spanish
  - Swahili
  - Thai
  - Tigringna
  - Vietnamese

**Exhibit 14 – Interpreters and Translators**

- Provide the Respondent's days and hours available. If there is an additional charge for after-hours, holidays or weekends, please provide that charge in the cost proposal.
- Describe any training, certifications or licenses interpreters and translators are required to receive.
- Provide resumes of interpreters and translators that will be providing service under this contract.
- Describe how the interpretations and translations will be provided in the appropriate dialect.



- Describe how interpretations and translations will be adjusted based on the age/education level of the target audience.
- Describe how the Respondent ensures interpreters and translators will not interject personal thoughts or opinions into translations.
- Describe the process for interpreters and translators that do not show up for a scheduled appointment.
- Describe how interpreters and translators protect confidential information.
- Describe the ability for interpreters and translators to complete additional training if required by the requesting department (e.g. Department of Corrections).
- Describe the Respondent's quality assurance and improvement processes.

#### **Exhibit 15 – Medical and Legal Specifications**

- Describe any additional training related to medical or legal interpretations and translations.
- Describe the ability to facilitate linguistic and cultural communication within a healthcare setting.
- Describe the ability to meet the Code of Professional Conduct found [here](#).
- Describe the ability to meet the Iowa Court Rules found [here](#).
- Are the interpreters and translators who will be performing services for court proceedings listed on the Judicial Council's Master List as a Certified Court Interpreter?
- Describe the ability to certify written translations as accurate for legal proceedings.

#### **Exhibit 16 – Implementation Plan**

- Describe recommended implementation strategy including on-site coordination and support services, best practice consulting options and professional services.
- Identify any third party Respondents involved in Respondent's implementation strategy and describe these relationships.
- Describe the documentation provided with the product along with applicable costs for any additional documentation.
- Describe Respondent's experience with implementations similar in size.
- Provide an implementation schedule, based on weekly milestones (not dates).

#### **Exhibit 17 – Optional Features**

Provide detailed information for any optional items that may be available. (Include costs for these items in the Cost Proposal)

#### **Exhibit 18 – Performance-Based Criteria**

Performance-based measures are required to be included in any State contract pursuant with Iowa Code section 8.47 (1).

- Describe any performance-based incentives and disincentives that the Respondent would propose including in the resulting contract.
- What standards have you set for Respondent's account representatives? How are they measured?
- Are the results shared with the representatives and Respondent's clients?
- What results are shared and how often?

#### **Exhibit 19 - Addendums**

Provide signed copy of posted RFP addendums.

## Exhibit 20 - Request for Confidentiality

The Respondent must sign and submit with the Proposal the document included as Attachment #3 Form 22 – Request for Confidentiality.

### 3.3 Cost Proposal

The Respondent shall provide its Cost Proposal in a separately sealed envelope for the proposed goods and/or services. All prices are quoted pursuant to the terms and conditions of this RFP. Respondent's Cost Proposal shall include an all-inclusive, itemized, total cost in U.S. Dollars (including all travel, expenses, etc. in prices) for the proposed services. All pricing to be FOB Destination, freight cost, and all expenses included; and based on Net 60 Days Payment Terms. Fill out the following table within the Cost Proposal response:

Service	Price per hour	Minimum Charge	Additional Fees	After-Hours Charge
Face-to Face				
Conference Call				
Video Remote Interpreting				
Other: Please Describe				

Service	Price per word	Minimum Charge	Additional Fees	After-Hours Charge
Written				
Other: Please Describe				

- Any other costs associated with proposed solution.
- Pricing for options.

#### 3.3.1 Payment Methods

The State of Iowa, in its sole discretion, will determine the method of payment for goods and/or services as part of the Contract. The State Pcard and EAP are preferred payment methods, but payments may be made by any of the following methods: Pcard/EAP, EFT/ACH, or State Warrant. Respondents shall indicate in their Cost Proposals all of the payment methods they will accept. **This information will not be scored as part of the Cost Proposal or evaluated as part the Technical Proposal.**

##### 3.3.1.1 Credit card or ePayables

The State of Iowa's Purchasing Cards (Pcards) and ePayable solution (EAP) are commercial payment methods utilizing the VISA credit card network. The State of Iowa will not accept price changes or pay additional fees if Respondent uses the Pcard or EAP payment methods. Pcard-accepting Respondents must abide by the State of Iowa's Terms of Pcard Acceptance, as provided in Section 6.6 of the RFP. Respondents must provide a statement regarding their ability to meet the requirements I this subsection, as well as identifying their transaction reporting capabilities (Level I, II, or III).

**3.3.1.2 Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) by Automated Clearing House (ACH)**

Respondents shall provide a statement regarding their ability to accept payment by EFT by ACH. Payments are deposited into the financial institution of the claimant's choice three working days from the issue date of the direct deposit.

[https://das.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/acct\\_sae/man\\_for\\_ref/forms/eft\\_a\\_uthorization\\_form.pdf](https://das.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/acct_sae/man_for_ref/forms/eft_a_uthorization_form.pdf)

**3.3.1.3 State Warrant**

The State of Iowa's warrant drawn on the Treasurer of State is used to pay claims against the departments of the State of Iowa. The warrant is issued upon receipt of proper documentation from the issuing department.

**3.3.2 Payment Terms**

Per Iowa Code 8A.514 the State of Iowa is allowed sixty (60) days to pay an invoice submitted by a Respondent.

**3.3.3 Respondent Discounts**

Respondents shall state in their Cost Proposals whether they offer any payment discounts, including but not limited to:

**3.3.3.1 Prompt Payment Discount**

The State can agree to pay in less than sixty (60) days if an incentive for earlier payment is offered.

**3.3.3.2 Cash Discount**

The State may consider cash discounts when scoring Cost Proposals.

<b>SECTION 4      SPECIFICATIONS</b>
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**Overview**

The successful Respondent shall provide the goods and/or services to the State in accordance with the specifications and technical specifications as provided in this Section. The Respondent shall address each specification in this Section and indicate whether or not it will comply with the specification. If the context requires more than a yes or no answer or the section specifically indicates, Respondent shall explain how it will comply with the specification. Proposals must address each specification. Merely repeating the specifications may be considered non-responsive and may disqualify the Respondent. Proposals must identify any deviations from the specifications of this RFP or specifications the Respondent cannot satisfy. If the Respondent deviates from or cannot satisfy the specification (s) of this section, the Agency may reject the Proposal.

All items listed in this section are Mandatory Specifications. Respondents must indicate either **“yes”** or **“no”** to each specification in their Proposals and provide an explanation as to how the specification is met. By indicating “yes” a Respondent agrees that it shall comply with that specification throughout the full term of the Contract, if the Respondent is successful. In addition, if specified by the specifications or if the context otherwise requires, the Respondent shall provide references and/or supportive materials to verify the Respondent’s compliance with the specification. The Agency shall have the right to determine whether the supportive information and materials submitted by the Respondent demonstrate that the Respondent will be able to comply with the Mandatory Specifications. If the Agency determines the responses and supportive materials do not demonstrate the Supplier will be able to comply with the Mandatory Specifications, the Agency may reject the Proposal.

**4.1      Respondent Requirements**

**4.1.1**      Ability to provide face-to-face, conference call, video remote interpretation or written translation services.

**4.1.2**      Ability to provide services, at a minimum, during normal business hours, Monday through Friday – 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Central Time.

**4.1.3**      Ability to provide interpretations or translations to ensure State of Iowa is in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance.

**4.2      Implementation**

Upon award of a Contract for services the Agency shall negotiate an implementation schedule with the successful Respondent.

**4.3      Training**

Respondent will provide general user training and administrator training.

<b>SECTION 5                      EVALUATION AND SELECTION</b>
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**5.1        Introduction**

This section describes the evaluation process that will be used to determine which Proposal(s) provides the greatest value to the State. Agency will not necessarily award the Contract to the Respondent offering the lowest cost to the Agency. Instead, the Agency will award to the Respondent whose Responsive Proposal the Agency believes will provide the best value to the State.

**5.2        Evaluation Committee**

The Agency will use an evaluation committee to conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of Technical Proposals received in response to this RFP. The evaluation committee will recommend an award based on the results of their evaluation to the Agency or to such other person or entity that must approve the recommendation.

**5.3        Technical Proposal Evaluation and Scoring**

All Technical Proposals will be evaluated to determine if they comply with the Mandatory Specifications. The evaluation committee will fully evaluate and score all Responsive Proposals submitted by Responsible Respondents in accordance with this Section. In addition to other RFP requirements, to be deemed a Responsive Proposal, the Technical Proposal must:

- Answer “Yes” to all parts of Section 4 and include supportive materials as required to demonstrate the Respondent will be able to comply with the Mandatory Specifications in that section and
- Obtain the minimum score for the Technical Proposal. If a Technical Proposal does not meet the minimum score, it will be rejected and the Respondent’s Cost Proposal will not be evaluated.

An addendum identifying the points assigned to the scoring criteria and identifying the minimum score for the Technical Proposal will be posted prior to the RFP closing.

**5.4        Cost Proposal Scoring**

After the Technical Proposals are evaluated and scored, the Cost Proposals will be opened and scored.

The cost proposal for each respondent will be evaluated in comparison with the other cost proposals received; however, the number of points possible will be proportional to each respondent’s technical evaluation score.

The technical evaluation points received (numerator) is divided by the technical evaluation points possible (denominator) and multiplied by the maximum number of points in the cost evaluation. This provides the total points possible for the respondent in the cost evaluation.

Points Possible for Respondent =  
Technical Evaluation Points Received x Maximum Points in Cost Evaluation  
Technical Evaluation Points Possible

The lowest cost proposal (numerator) is divided by the cost proposal being evaluated (denominator) and multiplied by the points possible for the respondent. This provides the cost evaluation points awarded.

Cost Evaluation Points Awarded =  
Lowest Cost Proposal Received x Points Possible for Respondent  
Cost Proposal Being Evaluated

For example, suppose there are 10 maximum points in the cost evaluation. A respondent that receives 100% of the points possible in the technical evaluation has the opportunity to earn 100% of the points possible in the cost evaluation (e.g., 10 points). If the cost proposal is the lowest cost, the full 10 points will be awarded.

However, a respondent that receives only 50% of the points possible in the technical evaluation has the opportunity to earn only 50% of the points possible in the cost evaluation (e.g., 5 points). If the cost proposal is the lowest cost, only 5 points are awarded, compared to the 10 points that could have been awarded if the respondent had received the highest technical evaluation score.

## **5.5 Tied Score and Preferences**

- 5.5.1** An award shall be determined by a drawing when responses are received that are equal in all respects and tied in price. Whenever it is practical to do so, the drawing will be held in the presence of the Respondents who are tied in price. Otherwise the drawing will be made in front of at least three non-interested parties. All drawings shall be documented.
- 5.5.2** Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a tied bid involves an Iowa-based Respondent or products produced within the State of Iowa and a Respondent based or products produced outside the State of Iowa, the Iowa Respondent will receive preference. If a tied bid involves one or more Iowa Respondents and one or more Respondents outside the state of Iowa, a drawing will be held among the Iowa Respondents only.
- 5.5.3** In the event of a tied score between Iowa Respondents, the Agency shall contact the Iowa Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) committee for confirmation and verification as to whether the Respondents have complied with ESGR standards. Preference, in the case of a tied bid, shall be given to Iowa Respondents complying with ESGR standards.
- 5.5.4** Second preference in tied scores will be given to Respondents based in the United States or products produced in the United States over Respondents based or products produced outside the United States.
- 5.5.5** Preferences required by applicable statute or rule shall also be applied, where appropriate.

## SECTION 6 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 6.1 Contract Terms and Conditions

The Contract that the Agency expects to award as a result of this RFP shall comprise the specifications, terms and conditions of the RFP, written clarifications or changes made by the Agency to the RFP through an amendment to the RFP in accordance with the provisions of the RFP, the General Terms and Conditions, the offer of the successful Respondent contained in its Proposal, and any other terms deemed necessary by the Agency. No objection or amendment by a Respondent to the provisions or terms and conditions of the RFP or the General Terms and Conditions shall be incorporated into the Contract unless Agency has explicitly accepted the Respondent's objection or amendment in writing.

The Contract terms and conditions in this Section 6 and the General Terms and Conditions will be incorporated into the Contract. The General Terms and Conditions may be supplemented at the time of Contract execution and are provided to enable Respondents to better evaluate the costs associated with the RFP specifications and the Contract. The Respondent shall include all costs associated with complying with these specifications should be included in any pricing quoted by the Respondent.

**By submitting a Proposal, Respondent acknowledges its acceptance of the terms and conditions of the RFP and the General Terms and Conditions without change except as otherwise expressly stated in its Proposal. If the Respondent takes exception to a provision, it must identify it by page and section number, state the reason for the exception, and set forth in its Proposal the specific RFP or General Terms and Conditions language it proposes to include in place of the provision. If Respondent's exceptions or proposed responses materially alter the RFP, or if the Respondent submits its own terms and conditions or otherwise fails to follow the process described herein, the Agency may reject the Proposal, in its sole discretion.**

The Agency reserves the right to either award a Contract(s) without further negotiation with the successful Respondent or to negotiate Contract terms with the successful Respondent if the best interests of the State would be served.

### 6.2 Contract Length

The term of the Contract will begin and end on the dates indicated on the RFP cover sheet. The Agency shall have the sole option to renew the Contract upon the same or more favorable terms and conditions for up to the number of annual extensions identified on the RFP cover sheet.

### 6.3 Insurance

The Contract will require the successful Contractor to maintain insurance coverage(s) in accordance with the insurance provisions of the General Terms and Conditions and of the type and in the minimum amounts set forth below, unless otherwise required by the Agency.

Type of Insurance	LIMIT	AMOUNT
General Liability (including contractual liability) written on an occurrence basis	General Aggregate Products – Comp/Op Aggregate Personal injury Each Occurrence	\$2 million  \$1 Million \$1 Million \$1 Million
Automobile Liability (including contractual liability) written on an occurrence basis	Combined single limit	\$1 Million
Excess Liability, umbrella form	Each Occurrence Aggregate	\$1 Million \$1 Million
Errors and Omissions Insurance	Each Occurrence	\$1 Million
Property Damage	Each Occurrence Aggregate	\$1 Million \$1 Million
Workers Compensation and Employer Liability	As Required by Iowa law	As required by Iowa law

Acceptance of the insurance certificates by the Department shall not act to relieve Contractor of any obligation under this Contract. It shall be the responsibility of Contractor to keep the respective insurance policies and coverages current and in force during the life of this Contract. Contractor shall be responsible for all premiums, deductibles and for any inadequacy, absence or limitation of coverage, and the Contractor shall have no claim or other recourse against the State or the Department for any costs or loss attributable to any of the foregoing, all of which shall be borne solely by the Contractor. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, Contractor shall be fully responsible and liable for meeting and fulfilling all of its obligations under this section of the Contract.

#### 6.4 Quarterly Report

The Contractor shall provide an electronic detailed quarterly report on all sales made under this agreement within the State of Iowa via E-Mail to the Iowa Department of Administrative Services, CPB Procurement, Attn: Kelli Sizenbach, Kelli.Sizenbach@iowa.gov. The report file format shall be Microsoft Excel compatible format. The report at minimum shall include the date of sale, customer name and address, full product description, SKU Numbers, quantity, invoice number, unit and extended invoice prices. Vendor proposals must include a sample report and a description of the reporting that will be provided. The State reserves the right to request more detailed information (ad-hoc reporting) at any time and on an individual or specific basis for a specific product, department, time frame, or for a range of products, departments or time frames.

#### 6.5 Terms and Conditions for State of Iowa Purchasing Cards

The State of Iowa shall pay Contractor's invoices using its Purchasing Card Program (Pcard) whenever possible. The Pcard is a VISA credit card issued by U.S. Bank to allow authorized employees to make purchases on behalf of the State. It is a faster, more convenient alternative to traditional invoicing and remittance processing, allowing US Bank to pay the Contractor directly, generally within 48 hours of the transaction. Contractor shall comply with security measures for Pcard payments including:

- Contractor shall comply with Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) to assure confidential card information is not compromised;
- Contractor shall adhere to Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act requirements that limit the amount of consumer and account information shared for greater security protection;



- Contractor shall not write down card numbers or store card information. When accepting orders by phone, Contractor shall process the transaction during the call and send itemized receipts (excluding card numbers) to the cardholder by fax, email, or mail (with delivery);
- Contractor shall process payment for items when an order is placed only for items currently in stock and available for shipment, and only for services already rendered;
- Contractor shall confirm that the name of purchaser matches the name on the card;
- Contractor shall ensure Internet orders are processed via secure websites, featuring Verisign, TRUSTe, BBBOnline, or "https" in the web address;
- Contractor shall shred any documentation with credit card numbers.

#### **6.6 Administrative Fee**

Without affecting the approved Product or Service prices or discounts specified in the Master Agreement, the State of Iowa shall be entitled to receive a one percent (1.00%) administrative fee on all sales made within the State of Iowa against this agreement. The administration fee due to the State of Iowa shall be paid quarterly by Contractor directly to the State, made payable to the "Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Central Procurement".

**Attachment #1  
Certification Letter**

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Kelli Sizenbach, Issuing Officer  
Iowa Department of Administrative Services  
Hoover State Office Building, Level 3  
1305 East Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0105

Re: RFP1419005108 - PROPOSAL CERTIFICATIONS

Dear Kelli:

I certify that the contents of the Proposal submitted on behalf of **(Name of Respondent)** in response to **Iowa Department of Administrative Services** for RFP1419005108 for Interpretation and Translation Services are true and accurate. I also certify that Respondent has not knowingly made any false statements in its Proposal.

**Certification of Independence**

I certify that I am a representative of Respondent expressly authorized to make the following certifications on behalf of Respondent. By submitting a Proposal in response to the RFP, I certify on behalf of the Respondent the following:

1. The Proposal has been developed independently, without consultation, communication or agreement with any employee or consultant to the Agency or with any person serving as a member of the evaluation committee.
2. The Proposal has been developed independently, without consultation, communication or agreement with any other Respondent or parties for the purpose of restricting competition.
3. Unless otherwise required by law, the information found in the Proposal has not been and will not be knowingly disclosed, directly or indirectly prior to Agency's issuance of the Notice of Intent to Award the contract.
4. No attempt has been made or will be made by Respondent to induce any other Respondent to submit or not to submit a Proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.
5. No relationship exists or will exist during the contract period between Respondent and the Agency or any other State agency that interferes with fair competition or constitutes a conflict of interest.

**Certification Regarding Debarment**

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, neither Respondent nor any of its principals: (a) are presently or have been debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by a Federal Agency or State Agency; (b) have within a five year period preceding this Proposal been convicted of, or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud, a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of antitrust statutes; commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property; (c) are presently indicted for or criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in (b) of this certification; and (d) have not within a three year period preceding this Proposal had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which the Agency has relied upon when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that Respondent knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available, the Agency may pursue available remedies including suspension, debarment, or termination of the contract.

**Certification Regarding Registration, Collection, and Remission of Sales and Use Tax**

Pursuant to *Iowa Code sections 423.2(10) and 423.5(8) (2016)* a retailer in Iowa or a retailer maintaining a business in Iowa that enters into a contract with a state agency must register, collect, and remit Iowa sales tax and Iowa use tax levied under *Iowa Code chapter 423* on all sales of tangible personal property and enumerated services. The Act also requires Respondents to certify their compliance with sales tax registration, collection, and remission requirements and provides potential consequences if the certification is false or fraudulent.

By submitting a Proposal in response to the (RFP), the Respondent certifies the following: (check the applicable box)

- ☐ Respondent is registered with the Iowa Department of Revenue, collects, and remits Iowa sales and use taxes as required by *Iowa Code chapter 423*; or
- ☐ Respondent is not a “retailer” or a “retailer maintaining a place of business in this state” as those terms are defined in *Iowa Code subsections 423.1(47) and (48)(2016)*.

Respondent also acknowledges that the Agency may declare the Respondent’s Proposal or resulting contract void if the above certification is false. The Respondent also understands that fraudulent certification may result in the Agency or its representative filing for damages for breach of contract in addition to other remedies available to Agency.

Sincerely,

---

**Signature**

---

**Name and Title of Authorized Representative**

---

**Date**

**Attachment #2**  
**Authorization to Release Information Letter**

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Kelli Sizenbach, Issuing Officer  
Iowa Department of Administrative Services  
Hoover State Office Building, Level 3  
1305 East Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0105

Re: RFP1419005108- AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

Dear Kelli:

**(Name of Respondent)** hereby authorizes the **Iowa Department of Administrative Services** ("Agency") or a member of the Evaluation Committee to obtain information regarding its performance on other contracts, agreements or other business arrangements, its business reputation, and any other matter pertinent to evaluation and the selection of a successful Respondent in response to RFP1419005108.

The Respondent acknowledges that it may not agree with the information and opinions given by such person or entity in response to a reference request. The Respondent acknowledges that the information and opinions given by such person or entity may hurt its chances to receive contract awards from the State or may otherwise hurt its reputation or operations. The Respondent is willing to take that risk.

The Respondent hereby releases, acquits and forever discharges the State of Iowa, the Agency, their officers, directors, employees and agents from any and all liability whatsoever, including all claims, demands and causes of action of every nature and kind affecting the undersigned that it may have or ever claim to have relating to information, data, opinions, and references obtained by the Agency or the Evaluation Committee in the evaluation and selection of a successful Respondent in response to the RFP.

The Respondent authorizes representatives of the Agency or the Evaluation Committee to contact any and all of the persons, entities, and references which are, directly or indirectly, listed, submitted, or referenced in the Respondent's Proposal submitted in response to RFP.

The Respondent further authorizes any and all persons, and entities to provide information, data, and opinions with regard to its performance under any contract, agreement, or other business arrangement, its ability to perform, business reputation, and any other matter pertinent to the evaluation of the Respondent's Proposal. The Respondent hereby releases, acquits and forever discharges any such person or entity and their officers, directors, employees and agents from any and all liability whatsoever, including all claims, demands and causes of action of every nature and kind affecting the Respondent that it may have or ever claim to have relating to information, data, opinions, and references supplied to the Agency or the Evaluation Committee in the evaluation and selection of a successful Respondent in response to RFP.

A photocopy or facsimile of this signed Authorization is as valid as an original.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name and Title of Authorized Representative**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Attachment #3**  
**Form 22 – Request for Confidentiality**  
**SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM 22 IS REQUIRED**

***THIS FORM 22 (FORM) MUST BE COMPLETED AND INCLUDED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL. THIS FORM 22 IS REQUIRED WHETHER THE PROPOSAL DOES OR DOES NOT CONTAIN INFORMATION FOR WHICH CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT WILL BE REQUESTED. FAILURE TO SUBMIT A COMPLETED FORM 22 WILL RESULT IN THE PROPOSAL TO BE CONSIDERED NON-RESPONSIVE AND ELIMINATED FROM EVALUATION. COMPLETE PART 1 OF THIS FORM IF NO INFORMATION PROPOSAL DOES NOT CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. COMPLETE PART 2 OF THIS FORM IF THE PROPOSAL DOES CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.***

**1. Confidential Treatment Is Not Requested**

A Respondent not requesting confidential treatment of information contained in its Proposal shall complete Part 1 of Form 22 and submit a signed Form 22 Part 1 with the Proposal.

**2. Confidential Treatment of Information is Requested**

A Respondent requesting confidential treatment of specific information shall: (1) fully complete and sign Part 2 of Form 22, (2) conspicuously mark the outside of its Proposal as containing confidential information, (3) mark each page upon which the Respondent believes confidential information appears **and CLEARLY IDENTIFY EACH ITEM for which confidential treatment is requested; MARKING A PAGE IN THE PAGE MARGIN IS NOT SUFFICIENT IDENTIFICATION**, and (4) submit a “Public Copy” from which the confidential information has been excised.

Form 22 will not be considered fully complete unless, for each confidentiality request, the Respondent: (1) enumerates the specific grounds in Iowa Code Chapter 22 or other applicable law that supports treatment of the information as confidential, (2) justifies why the information should be maintained in confidence, (3) explains why disclosure of the information would not be in the best interest of the public, and (4) sets forth the name, address, telephone, and e-mail for the person authorized by Respondent to respond to inquiries by the Agency concerning the confidential status of such information.

**The Public Copy from which confidential information has been excised is in addition to the number of copies requested in Section 3 of this RFP.** The confidential information must be excised in such a way as to allow the public to determine the general nature of the information removed and to retain as much of the Proposal as possible.

**Failure to request information be treated as confidential as specified herein shall relieve Agency and State personnel from any responsibility for maintaining the information in confidence. Respondents may not request confidential treatment with respect to pricing information and transmittal letters. A Respondent’s request for confidentiality that does not comply with this form or a Respondent’s request for confidentiality on information or material that cannot be held in confidence as set forth herein are grounds for rejecting Respondent’s Proposal as non-responsive. Requests to maintain an entire Proposal as confidential will be rejected as non-responsive.**

If Agency receives a request for information that Respondent has marked as confidential and if a judicial or administrative proceeding is initiated to compel the release of such information, Respondent shall, at its sole expense, appear in such action and defend its request for confidentiality. If Respondent fails to do so, Agency may release the information or material with or without providing advance notice to Respondent and with or without affording Respondent the opportunity to obtain an order restraining its release from a court possessing competent jurisdiction. Additionally, if Respondent fails to comply with the request process set forth herein, if Respondent’s request for confidentiality is unreasonable, or if Respondent rescinds its request for confidential treatment, Agency may release such information or material with or without providing advance notice to Respondent and with or without affording Respondent the opportunity to obtain an order restraining its release from a court possessing competent jurisdiction.

### Part 1 – No Confidential Information Provided

#### Confidential Treatment Is Not Requested

Respondent acknowledges that proposal response contains no confidential, secret, privileged, or proprietary information. There is no request for confidential treatment of information contained in this proposal response.

This Form must be signed by the individual who signed the Respondent's Proposal. The Respondent shall place this Form completed and signed in its Proposal.

- ***Fill in and sign the following if you have provided no confidential information. If signing this Part 1, do not complete Part 2.***

_____ Company	_____ RFP Number	_____ RFP Title
_____ Signature (required)	_____ Title	_____ Date

*(Proceed to the next page only if Confidential Treatment is requested.)*

## Part 2 - Confidential Treatment is Requested

***The below information is to be completed and signed ONLY if Respondent is requesting confidential treatment of any information submitted in its Proposal.***

**NOTE:**

- ***Completion of this Form is the sole means of requesting confidential treatment.***
- ***A RESPONDENT MAY NOT REQUEST PRICING INFORMATION BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE.***

Completion of the Form and Agency's acceptance of Respondent's submission does not guarantee the agency will grant Respondent's request for confidentiality. The Agency may reject Respondent's Proposal entirely in the event Respondent requests confidentiality and does not submit a fully completed Form or requests confidentiality for portions of its Proposal that are improper under the RFP.

**Please provide the information in the table below. Respondent may add additional lines if necessary or add additional pages using the same format as the table below.**

RFP Section:	Respondent must cite the specific grounds in <i>Iowa Code Chapter 22</i> or other applicable law which supports treatment of the information as confidential.	Respondent must justify why the information should be kept in confidence.	Respondent must explain why disclosure of the information would not be in the best interest of the public.	Respondent must provide the name, address, telephone, and email for the person at Respondent's organization authorized to respond to inquiries by the Agency concerning the status of confidential information.

This Form must be signed by the individual who signed the Respondent's Proposal. The Respondent shall place this Form completed and signed in its Proposal. A copy of this document shall be placed in all Proposals submitted including the Public Copy.

- ***If confidentiality is requested, failure to provide the information required on this Form may result in rejection of Respondent's submittal to request confidentiality or rejection of the Proposal as being non-responsive.***
- ***Please note that this Form is to be completed and signed only if you are submitting a request for confidential treatment of any information submitted in your Proposal. If signing this Part 2, do not complete Part 1.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
RFP Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
RFP Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Attachment #4  
Response Check List**

RFP REFERENCE SECTION	RESPONSE INCLUDED	
	Yes	No
One (1) original and One (1) electronic copy on digital media.		
One (1) Public Copy with Confidential Information Excised (optional)		
<b>Technical Proposal</b>		
Exhibit 1 – Transmittal Letter		
Exhibit 2 – Executive Summary		
Exhibit 3 – Firm Proposal Terms		
Exhibit 4 – Respondent Background Information		
Exhibit 5 – Experience		
Exhibit 6 – Termination, Litigation, and Debarment		
Exhibit 7 – Criminal History and Background Investigation		
Exhibit 8 – Acceptance of Terms and Conditions		
Exhibit 9 – Certification Letter		
Exhibit 10 – Authorization to Release Information		
Exhibit 11 – Mandatory Technical Specifications		
Exhibit 12 – Interpretation and Translation Services		
Exhibit 13 – Languages		
Exhibit 14 – Interpreters and Translators		
Exhibit 15 – Medical and Legal Specifications		
Exhibit 16 – Implementation Plan		
Exhibit 17 – Optional Features		
Exhibit 18 – Performance-Based Criteria		
Exhibit 19 – Addendums		
Exhibit 20 – Request for Confidentiality		
<b>Cost Proposal</b>		



**Attachment #5**  
**Iowa Department of Revenue**  
**Confidential Information Requirements for Contractors**

**I. Access to Confidential Data**

The contractor's employees, agents and subcontractors may have access to confidential data maintained by the Iowa Department of Revenue (hereafter referred to as 'IDR' or 'the Department') to the extent necessary to carry out its responsibilities under the Contract. The contractor shall presume that all information received pursuant to the Contract is confidential unless otherwise designated by the Department.

**II. Performance**

In performance of the Contract, the contractor agrees to comply with and assume responsibility for compliance by its employees, agents, or subcontractors with the following requirements:

- 1) All work will be done under the supervision of the contractor or the contractor's employees.
  - i) The contractor must designate one individual who shall remain the responsible authority in charge of all data collected, used, or disseminated by the contractor in connection with the performance of its duties under the Contract.
  - ii) The contractor shall provide adequate supervision and training to its employees, agents, or subcontractors to ensure compliance with the terms of the Contract.
  - iii) The contractor shall provide acceptance by its employees, agents, or subcontractors, by signature, of the terms of state confidentiality disclosure (see Exhibit 1 Acknowledgment of Statements of Confidentiality). Any disclosure of state tax information as governed by the Iowa Code, Sections 422.20, 422.72, and 324.63, shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000 and/or be confined in jail for not less than thirty (30) days nor more than six (6) months.
  - iv) The contractor shall provide to the Department a written description of its policies and procedures to safeguard confidential information. Policies of confidentiality shall address, as appropriate, information conveyed in verbal, written, and electronic formats.
  - v) The contractor will maintain a list of employees, agents or subcontractors with authorized access to the Department's data. Such list will be provided to IDR upon request.
  - vi) No work furnished under this Contract will be subcontracted without prior written approval from the Department.
  - vii) No data can be accessed by contractor, or contractor's employees, agents, and sub-contractor located off-shore or via any information systems located off-shore.
  - viii) The contractor will complete a security risk assessment questionnaire annually as part of a certification process with the Department.
- 2) Any tax information made available in any format shall be used only for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Contract. Information contained in such material will be treated as confidential and will not be divulged or made known in any manner to any person except as may be necessary in the performance of its duties under this contract. Inspection by or disclosure to anyone other than an officer, employee, agent or subcontractor of the contractor is prohibited.
- 3) All tax information will be accounted for upon receipt and properly safeguarded in accordance with security requirements set forth in this Contract before, during, and after processing. In addition, all related output will be given the same level of protection as required for the source material.

- 4) Upon completion of duties under this Contract or the specific direction of IDR, the contractor will certify that the data processed and any output generated during the performance of duties under this Contract will be completely purged from all data storage components, including, but not limited to data center facility, laptops, computers and other storage devices. If immediate purging of all data storage components is not possible, the contractor will certify that any tax information remaining in any storage component will be safeguarded to prevent unauthorized disclosures until it has been purged. Once all data processed and output generated has been completely purged, the contractor shall submit a signed certification to the Department to that effect.
- 5) Any spoilage or intermediate output that may result during the processing of tax information will be given to the Department. When this is not possible, the contractor will be responsible for the destruction of the output, and will provide the Department with a statement containing the date of destruction, description of material destroyed, and the method used. Destruction method must meet specifications as defined in IRS Publication 1075 Section 8.3
- 6) The contractor shall implement security controls for their computer systems processing, storing, or transmitting tax information that conform to mutually approved security framework (NIST 800-53, SOC2, ISO27001:2005, etc.). The security features of the computer systems must meet all functional and assurance requirements for the managerial, operational, and technical security controls. All security features must be available and activated to protect against unauthorized use of and access to tax information. The contractor shall provide IDR with their most recent risk assessment or Type II audit report, including identified gaps or plan of action to mitigate identified issues prior to receiving tax information from IDR, and annually thereafter.
- 7) The use of personally owned computers for accessing IDR information is strictly prohibited
- 8) Any data supplied by IDR to the contractor or contractor's employees, agents, or subcontractors or created by the contractor or contractor's employees, agents, or subcontractors in the course of the performance of its duties under this Contract shall be considered the property of IDR. No confidential information collected, maintained, or used in the course of performance of the Contract shall be disseminated by the contractor or contractor's employees, agents, or subcontractors except as authorized by law and only with the prior written consent of the Department, either during the period of the Contract or thereafter. The contractor may be liable for an unauthorized disclosure if it fails to comply with federal and state confidential safeguard requirements
- 9) In the event that a subpoena or other legal process is served upon the contractor for records containing confidential information, the contractor shall promptly notify IDR and cooperate with the Department in any lawful effort to protect the confidential information.
- 10) The contractor shall immediately (within twenty-four (24) hours after the unauthorized disclosure or security breach of confidential information provided by IDR to Contractor) report to IDR any unauthorized disclosure or security breach of confidential information. These include, but are not limited to: (i) Unauthorized access or disclosure of confidential information; (ii) Illegal technology transfer; (iii) Sabotage, destruction, theft or loss of confidential information or the information systems; and (iv) Compromise or denial of confidential information or information systems.
- 11) IDR, with 24 hour notice, shall have the right to send its officers and employees into the offices and plants of the contractor for inspection of the facilities and operations provided for the performance

of any work under this Contract. In lieu of an on-site visit, the contractor can respond to an inspection questionnaire. An inspection questionnaire may be used in lieu of an on-site visit. On the basis of such inspection, specific remedial actions may be required of the contractor in cases where the contractor is found to be noncompliant with Contract safeguards.

- 12) If the Department is required to notify taxpayers of a security or confidentiality breach caused by the contractor, the Department is entitled to reimbursement of such costs related to this notification from the contractor (see Iowa Code § 715C.2).
- 13) If the contractor fails to provide the safeguards described above, IDR will have the right to void the Contract immediately.
- 14) The contractor's confidentiality obligations under this section shall survive the termination of this Contract.
- 15) Any disclosure of state tax information as governed by the Iowa Code Ann., §§ 422.20, 422.72, and 452A.63, shall be subject to penalties prescribed therein.

### **Acknowledgment of Statement of Confidentiality**

#### **Release of Confidential Iowa Department of Revenue Information**

Pursuant to the Code of Iowa, I understand the willful release of confidential information in a manner inconsistent with Iowa law is punishable as set forth below. I also understand that the willful inspection (browsing) of tax records is a violation of Iowa law. A person committing an offense against the above provisions shall be guilty of a serious misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined up to \$1,000 and/or imprisoned up to one year. In addition, that person will be discharged from employment and may face the potential of personal liability in a lawsuit brought by the affected taxpayer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee's  
Initials

**I understand I am expected to be knowledgeable on the above penalties.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Name**